



12 Moons Film Lounge

7th Moon: 13.7.–10.8.2018 LOOKING FOR QUEERDOM

The seventh film program titled LOOKING FOR QUEERDOM is dedicated to the adventurous search of numerous adolescents for a place of self-assurance and self-determination that exists outside of societies heteronormative majority. Where can young girls*, young women*, lesbians, trans* and inter* persons find themselves? Who portrays their experiences truthfully? With which tools can individual pain and collective progress be made visible?

For young people, the Internet is the central place for queer empowerment. Most crucially in the unprotected public space of the Internet, teenagers need alternative spaces for their personal development in order to adequately negotiate the sensitive questions they face in dealing with queer identities and experiences. Self-help and third-party support in exploring one's own sexual orientation and/or identity are the common features of these **five selected online formats**. Here, these strong voices aim to build resistance against hate speech and trolling online.

While the Internet enables a worldwide digital community, the SMU is an analogous space for the negotiation of everyday experiences of discrimination. In this respect, the SMU with its seventh moon program is not only the appropriate place for the urgently needed representation of female*, lesbian, trans* and inter* realities of life, but also turns into a studio for moments of collective empowerment. **In a film workshop** within the framework of the program and under the guidance of filmmakers Sanni Cabral and Mareike Bernien, young women*, lesbians, trans* and inter* youth have been given the chance to practice queer thinking by challenging gender roles and raising awareness for trans*phobia and homo*phobia. From July 18th, the cinematic results of the participants will also run alongside the other works in the *12 Moons Film Lounge*.

film workshop:



Photo: SMU

From July 9th to 13th, young women*, lesbians, trans* and inter* youth between the age of 14 and 18 met for a film workshop at Schwules Museum. Under the guidance of two professional filmmakers, they developed their own empowering imagery and made their thoughts and emotions visible with the help of a camera. Four short films have emerged that contrast (hetero)normative perspectives on topics such as sexuality, everyday sexism and prejudiced ascriptions with a curious, unfamiliar and queer* look. Their personal experiences inspired the young filmmakers* as well as group discussions. The films will be premiered at Schwules Museum on July 18th where they will run in the *12 Monde Film Lounge* until the 10th of August.

Films

COMING OUT by Tamina Mai
LOVE HAS NO RULES by Angi Engelking and Luci Böhlke
WARUM FRAGEN? by Jamie Färber
SELBST by Imke Grünewald Francia and Frida Wellemeit

Workshop Facilitators

Sanni Marie Cabral Da Silva is a freelance music, video, photo and performance artist. Mareike Bernien works as an artist between performative film, sound and text. Both are workshop operators for sexual and gender diversity in the project *Diversity Box* by *Archiv der Jugendkulturen*.

Special thanks to Sandra Ortmann and Giuseppina Lettieri. The workshop is a cooperation with **Archiv der Jugendkulturen // Diversity Box**, **EMPOWER** and **Jugend im Museum**. It is supported by **Senatsverwaltung für Bildung, Jugend und Familie**.

film selection:



Screenshot einjans

Just like German Youtuber Jans on his channel **EINJANS**, teenagers around the world use the possibilities of this video platform to talk about their own personal experiences. Confident and direct, Jans talks about everyday sexism in school, about gender ascription based on looks and behaviour, and about everyday life as a genderqueer person.

Language: German



Screenshot Berliner Farben

Equally brave is Poliana Baumgarten's YouTube channel **BERLINER FARBEN** [English: Colours of Berlin]. It portrays dedicated Black and People of Color and LGBTQIA+, who shape Berlin's cultural and political landscape, such as the makers of the queer-feminist hip-hop party series *Hoe_Mies*. Baumgarten, who has taught herself how to work with the camera for the production of *Berliner Farben*, creates impressive role models for young people in her documentary episodes, whilst offering a platform that breaks down stereotypes and creates spaces for creativity and empowerment.

Language: German with English subtitles



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The web series **MIXED MESSAGES** by director Kanchi Wichmann is also based in Berlin and draws an authentic and undistorted picture of the queer-lesbian community around Kotti. Originally produced as a miniseries with the idea of making all episodes available online to the film team's friends, the series is now available on Vimeo through the surprising interest of a distributor. Entertaining and with a lot of humor, *Mixed Messages* follows the protagonist Ren's quest for love. In the dating troubles of queer Berlin, Ren constantly stumbles and falls, but never loses her grounding.

Language: German and English with subtitles



Screenshot Genders*

Similar to *Mixed Messages*, the film project **GENDERS*** from Cologne was created by the community for the community: for the first time in the German-speaking world, trans* people developed a series around the topic of gender diversity. On YouTube and in the style of a soap opera, young adults show the complex involvement with gender identities and negotiate experiences of non-acceptance and of being misgendered.

Language: German



Screenshot Auf Klo

AUF KLO [coll.: in the loo], a YouTube production of the youth broadcaster *funk* by ARD and ZDF, builds on these successful social media formats and mini-series. The feminist talk format uses the intimacy of a toilet stall for private conversations and answers those questions many young girls* have trouble asking. In a youthful manner, the moderators talk with their guests about female* masturbation, body images, asexuality and body positivity, whilst addressing various topics from sexuality to lifestyle.

Language: German

Event

18. July, 6pm

Premiere of the films from the workshop

Special Guests: Kanchi Wichmann (Mixed Messages) and Poliana Baumgarten (Berliner Farben)

12 Moons

A year-long program featuring films by feminist filmmakers and video artists

For *12 Moons*, one of the exhibition rooms at Schwules Museum is transformed into a film lounge inviting visitors to encounter various cinematic formats and international (queer) feminist positions. The film lounge is open during regular Museum opening hours, with each new moon initiating a new program cycle.

The series is a yearlong intervention against the underrepresentation of women's* perspectives, specifically in media and museum contexts, but also in the arts and society overall. Month by month, the screenings raise questions about the construction and communication of forms of *femininity_ies*, and also gauge the potential of an alternative gaze.

In search of classics in lesbian and feminist film history, of contemporary queer positions and of the voices of women* of color, we will turn to the OWLs (Older Wiser Lesbians) and talk to experts of porn film. We will dig through archives and visit festivals and ask the communities about the stories that need to be seen and heard.

The selected films provide insights into everyday lives and desires, they question relationship structures and power constellations. A critical eye is cast on societal pressures, while times of uprising and resistance against coercive gender norms offer inspiration. The utopian concepts and moments of healing emerging from the selected films are testimonies to the global struggles of women* for respect, self-determination and spaces to unfold.

12 Moons is funded by the Senate Department for Culture and Europe as part of the project *Year of the Women**.

Team

Curation 7th Moon: Anina Falasca and Felix Roadkill

Project curator: Vera Hofmann

Engl. proofreading: Hannah Curran-Troop

Scenography with Carolin Gießner and Théo Demans

**Sun, Mon, Wed & Fri: 2-6pm,
Thu: 2-8pm, Sat: 2-7pm,
Tue: closed**

7,50 € (4 € reduced)

**+49 (0)30 69 59 90 50
schwulesmuseum.de**