

10 September 2018

Press Release
12 Moons Film Lounge – 9th Mond

Lubed Up Politics

-Feministischer Porno & Erotische Videokunst
9.9.-8.10.2018



Water Makes Us Wet, Beth Stephens, Annie Sprinkle, 2017

Fake lesbians with long fingernails in straight porn. Women penetrating women with dildos. Leather, latex and bruises. Sex with flowers.

Decades of feminist debates lie behind each of these images, from the initial movements of the self-aware groups in the 1970s, through to the heated debates in the 1980's "Sex Wars", to the more or less sex-positive present day. The anti-pornography movement highlighted that not only does standard heterosexual pornography reproduce existing patriarchal power relations, but that women's sexual culture does not harmonize with men's allegedly genital-centered and penetrative sex-focused preferences.

Sex should fundamentally be equal, non-phallic and free from male sexuality which is often experienced as violent. The concept of female* sexuality as nurturing and harmonious clashed with lesbian sex practices involving dildo penetration, role play and BDSM. At the time of the AIDS crisis, not only did a new wave homophobia pervade society, but the citizens' rights-oriented and assimilation seeking wing of the homosexual emancipation movement was slowly gaining the upper hand. As a result, many lesbians began to turn away from the lesbian movement. They considered the movement too homogenous, too white, too middle-class, too anti-gay and too anti-sexual. They joined queer alliances and from then on called themselves "queer" (too).

Since these movements, sex-positive activists have worked to replace *PorNo* with *PorYes* and turned the public portrayal of women*'s sexual pleasure into a form of empowerment. A broad repertoire of aesthetic strategies has been in use following this. They all share a strict rejection of sexism and discrimination, and the firm belief that the body, sex and sexuality are the driving force behind public and private resistance against a hetero-capitalistic, phallocentric system.

Feminist Porn, Queer Porn and Post Porn are pleasurable spaces for contemporary politics of the body and healthcare: they embody nothing less than intersectional feminist, trans*- and queerfeminist theory and political activism. The focus lies on sexual and physical self-determination while all forms of standardized bodies, roles and fantasies are being deconstructed. A conscious approach to safer sex as well as care aspects are being discussed. It's not just about sexual pleasure, it's about training the political muscle and exploring what that pleasure actually implies. Instead of genitals, environment(s) are increasingly becoming the focus: Ethical Porn declares fair production conditions as one of its primary goals, Post Porn is developed collectively, Cyberfeminists expand the human body with artificial pleasure devices, Ecosexuals have sex with the natural elements, Punk Porn fucks the system. A liberated sexuality is one of the most powerful weapons that we have.

The program consists of two documentaries and a compilation of international short films. The short film selection offers an overview of artistic porn, performance art and erotic video art: from ecosex to bondage, with intimate moments, explicit scenes and documentary distance.

The documentary "YES, WE FUCK!" addresses sex and dis/ableism and shows that sexuality belongs to everyone. In six episodes, people with disabilities describe their experiences, imaginations, ideas, and allow for an expanded view on human sexuality and the body. The film is also a participatory project that serves to connect different groups and collectives addressing political issues related to the body and sexuality (functional diversity, feminism, trans* feminism, LGBT*, queer, intersex, asex, fat activism, etc.).

Artists Beth Stevens and Annie Sprinkle (the goddess of Post Porn herself), make environmental activism sexy with their latest ecosexual documentary WATER MAKES US WET – AN ECOSEXUAL ADVENTURE which was screened at documenta 14 last year. After the award-winning documentary Goodbye Gauley Mountain – An Ecosexual Love Story on coal, Water Makes Us Wet takes on a poetic mix of curiosity, humor, sensuality and concern for the lust and politics of H2O from an ecosexual perspective. It is about environmental dangers and social irresponsibility, rather than mischief, gloom and guilt. It reveals the sensual pleasure and joy in environmental activism – erotic, queer and irresistible.

Event

14 September 2018, 7pm

Safer spaces & collectivity in feminist porn

In her lecture “Longing for a safer space” Marit Östberg shares her knowledges from and strategies in directing and producing queer feminist porn. Subsequently Marit Östberg will moderate a panel discussion on working rights and collective voices in feminist and ethical porn. With Lina Bembe, Paulita Pappel, Candy Flip.

Further information on the event in the description of the facebook event [here](#).

Detailed information on all the films of the 9th Moon [here](#).

Further information on the program of the 12 Moons [here](#).

Press images as downloads in the press area of our website [here](#).

Team

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Press and Public Relations *Year of the Women**

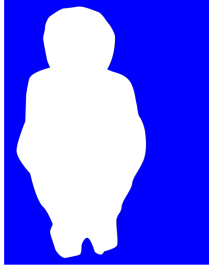
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**year
of the
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Senatsverwaltung
für Kultur und Europa

12 Moons is part of the yearlong *Year of the Women** program – a concerted queer feminist intervention. The *Year of the Women** is supported by the Senatsverwaltung für Kultur und Europa.

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