Queer Masculinities in Contemporary Art

21st – 22nd September 2022

kgiInstitute of Art History



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Marie Jahoda Center for International Gender Studies, Universitätsstr. 105, 44789, ground floor, room 14, Bochum

Since its beginnings, queer theory has been characterized by its definitional openness, with which it seeks to resist heteronormative categories of thought. Thus, queerness provides a strategy to dissolve concepts such as sexual orientation, gender, identity, subject etc., understanding them instead as fluid and in permanent flux. Against this background, we would like to address queer artistic strategies and the consequences for masculinities. In addition, we want to consider which strategies artists have been using since the 1980s in order to visualize queer bodies and identities, on which historical presuppositions these are based, and how they position themselves in relation to the developments and ambivalences mentioned above. Moreover, we would like to explore what challenges and opportunities these works present for masculinities and their exploration.

Concept and organization:

Prof. Dr. Änne Söll, Maike Wagner, M. A. and Katharina Boje, M. A.

Wed., 21st of September 2022

Online lectures

13.45	Änne Söll, Ruhr-University Bochum, Introduction
14.00	Caspar Schnückel, University of Duisburg-Essen, Auditioning for Billy Tipton: Reframing Trans* Masculine Bodies in Jackie Kay's Trumpet (1998) and Chase Joynt's and Aisling Chin-Yee's No Ordinary Man (2020)
14:55	Sibylle Heim, Bern Academy of the Arts, Oreet Ashery als Marcus Fisher – "As long as you are a decent kind of man"
15.40	Coffee break
16.00	Elia Eliev, University of Ottawa, The Opacity of Queer Masculinity in Akram Zaatari's Shou Bhebbak (2001)
16.55	Isabel Fontbona Mola, University of Girona, Muscular bodies. Leakage, fluidity and multi-capacity
17.40	Coffee break
18.00	Keynote
	Peter Rehberg, Schwules* Museum Berlin,
	How gueer are gay masculinities? Normativity and Anti-Normativity in Image and Media Cultures of the 21st Century

Thur., 22nd of September 2022

09.30	Änne Söll, Ruhr-University Bochum, Introduction
10.00	Víctor López, University of Girona, Becoming visible in post-Franco Spain: political, sexual and gender subversion through its representation in films
10:45	Coffee break
11.00	Cole Collins, Edinburgh College of Art, The University of Edinburgh, 'I am a man. Mit all seiner Weiblichkeit!': Jürgen Baldiga's <i>Männerfotobuch</i> and gender
11.55	Daniel Berndt, Freie Universität Berlin, "Fucking with the men's mind" – Raging faggots in der Videokunst seit den 1980ern
12.40	Lunch
13.40	Maike Wagner, Ruhr-University Bochum, Queering the Prosthesis. Prosthetic Sensibilities and the Deconstruction of Normative Masculinity in the work of Jana Sterbak and Jimmy de Sana
14.35	Katharina Boje, Ruhr-University Bochum, Postheroic masculinities in Pierre et Gilles work
15.20	Coffee break
15.35	Evelyn Whorall-Campbell, University of Cambridge, Trans masculine slasher phantasies and the posttranssexual
16.30	Matthias Pfaller, Folkwang Universität der Künste Essen, Techno-Pharma-masculinities in the work of Salmo Suyo

We kindly ask you to register until 15^{th} of September 2022 with Katharina Boje (Katharina.Boje@rub.de).

Please also let us know if you wish to attend the online lecture via zoom on 21st of September, the live presentations in Bochum on 22nd of September or both.