

To the Choir

No section **Shto Delat** - What to do? Nothing from the **New Front(s)**. Still 19 pages. Queer Art must be thriving. Enjoy!

Fatale Kunst



The exhibition *Fatal Art* focuses on the work of Dutch sculptress, art collector and Maecenas **Sara de Swart** (1861-1951). She was not only interested in painting and sculpture but also in literature and music. She became famous as the *Muze der Tachtigers*; the Eighties Movement was a culturally innovative group of artists and writers. When she rejected the courtship of one of them –the painter Eduard Karsten- his fellows staged a private trial to sort things out between them. This bizarre trial judged in favor of Sara but both she and Eduard were both devastated. Her keen eye for talent and her personal contacts formed the basis of an extensive art collection. She literally gave everything for art, until it became ‘fatal’. It got her into financial troubles and she felt forced to move abroad with her ‘companion’ and fellow

artist **Emilie van Kerckhoff** (pic shows one of her drawings). They lived out their lives on the gay refuge Capri. The exhibition tells the story of Sara’s life and includes the extremely rare artwork by the friends. Some of it never shown before. While writing her biography Jaap Versteegh who also curated the exhibition found out that Sara was his great-aunt. *Fatale Kunst*. Dutch language paperback, 224 pages (illustrated). ISBN 97894 6004 2232. € 19,95. In **Rotterdam** March 19-June 5. More: www.kunsthal.nl.

Heritage

* Together with Peter Freriks artist **Ingrid Oostendorp** has take over the **Nijmegen** art center Novio Arte, including its enormous treasure trove of art (check the digital catalogue). Former Novio Arte manager Ingrid and her business partner Peter have formed a new company Kunstmagazijn but they

will continue the familiar mix of art shows and special programs. More: www.kunstmagazijn.nu. * **Theo Jennissen & Alysha Polak doen MAAS-mix**. Each selected 100 pics from the other's work. In Nijmegen Februray 27-28. More: www.maasartistresidence.nl.

Horn

Sculptural works by **Roni Horn** (1955) in **Tilburg** (NI). Showing large blocks of glass, all of the same size. But slight variations in color (and opacity?) address the problem of their uniformity and uniqueness. These show the emergence of identity in an object. And enables us to contemplate the relation between object and subject and how this influences our own identity. Much (!) more about Roni Horn and her work at the [Feminine Moments](http://FeminineMoments) site (: *queer feminist art world wide*). Till May 29. More: www.depont.nl.

Hiorns



Christians is a show of new works by Brit artists **Roger Hiorns** (1975) in **Amsterdam**. "The large *paintings* are filled with homoeroticism, depicting life-size courting male figures (...). These works are statements within themselves and can be acknowledged as liberations of the image which visually rebel against the remaining prohibitions on homosexuality within art and society. By liberating the image, Hiorns expects that a liberation of language will follow regarding this taboo." In the

second location of the Gallery Hiorns addresses another *ethical* issue: the social aspects of vCJD, a neurodegenerative disease. Showing works that "have evolved from anthropomorphous figures, made of layers of materials, to more and more realistic bodies." Till March 12. More: www.annetgeling.com. (pic: detail)

Lievelingen



* *Connected* a large group show in **Brussels/Bruxelles**. Among the art presented are works by **William S Burroughs** and **Wim Delvoye** –a combo that does not really surprise me-. March 24 – August 28. More: www.centrale-art.be. Also see: ta.bu. * Not quite the blockbuster event like the Bosch show. But several exhibitions are dedicated to his contemporary Desiderius Erasmus (ca 1467-1536) in **Gouda**. *Erasmus –Ik wijk voor niemand* (till June 26). One moment declaring *I concede to no-one* and promptly giving in the next. Quite befitting for one of the heroes of the Dutch national myth. Will this exhibition finally incorporate the gay stories of his biography? I think it does in the side program that includes an exhibition of a series of fantasy portraits by **Neel**

Korteweg who tries to emulate the images by Dürer and Holbein that were carefully directed and staged by Erasmus himself to maintain his image as a serious scholar. She is showing Erasmus as a youngster, as a friend and as a shy old man. Also glazier art by **Marc Mulders**. Till June 26. More:

www.museumgouda.nl. The side program also offers all sorts of cute and/or silly activities for kids of all ages: e.g. taking selfies wearing Erasmus's hat. * *Bowie's Ziggy Stardust* a spin-off in the Stripmuseum –Comics museum- from the larger Bowie exhibition by their bigger brother. Till March 13. More: www.stripmuseum.nl. The biographical Bowie exhibition is extended till April 10. More: www.groningermuseum.nl. * Schaamte –Shame- is another art show addressing a subject of taboo and embarrassment, unveiling the hidden, breaching a conspiracy of silence, about blushes and guilty pleasures. About the personal and the politics of the body public. Among the many artists: **Francis Alÿs, Claude Cahun, Marcel Duchamp, Tracey Emin, Paul McCarthy**, etc. Catalogue (176 pp) *Honte/Shame/Schaamte*, ca. € 35. ISBN: 97894 01427 838. In **Gent** (B) till May 29. More: www.museumdrguislain.be.

Erwin Olaf



* Ah, no Andy Warhol this month. So let's take a look at one of our queer Lievelingen instead. * *Cell of Emotions*. Large solo show Erwin Olaf in **Malaga** showing over 60 pics, installations and videos from the series *Berlin, Keyhole, Grief* and *Hope*. Till May 1. More: www.cacmalaga.eu. * In **Moscow** the show *Erwin Olaf, Homage to Louis Gaillat* shows photographs alongside the original painting *Les derniers honneurs rendues au infortunes illustrious Comtes d'Egmont et de Horne*. Till April 20. More: Pushkin State Museum. * And a bit closer to how. Erwin Olaf designed the exhibition *Catwalk – Fashion at the Rijksmuseum* the 1st comprehensive presentation of its fashion collections. In Amsterdam till May 15. More: www.rijksmuseum.nl. * More works by Erwin Olaf are also shown during several group shows. *Dutch Identity - Dutch Portrait Photography Now* in **Zwolle** (NL) till April 17. * *Böse Clowns* –evil clowns- in **Dortmund** (D) till March 8. (mind you, this pic is not by Erwin Olaf). *Silence Out Loud* curated by the late Joost Zwagerman, author and art educator, who selected the installation *Waiting Shenzhen*. In **Bergen** (NL) till June 12. And *Devine Decadence* in **Gaasbeek** (B) from March 27 – June 26. * And if that is not enough he also got the time to contribute a column to *Hello Gorgeous*. Reminiscing about the early 80s when he was a jobless art-student and started volunteering as a photographer for the gay movement. He took pics at the first expert meeting about that weird new – gay- disease... * More: www.erwinolaf.com.

DIY zine-survey



Compared to other countries there are few Zinesters in the Netherlands. One of the most active is Nina, aka rebelsister, making *Same Heartbeats*, and she is living in Gent (B). She's presently doing a survey among zinesters in preparation for an article about (per)zines for the Dutch Tijdschrift (magazine) voor Genderstudies. And for that she'd like to ask others whether they're interested in helping out by responding to a questionnaire? She's "especially interested in why zinesters publish personal experiences, diary excerpts, autobiographical elements and life stories in their zines. Is the medium of zines suitable for autobiographies and why? In my research, I'm focusing on (feminist) (per)zines by women, girls and transpeople, but anyone

can answer.” The deadline to her questionnaire is/was March 1: “but no problem if you can’t make this (...)”. More at www.echopublishing.wordpress.com.

Nieuws

* *Hello Gorgeous* magazine about Poz-life () not only offered a series of the usual interviews of people living with HIV but also featured a cute review of the history of educational campaigns and the visual language used to convey their messages. Designed by gebr.silevstri.nl the Dutch language mag is freely distributed in bars, shops and lots of other venues. Many photographs by [Henri Blommers](http://HenriBlommers). More: www.hellogorgeous.nl. * *Rembrandts Naakte Waarheid* –Naked Truth is an exhibition about the studio praxis of Rembrandt. He and his pupils embraced the newest fashion of drawing and painting life, nude models but introduced a realism that appalled the public. To link past and present photographer Carla van de Puttelaar shows a series of contemporary (female) nudes that allude to Rembrandt’s famous use of light and shades. Her work appeared on the cover of the New York Times in 2015. In **Amsterdam** till May 16. More: www.rembrandthuis.nl. * *Lichte Zeden* – Immoralities. Side program of this exhibition about prostitution in French art (1850-1910): a lecture by curator Nienke Bakker about visualizing prostitution: *from caricature to an explosion of color*. In **Amsterdam** March 6 (2pm). And April 3 (2pm): Het redden van gevallen vrouwen: prostitutie en feministische strijd in Nederland (1870-1900) –Saving the fallen. Prostitution and feminism in Holland. By Petra de Vries (UvA, Amsterdam University). More about the exhibition (till June 19): www.vangoghmuseum.nl.

Bosch



* And Bosch keeps inspiring artists today. This work *The Garden of Flamer Delights* by **Psychonaut Ink** was inspired by Hieronymus Bosch's *Garden of Earthly Delights*. But that is as queer as it gets. Though there are many more spin off activities -from special Hieronymus-Beer to Bosch-Burgers- and not only in Den Bosch. But I couldn't find any with a queer spin. More: www.bosch500.nl .

Pride Photo Nijmegen

* The contest for the best photograph of the rainbow-crossover in **Maastricht** has been called of. Due to lack of participants. A bit strange considering the joy generated by its construction and by the



news that it would become permanent feature of the main square of the city. Remember Nijmegen's popular rainbow stairs. That feature of public gblt visibility was erased only a few months after it was painted during a rare outburst of queer community spirit. Now bureaucratic objections have been raised to restore it and make it a permanent token of our presence in the city. To be continued... *

Photography Extended III a review of contemporary staged photography in the Netherlands is a bit of a disappointment. Most of the works presented address formal questions of photography –spatiality, form, light-. Though many contemporary Dutch photographers look at the social implications of technological progress not one of them has been selected for this show. In GLIMP! VII # 2 I mentioned the works by **Isabelle Wenzel** who addresses questions of gender and embodiment in her photography. This queer aspect of her work is absent and isn't even mentioned in the catalogue. The exhibition is completely a-political and of course sexless. Catalogue (70 pages): ISBN 9789068291100. 9,95. In **Nijmegen** till May 8. More: www.museumhetvalkhof.nl. * The Extended series was an idea of photographer **Ruud van Empel**. I wonder what he thinks about the curators of this edition. He wrote a rather tight introduction to the catalogue. But he'll probably look ahead to his own forthcoming solo in **Amsterdam**. Opening March 13 (2pm) this show will focus on his still lives and nudes. March 12-April 30. More: www.flatlandgallery.com. * The *China Creates* program (part of the CinemAsia

Festival and the Roze Filmdagen) presents *Queers of Hong Kong*. An exhibition by photographer, Dim Sum Magazine publisher and director of the Hong Kong Film Festival **Joe Lam** (pic). Showing portraits of members of the local LGBT community. All pics are accompanied by a personal story testifying of LGBT diversity. Opening March 3 (7pm) with a panel discussion about the social and cultural position of LGBT's in China and in the Chinese diaspora. In **Amsterdam**: www.dezwiiger.nl.

Stamps



Whatever happened to Gay Mail Art? Vanished in the black internet hereafter? Just after coming out I was a fanatic letter writer and for lack of the real stuff I and my gay pen pals used to design our own gay stamps or appropriate the heroic workers populating the postal services of the communist states... A – Dutch! - penny a piece at the Amsterdam stamp market –does that still exist? Remember when Finland's postal service made the international headlines when it issued a Tom of Finland stamp? It came a bit late but felt very satisfactory: decorating that year's Christmas cards with them. And now the United Nations have

issued a series gracefully and symbolically depicting a coming out, diversity, a couple of same sex embraces, eh... kisses, and even a trans butterfly. My first reaction was one of horror. They are so extremely old fashioned (that must be the neo classic sensibility) it is almost unbelievable. And so ugly! This must be a camp joke by designer **Sergio Baradat** –Parsons School of Design and winner (!) of awards from the American Institute of Graphic Art-, art director of the UN postal service. Well at least my generation can see the fun of it. And this [tumblr page](#) gives some idea of his serious work. * Oh, eh, did I mention Mail Art? *Van Bosch tot Breughel* is an exhibition of contemporary mail art in Den Bosch, a part of the side-program of the International Bosch exhibition. Hundreds of artists – from all over- take part in this project curated by the Museum of Instant Images. Till January 2017. More: bosch500.nl.

DIY Aca



* Doing Gender in the Netherlands: TRANS* approaches, methods and concept. National research day for faculty and PhD students in the fields of gender, ethnicity, sexuality and diversity in the Netherlands (June 10, **Leiden**). The (un)productivity of the prefix trans* in analysis takes central place in this year's conference. Looking for papers, session proposals, etc. Deadline

is March 4. More info: www.graduategenderstudies.nl. * [Core Concept](#) the theme of the Gender program of the Summer School of **Nijmegen's** Radboud University: August 8-12. More [about the program](#) and click the button to enroll (till April 1 an early bird discount). * The Anarchist Studies Network is calling for papers for their international conference on Anarcha-feminism at **Loughborough** University (UK) September 14-16. Deadline March 14. More: www.anarchist-studies-network.org.uk. And just out *Warped. Gay Normality and Queer Anticapitalism* by Marxist scholar Peter Drucker (ca 450 pp). Order at haymarketbooks.com (US: \$ 180 hard cover) or IIRE.org (EU: paperback ca € 35 including handling/postage –sic!). Isbn 9781608465866. * *Places Identities and Knowledges*, an international conference of feminist geographies and intersectionality (July 14-16 in

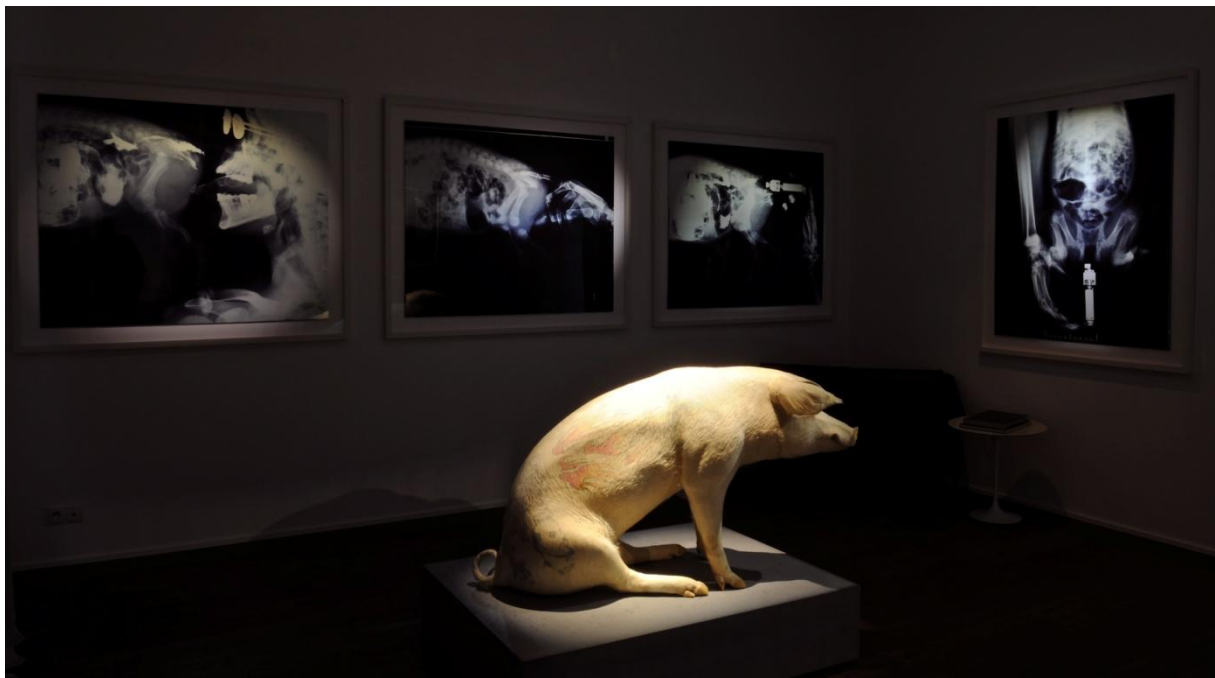
Barcelona), seeking “to build a stimulating forum to exchange ideas and to forge new and fruitful international collaborations among researchers interested in gender geographies with an intersectional perspective” (umpf!) is calling for papers. Deadline is March 11. And more at the site of the [Grup de Recerca de Geografia | Gènere](#). * *Drain* a biannual on-line journal dedicated to creative praxis and theory and the intersections with globalization, gender, ethnicity, sexuality, capitalism and new technologies. One of my favorite concoctions... It has published a call for entries for an *AIDS and Memory* issue about the history, memory of AIDS. How the lived experience of it changed during the last three decades. And to the aesthetic, ethical and political practices as well as the critical and cultural meanings tied to it. Deadline: April 15. More: www.drainmag.com.

Imilonji Yembali



Melodies of History is the first solo by SA artist **Nicholas Hlobo** in Holland. I came across his work at the important sculpture show *The Rainbow Nation* (2012) and later at a show in the Museum in Arnhem. The title of the exhibition refers to the melodious language of the Xhosa and the history of South Africa with its apartheid past that tried to eradicate the Xhosa language and erase black SA history. His position as a gay man on the crossroads of a repressive past and uncertain present is represented in his materiality where colorful and soft cloth contrast with old rubber band and tires both appropriated in hope of a brighter queer future. In **Den Haag** at the beautiful sea side Museum Beelden aan Zee till May 15. More: www.beeldenaanzee.nl.

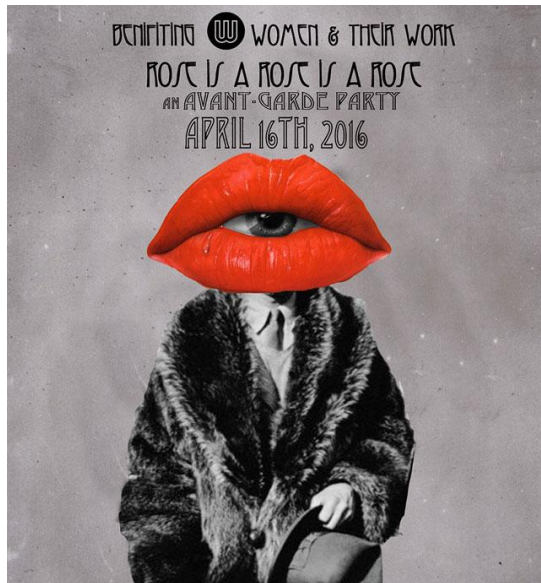
Censorship-Eu



* 54: the director’s cut. Mark Christopher’s 1998 cult-classic finally –heavily castrated by Miramax studio when it first appeared- has now been recut including the censored gay/bi story lines about the famous New York Studio 54. *Roze Filmdagen*, the **Amsterdam** glbtq film festival. March 19. More: www.rozefilmdagen.nl. * **Wim Delvoye** (see also Lieveleven) is curator of an exhibition in

Brussel/Bruxelles. *Ta.bu* is a group show that starts off with literary texts that at some time or other have fallen victim to censorship. In all cases of an anti-sexual nature. Some of the works shown are specially commissioned for the show others come from private collections. In 2013 the Gallery presented *Sex, Money and Power* so it has some experience in the field. And though it staunchly condemns (self-) censorship the show is for adult eyes only. This paradox is completely taken for granted. Weird. Allow them access and see what happens. I think that would finally bring something productive to the debate. Till March 26. More: www.maisonparticuliere.be.

Feminisms



* March 8. Several art (related) shows on the occasion of International Women's Day. Dutch feminist fundraiser **Mama Cash** took the initiative for *Meer dan Muze* but the call received a rather disappointing response and almost limited to the **Amsterdam** region. The pretty meager visual arts program: *Vrouwen in het Rijks* (Women in the Rijksmuseum), *Meer dan de Muze* (More than the Muse) at the Stedelijk Museum, *Sightseeing* at the Brakke Grond and Studio K had the *revolutionary* idea to exhibit work by a female artist (sic!) and serve beers, brewed by women (and they probably thought that was a 1st too). More: www.meerdanmuze.nl. * Really more promising is the *Sweet'Art* exhibition in London exploring contemporary "femininity,

feminine identity and women's day.(...) Works can celebrate, critique, challenge, ridicule and reflect notions of femininity in our society and internationally". Curated by a feminist art org:

www.wearesweartart.com. * Celebrating the Genius of Women. Art competition and exhibition in **Orlando**. Winner will be announced March 26 at a special reception where she'll receive the \$ 1500 prize. March 8-April 22. Includes an online exhibition by international and non-local participants.

More: www.womeninthearts.com. * *Re-sounding Voices: Women, Silence and the Production of Knowledge*. About the erasure of the female voice. Interesting topic: what happened to these mechanisms when women took on a male identity to take the floor. At **Durham** University. No visual arts program. More: [women in parenthesis](http://womeninparenthesis.com) (!). * **Berlin** Feminist Film Festival March 8-13. Lots of interesting films. Among them *Reflections Unheard: Black Women in Civil Rights* by Nevline Nnaji (2013). This doc unearths the story of black women's marginalization between the male-dominated Black Power movement, and the predominantly white and middle class feminist movement during the 60s-70s. Interesting point: the L-word isn't mentioned at all (see previous entry). More:

www.berlinfeministfilmweek.com. * *Number Twelve: Hello Boys* is a show in **Düsseldorf** named after the *Hello Boys* video performance by **Hannah Wilke** (1975) taking that work as a curatorial starting point (about the perception and representation of female identity –mind you: way before Foucault!-) that sketches a timeline from that pioneering work in feminist video and photography of the 70s to works that present a selection of contemporary positions in the field. Among the artists represented **Valie Export** and our **Barbara Hammer**. Till July 31. More: www.julia-stoschek-collection.net. * And every March 8 needs at least one of this sort. *Being Her Now: Feminine Identity in the 21st Century*.

But do not only expect Utopia. This show interestingly poses the question whether all that talk about the fluidity of gender identity actually challenges the stereotypical gender norms. The media are blamed but funnily also the intersectional feminist approach that “complicates notions of femininity.” The **Spooky Boobs Collective** and a score of young feminist artists address the issue. March 3d offers a performance program including queer feminist artist **Liss Lafleur**. In **Salisbury** (MD) till March 26. More: www.suartgalleries.org. * And the avant garde party *A Rose is A Rose* to raise funds for the long running **Austin** art center *Women and their Work* –**Liss Lafleur** turns out to be selected for their 2016 exhibition program-, quoting Gertrud Stein and alluding to Marcel Duchamp is queer and quaint enough to conclude this month’s *Feminisms* section. April 16. More: [Roses of Texas](#).

Sleepwalker



The Sleepwalkers is a film by Lebanese artist **Rana Hamadah** (presently living in Holland). The latest chapter of her series of Alien Encounters. Her notion of “alieness” is a condition of social estrangement. And her alien “is a recurrent figure and a discursive tool that allows for queer modalities of understanding state-sponsored forms of violence (...) within the Arab world”. I think it is a bit more complicated than

that. *Sleepwalkers* tells a sort of meta story about the narratives surrounding a famous case of two sisters that were executed for committing a series of murders. A meta story not only about nationalism and the emergence of the modern Egyptian state and its judiciary but also about the construction of the dangers of modern femininity (the sisters immorality and that of their female victims; most of them were sex workers). In **London** till March 19. More: www.theshowroom.org. (Source: cuntnewsletter).

Darlings



* **Cindy Sherman** – Works from the Olbricht collection (see *Feminisms GLIMP VII # 3* about the exhibition *Queensize* in **Arnhem**, also showing works by Sherman and many others from this collection). In **Berlin** till April 10. More: www.me-berlin.com. * *Performing for the Camera*. About portraiture and selfexpression from the Victorian age to the age of the selfie. With works by **Marcel Duchamp**, **Samuel Fosso**, **Yayoi Kusama**, **Hannah Wilke**, **Francesca Woodman** and here she is again: **Cindy Sherman**. In **London** till June 9. At Tate Britain the BP spotlight is dedicated to *Hockney's Double Portraits*. Only the pics of the straight couples are depicted on the site. Honi soit etc. And...: sometimes queering a museum can be quite simple. *George Lawson and Wayne Sleep* (1972-5, see pic) is displayed in the UK for the first time (till Fall 2016). More: www.tate.org.uk.

Amo ergo sum

Renate Bertlmann (1943) is one of the feminist frontrunners that started discussions on gender and representation of female bodies in the 70s. With their work they broke ground for contemporary gender and queer art. In her work “Bertlmann focuses on representations of sex, love, and

relationships, with her body often serving as the subject. Physically transforming herself into stereotypes of femininity and masculinity: the pregnant woman, the fashion model, the masturbating man - she makes visible for the camera these constructed identities." She was included in several historic radical feminist exhibitions like the *Feminismus* show in Vienna (1975), curated by VALIE EXPORT. *Amo ergo sum* is her first major retrospective and just opened in **Vienna** where she still lives and works. The show is accompanied by a monograph –subtitle: *works 1969-2016*- including essays on *Pornografie*, *Ironie* and *Utopie* –not a bad combination-. In German and English. Bound, 300 pp, 250 illustrations. Ca. € 50. ISBN: 9783791355306. Till June 30. More: www.verbund.com. (Quote from a press release courtesy Richard Saltoun Gallery)

News-eu



* No news from **Angoulême**. Despite protests and withdrawals the winner of this year's BD/Comics Festival again was a man: Belgian artist Herman Huppe (1938). In reaction to the protest some female artists were added to the nominations. In none of the nine categories a prize was awarded to a women. * *Mein Leben als Schrank* a solo show by **Grit Hachmeister** in **Köln/Cologne** till March 26. And more about this blissful act of absent thinking: www.gritwirkkriegendich.blogspot.com. More: www.fiebach-minninger.com. * *Through a queer Lens*. A series of portraits of LGBTQ -jews by photographer **Ajamu**, curated by "out and proud transgender jew" and activist (www.rainbowjews.com) Surat-Shaan Knan. In **London** till April 17. More:

www.jewishmuseum.org.uk and Ajamu's site. * Also in London the

entire year: a celebration of *40 Years of Sub-Versive Culture*: www.punk.london, with art shows, film screenings and of course concerts. * Some people must actually be quite mad. Buchhandlung Walther König usually isn't among them. But what to think of their newest project: the 5 Volume *Francis Bacon: Catalogue Raisonné*. Totaling almost 1600 pages with 900 illustrations. Ok, Bacon is terrific but this labor of love (of ten years research) borders on the insane. Order your set at order@buchhandlung-walther-koenig.de. € 1400 ;-). * French artist **Eric Lanuit** is busy weaving an ever expanding web of blogs, magazines (Addicted, AYOR, Character) and sites on the net (Narcissus Magazine, Art & Gay, etc.) and still has time to take part in exhibitions of his work. Coming month he is showing photographs at Les Mots a la Bouche, the **Paris** lgbt bookstore. Opening March 11 (6pm). Till March 31. More: check [the facebook event](#) page. * *Maniera - Pontormo, Bronzino und das Florenz der Medici*. In **Frankfurt am Main** till June 5. More: www.staedelmuseum.de. On its site the museum also presents a section dedicated to the intersection of art and politics. But at least in this Museum there is no such thing as schwule Politik. But even the *Maniera* exhibition could do with some queering. * A second solo show by Russian artist **Sergey Sovkov** in **München**. Mainly new paintings in oil and pastels, all from 2015. Till March 10: www.kunstbehandlung.com. *



Presentation of *Brava* a queer feminist Zine in the style of a Teenmag addressing issues of aging, leftist politics and sexuality. Release party in **Berlin** March 5 (9pm). More: brava.blogspot.de. * *Mit anderen Augen* a review of modern *Porträtfotografie* in Germany. Among the participants is **Wolfgang Tillmans**. And March 3 (7pm) as part of the side program an interesting conversation with

Bulgarian photographer **Pepa Hristova** now living in Germany. She is known for her fascinating portraits of the Albanian *Sworn Virgins* (see pic). A form of institutionalized gender transgression. In **Bonn** till May 8 and in **Cologne till May 29** –where the talk takes place. More: www.kunstmuseum-bonn.de and more about Pepa Hristova's work at the Mit Anderen Augen site or at www.pepahristova.com.

Comics



* Last March (Moscow) and November (St. Petersburg) amidst an endless stream of harassment by government officials and members of the public: Bok-o-Bok took place. Still *unclear* who was responsible for the five (!) bomb-threats enlivening the Side by Side LGBT Filmfestival. Part of the festival was the presentation of a queer anthology of comics with an international cast of -18- comics artists –including **Viktoria Lomasko** and **Lena Kek** from Russia-: *How much queer work!* (cover by **Helene Junecic**). Available at the on line shop of the Festival for 700 Roebel (ca \$ 9): bok-o-bok. * I came across this anthology on a blog by geek marketing consultant **Erica Friedman** dedicated to *manga* comics with a lesbian content (*Yuri*): <http://okazu.yuricon.com>. An undogmatic lesbian-feminist enclave in the old boys network of gay comics... * On her blog too I read a positive review of *Beyond, a Queer Sci-Fi*

and Fantasy –comics- anthology. The stories deal with same-sex-relations as a matter of course not crisis. And the stories are inclusive to the point that even relations between humans-and-non-humans are part of the narratives. Hardcopies or PDF available through Gumroad.

Africa

Bronx: Africa. A groupshow in the Bronx celebrating the African heritage of many of its inhabitants. Including the influx of new African immigrants. Among the participating artists is filmmaker, media artist **Seyi Adebajo** (*Oya: Something Happened on the Way to West Africa!*) who is positioned in the Yoruba tradition –one of the African peoples from present day Nigeria-. In his work he addresses this tradition at the intersections of race and gender. Seyi will take part in a group discussion on African Spirituality and Death March 16 (6pm). And Nigerian born journalist **Chike Frankie Edozien** will give a lecture April 29 (6pm). He's made a name with his reporting on the present HIV/Aids crisis in Africa. In **New York** till May 4. More: www.bronxarts.org/lag.asp.

Agitprop

In the art world political art, whether ephemeral or monumental, is considered a bit of an odd duck. But "most art is political whether it means to be or not" and from that position the Elizabeth A Sackler Center (for Feminist Art!) stages Agitprop an exhibition that takes a fresh look at the history of political art. This history is confronted by today's artists that use their work to confront social issues or express political ideas. True to its own heritage it is presenting early 20th century films about hot issues from the women's question (the suffrage in the US or the issue of abortion in post

revolutionary Russia – a rare Eisenstein film). The civil rights movement of the sixties is confronted with the Black Lives Movement and vv. From our part of the front: the Gran Fury collective from the AIDS-years or works by the (post) gay lib Dyke Action Machine (see also News). And the Guerrilla Girls are of course not only part of history but still active today. Nice to see that the show also takes into account what's been happening outside the Western field of vision (China, India). In three relays, new groups of artists will contribute to the ongoing show. Agitprop runs till August 7 in **New York**. More: www.brooklynmuseum.org.

inti.mate



* *inti.mate* is part of *Medium of Desire*, the international anthology of photography and video artshow at the **NYC** Leslie Lohman. It is part of the *Mating Ritual Series* by **Sidney Mullis** in which she performs as invented animals or life forms expressing a domain of alternative biology and culture, including aspects of gender: “a visual playground to speculate boundaries of gender performance in the present and for the future. *Medium of Desire* and *inti.mate* (at the Wooster st. window gallery) both till March 27. More: www.sidneymullis.com. (Pic: *Mating Ritual of the Lumpbutt bouncer*, 2015, video-still, courtesy of the artist.) * At the Prince Street projectspace: *Poolside* by **Gabriel Martinez** (1967). His “multidisciplinary works have been greatly motivated by the themes of loss, celebration, memorial, and cultural identity. His current work reflects his interest in queer history, specifically the period between the Stonewall Riots and the outset of the Aids epidemic.” *Poolside* is a multi-media installation that explores “the milieu of Fire Island of the 1970s. Included in this exhibition will be works inspired by the novels of John Rechy and Wakefield Poole’s iconic film *Boys in the Sand*.” March 12-13. More: www.gabrielmartinez.com. And in the *Speakers Series* March 14 (6:30pm) a talk on queer performance art by **Amelia Jones** (McGill University) “probably one of the most well

recognized queer, anti-racist, feminist art historians working today. She has lectured throughout the world and the author of numerous publications.” E.g. *Dis/playing the phallus: male artists perform their masculinities* (1994). More: www.leslielohman.org.

DIY art



* Helsinki filmproduction company is looking for a male actor/model to play Tom of Finland’s favorite character Kake for a new feature about this gay icon. The fictional character – seductive, studly, funny and sexy- Kake will play a central role in the story. The company is looking for tall and handsome, well build 35-40 year old man with a “playful, shame free attitude about R-rated sensual contact

with other men”. Applications with a portrait, “full-body shot (speedos)” and resume:

tuotanto@helsinkifilmi.fi.

* One of the leading photo-orgs **Lensculture** is calling for submissions for their (3d) annual competition in portrait photography. Considered –by Lens- as one of the most fundamental types of photography “helping people to understand and celebrate human connections on a universal level”. Among last year’s finalists was Italian photographer **Fulvio Bulgani** with *Waria: Being a Different Muslim*. About [transgender-women in Indonesia](http://transgender-women.in.idonesia). Awards 2016: \$ 22.000 total prize money, an exhibition in London and several other perks. Deadline is March 8. More:

www.lensculture.com (the homepage presently shows a slide show of the most recent entries). *

Lion’s Main Art Collective (see pic) is a **Seattle** based community of queer and trans* artists. In an earlier Glimp! I noticed their *Erasure* art show. You can now download a zine, aka free catalogue of that show, at www.lionsmain.org. The group is calling for submissions for their forthcoming exhibition *Transience* addressing gentrification, displacement, “liminal and traditional spaces”. Not only for artists from Washington. “This call is open internationally for artists submitting digital media (i.e. video, performance, etc)”. Deadline is April 15: lionsmainart@gmail.com.

Halsted

Last month I have been roaming sites of the many lgbt centers in the States. And though many offer local artists a platform to present their work, few seem to keep records of these shows. Even less centers are calling for artists. And Halsted, the **Chicago** LGBTQ center is one of the rare that have a visual arts program that offers a new art-show every 6-7 weeks presenting community artists.

Presently showing in their two exhibition rooms are **Lydia Pfeffer** and **Otto Kuhlmann**. No additional info available (no pics of the sort of work exhibited, nor records of past shows –weird-). And opening April 8 (7pm) is their next show with **Lea Basile** and **Rob Bondgren** each occupying a floor. More: www.centeronhalsted.org.

News-US

* *How to work better*. A retrospective on the work of artist duo **Peter Fischli** and **David Weiss** (1946-2012). Among the works presented is the 1987 film *The Way Things Go* about causality and the

inevitable decline and end of all and everything. This show in **New York** lasts till April 27 and is accompanied by a catalogue of some 400 pages (and more than 700 illustrations). ISBN: 9783791355023. Ca \$/€ 50. More: www.guggenheim.org. * With fitting serendipity the same film *Lauf der Dinge* also inspired a show in Amersfoort (NL) that presents contemporary Dutch



inspired by it. Till May 1. More: www.kunsthalkade.nl. * *Postcards from the edge*. This year's *Visual Aids Art Action* has so far raised \$ 113000 by some 1200 visitor at their annual weekend show last January in **New York**. Some 1500 artists contributed a piece of postcard sized art. Check out the postcards and buy one (each piece is \$ 85) at [the visual aids site](http://thevisualaidsite). * *A Paper Cuts Zine* reading program at the Bureau in **New York**. With Clocktower artists, radio makers, etc. With artists **Sy Abudu** and **Paul Moreno**. Also **Winter Mendelson** and **M . Lamar** from the group around the interesting *Posture* magazine (www.posturemag.com). March 6 (5 pm). More: www.bgsqd.com. * The abstract paintings by two members of the glbt community of **Philadelphia** are considered as local queer artwork by William Way's... *Look Closer: the works of Michael Newman and Stuart Alter* opens March 11 (6pm). Check the site for the closing date -I couldn't find it-: www.waygay40.org. * *Sirens* a solo by **Carrie Moyer**. Famous Queer Nation, Dyke Action Machine activist and now from *agitp(r)op* back to painting again. In **New York** till March 26. More: www.dcmooregallery.com. (see pic: installation view)* Based on childhood memories **Jack Early** produces pop art like large paintings –toy soldiers, popsicles, etc- and objects. Strange combination with his vintage porn paintings? Not if you grew up gay in the 70s or if you are a fan of this cult artist. In **New York** till April 9. More: www.fergusmccaffrey.com (source: Abi in Gayletter 339). * From the versatile B of our queer alphabet: *Beards from New York* in the *Narcissus Magazine*. More: www.narcissusmagazine.com. * Several



shows to get to know the work of **Kris Sanford**. She uses found snap shots of the 20s-50s showing private situations of men or women together. People in an intimate setting whose position together, their point of contacts, gestures, glances hover on the edge of straight (see pic). By rearranging them she is creating an imaginary queer past. Therewith chronicling the contemporary readings –today's gaze- of the visual remnants of the earlier era. Kris was one of the 2015 nominations and her work is included in the *Lens 2016 International Juried Photography*

Exhibition in **Evanston** (IL) March 3-27. More: www.perspectivegallery.org). She takes part in *Subject to Change* a group show in **Richmond** (Va) March 4-April 23 (more: www.candelabooks.com) and she won 1st prize in the [35d Annual Juried Photography Exhibition](#) in **Petoskey** (MI). Till April 2 and more about that and other adventures: www.krissanford.com. * Just published a new book by *Abstract Bodies* author **David Getsy**: *Queer. Documents of contemporary art*. A collection of texts on queer art. Really looking forward to this one. And probably required reading for every queer artist, feminist, student, theorist, etc. ISBN 9780854882427. Some 240 pages and only \$ 25. Check its content on his academia.edu site. * The *Agency* exhibition by **Strange Fire Collective** in **Fort Collins** is on till March 5 –see GLIMP! VII # 3-. Now [available](#) an accompanying catalogue. \$ 10. * *Come as You Are*. The travelling exhibition taking stock of US art in the 90s has reached Texas. A special treat of this stage of the journey is a showing of the complete *Cremaster* series of 5 films by **Matthew Barney**. The films deal with all sort of models for the creative process esp. the embryonic development of the reproductive organs... During SXSW festival March 15-20. In **Austin** till May 15. More: www.blantonmuseum.org. * **Peter Hujar**: 21 pictures on display till March 5 in **San Francisco**. More: www.fraenkelgallery.com.

Realities



Queer artist **Sanh Brian Tran** left LA and SF for Lewisberg (PA). Missing the West Coast urban habitats he now educates (or terrifies) Pennsylvania with his queer photography exploring what's it like to be non-white and gay in contemporary rural America. But next opportunity to see his work in public is

way back West in **Grants Pass** (OR) where he has been selected to take part in *Transgender Realities*. An exhibition at the Wiseman Gallery “that addresses issues relating to the experience of the blurring, or negotiation of gender identity in contemporary life”. Participating artists include Jim Cleary, Alex Curtiss, Evin Dubois, Ursula Gullow, Susan & John Hensel, Amanda Hext, Iris Kirkwood, Steven Labadessa, Coley Mixan, Charles Pratt, Enok Ripley, Doug Sandelin, Brett Suemnicht, Frankie Toan, Sanh Brian Tran, and Vav Vavrek.” March 2-April 8. More: [Rogue Community College](#). (pic: Farmers Market Lewisburg. Courtesy Sanh Brian Tran)

Perfect



* Two interesting exhibitions about **Robert Mapplethorpe** 25 years after the famous obscenity trial. * *The Perfect Moment: Reflections on Robert Mapplethorpe* takes place at the same location that was the victim of a state –not just representing a Midwestern *backwater* but Middleamerica itself- trying to draw a line against the growing acceptance of homosexuality. And it was of course nudity that was in the center of the controversy: the exposed body of the child and the explicit depiction of

transgressive sexuality, SM. The accused won the trial eventually but it left its traces. Just after the trial a planned exhibition of Mapplethorpe’s work was cancelled by the Corcoran Gallery in Washington and artists planned to show their work in the **Cincinnati** Arts Center either withdrew or self-censored their works. Even now the CAC hesitated to show some of the pics involved. But both artists in question –and some others associated with the controversy- were asked to reflect on the effect the row had on their work. And guess where they draw their lines today... Till March 13. More: www.contemporaryartscenter.org. * *Robert Mapplethorpe: The Perfect Medium* on two locations in **Los Angeles** concentrates on Mapplethorpe’s artistic praxis rather than *the culture wars of the 90s*. But can’t help to draw attention to the role the discourse about art and photography played in the arguments during and surrounding the trial. It is a bit strong to credit Robert Mapplethorpe with the elevation of photography among the arts, but there you go. Part of the show is *Physical: Sex and the Body in the 80s* an installation made up of works drawn from the LACMA’s collection (Peter Hujar, Nan Goldin, ea). It highlights Mapplethorpe’s relation to New York’s sexual and artistic underground. And while Cincinnati may stand for Middleamerica, New York’s underground stands for all of America’s urban –and not only the lgbt- subcultures. Starting March 20 at the LACMA (pic). More: www.lacma.org. And March 15 at the J. Paul Getty Museum: www.getty.edu.

#Dragangeles



A celebration of **Los Angeles** and **West Hollywood** Drag Creativity, History and Art. At the LALGBT center *Twenty years of Perpetual Indulgence* (through April 2). And at the West Hollywood Library *A brief history of Drag in LA*. A look at the local drag scene from the late **1880s**. Opening March 5 (7 pm) and through June (as part of One City One Pride). During the opening a presentation of portraits by photographer Austin

Young, a special Drag Wall where visitors can hang their own pics and ephemera –and contribute to uncovering the (mostly very private) history of drag- and especially cute: a group portrait of drag artists of past and present, who are all invited to participate in an attempt to make *the biggest most fabulous photo ever* of people in drag. * All performers receive a copy of the pic –by Young-, a goody bag and a free ticket to attend *The 20th Century Abridged: Taylor Mac's 24-decade History of Popular Music*. Taylor Mac – *Equal parts bedazzled shaman, searing social critic, radical angel and Elizabethan fool* – is a radical performance artist (see pic). And this event at Royce Hall (March 12, 8pm) is part of a developing 24 hour performance work about 240 years of popular music. Check Taylor's itinerary and the *decade* he will present in your town at www.taylormac.org. More: www.lalgbtcenter.org. * Exhibition proposals for the Advocate & Cochis Galleries are welcome. Send samples of work and artist's statement at: artprograms@lalgbtcenter.org.

Modernisms

* **Lucy McRae**, a science fiction artist, filmmaker and body architect that responds to the complex futures at the intersection of technology and femininity takes part in the *Close Up* exhibition in the institute for architecture in **Los Angeles** (one of the other participants is the Dutch architect Ben van Berkel who designed the Nijmegen museum –small world-). *Close up* looks at new technologies and their consequence for (virtual) architecture. McRae's discoveries open up new ways of thinking about R&R and their spatial consequences (*Future Day Spa*). Try queering that one! March 11-May 29. More: www.sciarc.edu.

Haiku



"*Haiku for a Honey Girl* proposes a series of sculptural strategies for mourning the loss of a fictional character. Oscillating between the makeshift and the monumental the objects form an absurdist sculptural dialogue around memory, lived and virtual space, and the role fictional characters play in constructing meaning in our daily lives." Solo by queer artist **Jake Preval**. **Melbourne** March 30-April 16. Opening: April 7 (6pm). More: [Blindsite artcenter](http://Blindsiteartcenter.com).

Black Sydney Things



* *Sydney, Sex & Subculture*. Photographs by **C Moore Hardy**: *historical, hysterical & happy recollections of the queer community*. Showing "images that engage in an erotic dialogue reconstructing a visual narrative" of three decades of "battles, rallies, sorrow, resilience and diversity of the queer community." In this exhibition he explores his archival and documentary-style photography and celebrates all things queer. Also showing

Lorraine Guddemi's *Raspirical Things*. Porcelain sculptures *that explore the ephemeral nature of female desirability*. **Todd Fuller's** *Insubstantial Love Stores*, showing several of his *A God for the Gays* sculptures and results from his *Black Box* projects raising sexual-political questions with members of the public and within the queer community. In **Waterloo** till March 17. More:

www.brendamaygallery.com.au.

Pride Wellington



* Lot's of HLR30 events at **Wellington** Pride in New Zealand March 5-13. HLR30: short for Homosexual Law Reform that decriminalized homosexuality only three decades ago. Here a selection from the program. More at www.outinthepark.co.nz. * *Thin Edge of the Wedge: Homosexual Law Reform in Aotearoa New Zealand (1985-1986)*, the showing of a collection of audio-visual memories around the battle surrounding the reform.

Showing the “heated meetings, street rallies and debates that began almost immediately after the introduction of the bill into Parliament on 8 March 1985. Labour MP Fran Wilde’s Homosexual Law Reform Bill set out to decriminalize homosexual activity between adult consenting males and make it illegal to discriminate (...) It took 16 months to make its way through Parliament. March 10 (7pm). * *Out of the Box Exhibition*, an exhibition of photographs exploring the LGBTIQ Community and “about (...) breaking down the barriers and the “box” which people are often put into.” March 9-12. * But a bit more interesting is *Drawing It Out*, a “lesbian, bisexual, queer, female identified drawing project on our sexuality” by **Sian Torrington**. She invites “lesbian, bisexual, queer female identified people to participate in an embodied research project on our sexuality. If you have experience of female identified sex, now, in the past or would like to in your future, then this is for you! I'll draw whatever people offer me. It might be your finger, arm, dildo. The resultant collage will help form a sense of what we want to show/conceal.” Drawing sessions take place in her studio March 7-9 and the results will be exhibited later in the year. Check [All meaning is the Line you draw](#).

Veiqia



Part of the older –second wave- feminist curatorial practice are the anthropological exhibitions. Either showing the role women are allowed to play in other societies or how family and sexuality are organized. Modern feminist and queer curatorial practices have elaborated this tradition as it emphasizes the idea of gender and sexuality as social constructs. Many artists have incorporated this anthropological gaze or praxis into their work (see the item

about Pepa Hristova under News-Eu). An interesting intersectional example is *The Veiqia Project* exhibition. *The Veiqia Project* is a creative research project into the practice of female tattooing in Fiji. Part of the project was restoring a marginalized tradition by researching local archives and through oral history. And research in depots of Western Museums produced lost artefacts that in turn inspired the development of new art. Thus reclaiming a female position in Fiji society that was almost lost. *The Veiqia Project* exhibition shows work by five contemporary Fiji artists (none -!- presently living in Fiji). In **Auckland** (NZ) March 15-26. More: www.pimpiknows.com. * Part of punk.london is a show dedicated to tattoo *dating back to a time before captain Cook made his adventure in the Pacific* but also involving the contemporary sub cultures of the Inkparlor. Till May 8. More: www.museumoflondon.org. (Pic: iQia –Fiji-, from the collection of the Auckland War Memorial Museum)

Crowdfunding

* The Belgian lgbt bookshop *Kartonnen Dozen* (formerly 't Verschil) raised some € 13000 for their relaunch. But that has been delayed till May with an official opening party June 25. More: www.kartonnendozenlgbt.be. * **Robin Vogel** has raised € 11000 for his film *Weg van de Kerk* –a pun of the way to or of the Church and turning away from it gets lost in translation- but the film is about the community hanging out at the Church, a queer club in Amsterdam. Dutch spoken but with subtitles in English –quaint-. Premiere during the Roze Filmdagen lgbt [Filmfestival March 17](#). * Dutch bilingual magazine *Gay News* joined in the campaign to embellish **Baltimore** with a monument for the (in)famous Divine. Check its March issue 295 at www.gaynews.nl. Meanwhile with a month to go the Kickstarter campaign to raise \$ 70000 had a slow start (only \$ 10k thus far) and could also use a fresh [kick](#) in the ass. * **Gengoroh Tagame** is one of the few artists from Japan present in the pages of GLIMP! My knowledge of the queer art scene of Japan is scant. Almost entirely limited to tidbits of its art's history and contemporary comics. Graham Kolbein and Anne Ishii who already worked together some years editing gay and feminist manga have taken it upon them to produce a documentary about queer art in Japan. Among the artists cooperating are: Tagame, **Vivienne Sato**, **Rokudenashiko**, **Hiroshi Hasegawa**, **Nogi Sumiko**, **Atsushi Matsuda**, ea. For the *Queer Japan* doc they are trying to raise \$ 45000. Check their pitch at [Kickstarter](#).

Helm, 27 februari 2016

Aesthetics and Politics. Ai Wei Wei in Berlin.

