

CALL FOR PAPERS

Where My Girls At? Contemporary Feminist Art

A conference for graduate students and emerging scholars of American Studies
Amerika-Institut, LMU Munich, July 2, 2020.

40 years after Judy Chicago established the first feminist art program in Fresno, California, feminist art still flourishes. A young generation of artists and activists explores contemporary feminist issues and practices from multiple perspectives and through a variety of mediums. Against the background of the emergence of the #MeToo movement and Fourth Wave Feminism, this conference examines North American art and activism and its capacity to inspire change, reformulate feminist ideas, and reimagine a feminist aesthetics. We aim to explore the role of art and visual culture in contemporary feminist movements as well as artistic practices by feminist artists. How do artists negotiate, challenge, and engage with contemporary feminist issues? To what extent do feminist art practices imagine and project progressive agendas for social transformation? And what are the effects of feminist art practices amongst diverse audiences? We also aim to highlight the role of intersectionality in feminist art. The ongoing challenges of inclusivity and diversity in feminist movements beg the question whether art is a privileged medium that has the ability to address some realities better than others. This conference also asks how social media impacts and reshapes the production and distribution of feminist art.

In bringing together the diverse strands of thought and practice that contemporary feminist art and culture embrace, this conference welcomes papers spanning a wide range of topics. These may include, but are not limited to:

- Feminist art and cultural institutions
- Practices of collecting and display
- Gendered ideologies and artistic practices
- Questions of power, agency, body, and sexuality in feminist movements
- Social Media, visual culture, and feminist art
- Intersectionality and feminist art
- LGBTQI+ issues in feminist art
- Feminist Activism and the use of visual art in feminist movements and campaigns
- Feminist art practices of marginalized and underrepresented communities
- Feminist art and Critical Whiteness Studies
- Artful everyday feminist practices (braiding hair, knitting, etc.)
- Inclusivity and diversity as ongoing challenge of feminist movements and art (history)
- Transatlantic perspectives

We welcome submissions from graduate and PhD students, emerging scholars, and artists/performers. We encourage proposals for experimental/creative formats.

If you are interested in participating, please submit your proposal (in one PDF) to all organizers by **30 April 2020** including:

- the title of your presentation
- an abstract (max. 300 words)
- a short biographical note (max. 5 sentences)
- technical requirements (notebook, projector, loudspeakers, Internet connection, etc.)

Presentations should not exceed 15–20 minutes and will be followed by a discussion. Presenters will be notified by May 6.

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Angelique Szymanek, Professor of Art and Architecture, Hobart & William Smith Colleges

Organizers: Megan Bosence, M.A. (m.bosence@campus.lmu.de), Dr. Bärbel Harju (baerbel.harju@lmu.de), Amelie Starke, B.A. (a.starke@campus.lmu.de)