

JEAN CARLO MUSTO MADE ME QUEER

**Video Activism, Queer Archives
and AIDS Crisis Revisitation**

**International
Conference**

**July 14–16,
2022**

**Goethe University
Theodor-W.-Adorno-Platz 2
60323 Frankfurt am Main**

**Mal Seh'n Kino
Adlerflychtstraße 6
60318 Frankfurt am Main**

THURSDAY, JULY 14 MAL SEH'N KINO

18.00 – 18.30 Introduction by Josefine Hetterich and Marc Siegel
18.30 – 20.00 *Esther Newton Made Me Gay* (Jean Carlomusto, 2022)
20.00 – 20.30 Conversation with Jean Carlomusto

FRIDAY, JULY 15 GOETHE UNIVERSITY RENA TE VON METZLER-SAAL, CASINO 1.801

9.00 – 9.30 Coffee and Registration

Roundtable 1
9.30 – 10.00 *A Desire for History*
L Is For the Way You Look (Jean Carlomusto, 1991)
K.I.P. (Nguyen Tan Hoang, 2002)

10.00 – 11.30 *I Remember Dancing* (Nguyen Tan Hoang, 2019)
Heather Love and Nguyen Tan Hoang
MODERATED BY JOSEFINE HETTERICH
Lunch
11.30 – 12.30

Roundtable 2
12.30 – 13.00 *AIDS Crisis Revisitation*
Like A Prayer (DIVA TV, 1990)
ACT UP 1989–2019 (Jean Carlomusto, 2019)
Alexandra Juhaz and Chris Tedjasukmana
MODERATED BY SARAH HORN
Coffee Break
14.30 – 15.00 *Shatzi Is Dying* (Jean Carlomusto, 2000)
15.00 – 16.00 Conversation with Jean Carlomusto
16.00 – 17.00 MODERATED BY JOSEFINE HETTERICH, SARAH HORN AND SOPHIE HOLZBERGER

SATURDAY, JULY 16

GOETHE UNIVERSITY RENA TE VON METZLER-SAAL, CASINO 1.801

Roundtable 3
10.00 – 11.00 Drag, Mourning and Militancy
Marta: Portrait of a Teen Activist (Matt Ebert and Ryan Landry, 1990)
Liberaceón (Chris E. Vargas, 2011)
Homotopia (Chris Vargas and Eric A. Stanley, 2007)
Chris E. Vargas and Marc Siegel
MODERATED BY MAJA FIGGE
Lunch
12.30 – 14.00

Roundtable 4
14.00 – 14.30 AIDS Activist and Queer Video Archives

Excerpts from
Compromised Immunity (Phillip Timmins, 1987)
Cock Crazy or Scared Stiff (Sunil Gupta, 1991)
POUT (1992)
Offerings (Jean Carlomusto, 2016)
The ACT UP Oral History Project
Jim Hubbard, Jean Carlomusto and Ed Webb-Ingall
MODERATED BY SOPHIE HOLZBERGER
Coffee Break
14.30 – 16.00
16.00 – 16.30
16.30 – 18.00 Throughlines JOSEFINE HETTERICH AND MARC SIEGEL

Ever since its emergence as a low-cost, easy to access and share moving image technology in the 1970s, video has played a key role in political activism and community building. This international conference addresses the genealogies of contemporary video culture by taking a closer look at a crucial moment in the emergence of video activism: the queer activist video production in the US and across the world in the context of the AIDS crisis of the 1980s and 1990s. The event will focus on the work of filmmaker Jean Carlomusto. Carlomusto is an influential figure at the intersection of queer activism and interventionist video art, whose videos offer a productive starting point for interdisciplinary discussions in contemporary film and media studies, art history and the study of social movements.

Jean Carlomusto is a filmmaker, activist, and media artist whose work is a key reference in queer theoretical and AIDS activist discourses yet is less known to a broader inter-

national public. Carlomusto started the Media Unit at Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York City in 1987, was a founding member of DIVA TV (an affinity group of ACT UP) and a member of the Testing The Limits Video Collective. In addition to her collaborations in these contexts, her solo works include *L Is For the Way You Look* (1991), *Shatzi Is Dying* (2000), and most recently *Esther Newton Made Me Gay* (2022). Carlomusto's work explores lesbian and queer histories, HIV/AIDS, and documentary practice in the form of experimental videos that attend to loss and collective trauma without losing a sense of humor.

Jean Carlomusto Made Me Queer will combine screenings of Carlomusto's work and that of other queer video artists from the 1980s to the present with a number of roundtables with artists, activists and scholars who will speak to queer archives and historiographies, video activism and the revisionation of historical material of the AIDS crisis in art, activist scenes and popular culture.

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JEAN CARLOMUSTO MADE ME QUEER:
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An international conference organized by the Department of Theater, Film, and Media Studies at Goethe University Frankfurt, in collaboration with Mal Seh'n Kino, the Städtelschule and the Film Studies Program at Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz.

Conference Organizers
Josefine Hetterich, Marc Siegel, and Vinzenz Hediger

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