

Call for Participants for the 2nd “<Interrupted = “Cyfem and Queer>” symposium

April 13, 2019 | Südblock & aquarium | Berlin

<http://interrupted.creamcake.de/>

Application Deadline: March 1st, 2019

Calling all artists, writers, activists, coders, thinkers, and scholars. Applications are open for participation in the **2nd “<Interrupted = “Cyfem and Queer>”** symposium, exploring the theoretical, artistic, and political histories of our current bio-colonial-techno capitalist reality. Curated by Daniela Seitz and Anja Weigl of Creamcake and Gala Rexer, the event will take place at Berlin venues **Südblock** and **aquarium** on April 13, and follows 2018’s inaugural assembly that critically engaged with the foundations of cyber- and technofeminist thought. This year, we examine the biotechnological and political management of bodies, sex, and gender in the digital world — pleasure, pain and identity — along with questions of agency, body politics, and the subversive appropriation of technologies.

Advanced technocapitalism, accelerating global media and digital culture determine the organization of life in a number of new ways. Our understanding of what it means to inhabit a (sexed, gendered, raced, aging, cyborgian) body has changed drastically since the dawn of the 20th century. The invention of plastics, the contraceptive pill, synthetic hormones, body modifying surgeries and modes of technological embodiment, as well as changing practices and knowledge in psychology, sexology, endocrinology have led us to a networked age. It’s one in which we can imagine the self in myriad new ways.

The 2nd “<Interrupted = “Cyfem and Queer>” symposium event is a day and night-long series of conversations, brainstorming sessions, panels, lectures and performances dedicated to broadening the discourse around (embodied) technologies, digital space, and cyborgian experience. A place for reflection and action at the intersection of technology, the internet, gender and sexuality, the event aims to formulate strategies for queering the blurred line between science, music and art. Discussion will focus on a trans- and interdisciplinary approaches to feminist ideas and concepts, and developing reading, writing, thinking, performing and sounding practices, as well as other political work, in order to analyze contemporary thought on nature/culture and technology.

We are seeking academic papers and practice-based reflections; presentations, panel and workshop ideas; art and music performance contributions related but not limited to the following:

- The myriad histories of sexuality, body politics, and biomedicalization
- Producing (counter-)knowledge within the realms of medicine, biology, and technology
- The production of biovalue in the bioeconomy: Which parts of our bodies (e.g. egg cells, sperm, embryos, wombs, organs) are being commodified, and for whom?
- Assisted reproductive technologies (ARTs) that are changing the ways we perceive biological and social reproduction: How do the legal, economic and political aspects of assisted reproduction enable or impede reproductive justice?
- Imagining new reproductive futurities: queering and decolonizing kinship and descent
- The Quantified self: the opportunities and obstacles of data acquisition and self-tracking in our daily lives
- Body politics and the tensions of self-determination versus control under the white, heteronormative and neoliberal conditions of self-optimization
- Pleasure, desire and identity, and how they are (de)constructed, contested and practiced online and offline
- Queer and feminist self help strategies and practices, like DIY gynecology or biohacking

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How to apply via form:

- Summarize your practice (200 words max. in English or German)
- What do you wish to explore during the 2nd "<Interrupted = “Cyfem and Queer>”? (200 words max. in English or German)
- What tools or support do you need to present your work?
- Provide us with a short bio (required) and supporting documentation (optional) of your work (200 words max. in English or German)
- Tell us your contact details, location and gender pronouns

We encourage women, queer, trans and gender non-conforming people, black people, and people of color to apply. We welcome applications from emerging artists and researchers.

Accepted applicants will be invited to present their project or research on April 13 at Südblock and aquarium in Berlin. We will endeavour to cover food and accommodation as much as possible and will contribute with a budget to your travel expenses. Resources for travel are limited but we are also open to connecting online.

If you have any questions, please contact: interrupted@creamcake.de.

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