



***QUEER
AESTHET-
ICS**

Antke Engel
Ismael Ogando
Special guest: NIC Kay

**Saturday, October
24th, 2015 – Berlin**

***challenging the neocolonial queer and diasporic forms of un_learning**

The series of workshops and public events seeks to challenge the colonial matrix of power and its legacies in the different manifestations of intimacy in our everyday interactions. How do colonial, imperial, and racialized histories enter into, shape and influence various forms of intimate relationships (queer, sexual, political, platonic, domestic)? And how can we contest and rework these histories through practices of un_learning? What does “un_learning” mean? What does the queer gap do to Spivak’s notion to “unlearn one’s privileges”? How can we find new ways of facing the tensions and fractions within queer, feminist, queer of colour, anti-racist movements?

***QUEER AES- THETICS**

Workshop by Antke Engel & Ismael Ogando.

For the workshop we bring short, inspiring, provocative quotes on queer aesthetics by thinkers of diverse backgrounds as well as a variety of (audio-) visual material. While initiating a dialogue between the artistic and the theoretical approaches, we invite you, the participants, to engage with each other, with us as well as the material. Taking seriously the agency of art and theory we wish to collectively develop and discuss about understandings of queer audio-visual culture and its potential to intervene in a complexity of racist, sexist, heteronormative, ableist, and occidentalist structures. What does it mean, to rewrite violent histories and to invent futures from multiple and diverse queer perspectives?



**Special presentation: performance excerpt & talk
by NIC Kay.**

Influenced by New York City gay/queer ballroom culture, live punk shows, butoh and praise dance, lil BLK is a story about a fairy boi, child of god, little black girl, performer, and activist. The story plays out through a series of biographical moments that are equal parts narrative and dream. Wrestling with the desire to be seen in a society hell bent on controlling and crushing the black feminine body + spirit, lil BLK aims to subvert these constraints and offers an unfettered representation of this experience. Through the exploration of theatrical form, NIC Kay highlights these desires and the traps of being a black performer searching for freedom on the stage and in a beat.

Dr. Antke Engel

Director of the Institute for Queer Theory, Berlin. Works on queer visual culture, feminist philosophy, and cultural politics.

Ismael Ogando

Born in Dominican Republic, studied Visual Arts and Social Psychology at Universidad Autonoma de Santo Domingo. Works in media, journalism, archives and as cultural manager. Currently is based in Berlin, working as editor-in-chief for **GROUND**.

**Special guest: NIC Kay
(Chicago, USA)**

Transdisciplinary artist obsessed with the act and process of moving, the change of place, position, and the clarity/meaning gleaned from said activity.

Born and raised in The Bronx, New York, NIC graduated from Professional Performing Artist School in 2007 and was a Hemispheric Institute EMERGENYC Fellow in 2009. Now residing in Chicago, they are a founding member of **3rd Language**, a queer arts collective. NIC is currently in Residence at Links Hall.

***Saturday,
October 24th
– 2015**

**Workshop
15.00 – 18.00**

***Registration required
mail@gender-queer.de**

**Performance
18.30 – 19.30**

**Meet&Greet
19.40 – 21.00**

**Werkstatt: Adalbert-
str. 71 (courtyard)
U-Kottbusser Tor**

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thetics**

is part of the se-
ries challenging the
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QUEER
institute for queer theory

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INITIATIVEN FÜR ZIVILGESELLSCHAFT UND DEMOKRATISCHE KULTUR