

## Spring rituals by WetMeWild in Queer Museum Vienna

24.03.2023 - 14.05.2023

This year's program of Queer Museum Vienna at Volkskundemuseum Wien will start off with a show on eco-sexuality, the importance of unpolluted bodies of water as base of all life on this planet, the consideration of natural resources such as water as legal entities which deserve to remain unharmed and in a wider sense: sustainability and its connection to queer resistance against global capitalism and thus the exploitation and destruction of the environment.

WetMeWild is the artist Justyna Górowska's incarnation of a Slavic water nymph originating from the Lesser Poland region of former Galicia. In her work, she develops the hydrosexual movement\* in the field of ecologically engaged digital art. For water themes, she reclaims Slavic mythology and makes state-of-the-art use of modern technologies.

The exhibition and accompanying collaborative performance with Alex Franz Zehetbauer (@afranz) by invitation of the Queer Museum at the headquarters of The Austrian Museum of Folk Life and Folk Art in Vienna will take place at a particularly significant moment for the year's cycles. March equinox is a time of reborn nature and rituals meant to spell fertility (like smudging each other with flowering vittles and dousing each other with water during Dyngus Day celebrations across the Western Slavic). This is the best time for hydrosexual water nymphs to emerge from the vapors of pre-Christian myths.

Photos made in cooperation with Paweł Wyląg (@pawelwylag). Special thanks to Thomas Trabitsch, Alek Celusta (@akezorn) and Ewelina Jarosz (@underwater\_activist).

\*Hydrosexuality (Gr. ὕδωρ/hydros, Latin: hydrus – 'water'; sexuales, Latin: 'sexuality') – in the form of concepts, art, activism – has recently begun to spread in the discourses and practices of fifth-wave feminisms. They break with the belief in the centrality of the human being on Earth, as well as with the binary concept of identity. Hydrosexual subjectivity is environmental. It combines the tenets of the ecosexual movement in art, whose founders are Californian artists Annie Sprinkle and Beth Stephens, with the hydro-feminist current, developed by a Canadian of Latvian descent, Astrida Neimanis. It plays out in dialogue with posthumanism, feminist new materialism and the problems of the global water crisis. The term was developed by Cyber nympho Ewelina Jarosz.

### PROGRAM

23.03.2023 6pm opening and performance

13.05.2023 Screening "Cyber wedding to the brine shrimp" (in cooperation with Ewelina Jarosz, Annie Sprinkle, Beth Stephens commissioned by Polish Cultural Institute New York, 2021) & Finissage with Hotel Butterfly