

Tricky Women/Tricky Realities 2023
International Animation Filmfestival
8-12 March
Vienna & Online



Press release, 28 February 2023

Whether surreal, resistant animated films from Latin America, a femmage to Swiss animation or stylistically innovative works in the competition and special programs: From March 8 to 12, *Tricky Women/Tricky Realities* celebrates the emancipatory power of animated films by women and/or genderqueer artists. The festival takes place in a hybrid form, with film programs, lectures and artist talks at cinemas and venues in Vienna as well as online on the ► [festival's own platform](#). The major part of the festival program will be online for 48h after their online-program-start. Prizes worth 21,000 euros will be awarded as part of the competition programs, including the *Maria Lassnig Golden Film Reel*, worth 10,000 euros. This year's festival program includes 171 short films in total, the major part will also be online. Please find the festival program ► [here](#).

The following festival programs of *Tricky Women/Tricky Realities 2023* will be online (48h after their online-program-start):

- International Competition (4 programs)
- Up & Coming Competition (2 programs)
- Power & Illusion + Experiences & Encounters (from this year's *Focus on Switzerland*)
- Work Affairs
- Fairplay
- RE:FRAME
- On Repression & Resistance + Of Families & Monsters (Latin American Special)
- Exploring Realities
- Awarded Films (after the Award Ceremony)

Competition programs

As the centrepiece of the festival, the **International Competition** brings together trends and tendencies in independent animated film-making by women and/or genderqueer artists all over the globe. **The Up & Coming Competition** gathers impressive animation films made at renowned film and art schools from around the world.

Focus on Switzerland

This year's *Tricky Women/Tricky Realities 2023* country focus presents for the first time Swiss animation film history with a focus on films made by women and/or genderqueer artists. Three film programs span over a period of fifty years, are showing films from the 1970s to recent works from 2022. Whether painted with paint on glass, stop-motion, negative photography, cutout animation, or created with rotoscoping, Swiss animated films proves to be bold, creative, and versatile. The program was curated by Saskia von Virág. She is the founder of the production company Virage Film in Zurich, and since 2013 she has also been part of the selection team for the international competition at the renowned animation film festival Fantoche. The program was created in collaboration with and with the support of SWISS FILMS.

Latin American Special

Current works from Latin America bring to light the unconscious and the surreal, address family dynamics, but also tell of protest movements and state repression. The films were pre-selected by the Latin American artists Emilce Avalos (Argentina) and Cecilia Traslaviña (Colombia), as well as the cultural manager Pamela Pedroza (Mexico). The Latin American Special was programed and

curated by Lara Bellon.

Statement about the pre-selection by Emilce Avalos and Cecilia Traslaviña: *"This program is a sample of the complexity that defines us, layers of history that intertwine. Snippets of original cultures, combined with traditions adapted in diverse waves of immigration. A region that has been, and continues to be, the object of expansionist and colonial projects, rich in natural resources, subjugated by the violence exercised by different powers over time, by displacements, social and economic inequality, dictatorships, racism and classism. It also reflects the inner and emotional worlds of women, the observation of one's own pain, the recognition of abuses, the connection with inheritances and legacies. The richness of diversity, the sorority, the great vitality and desire to change the world. Therefore, animation plays a very important role, it is the bridge that allows us to create worlds that work with other logics, and thus make us see events that otherwise would go unnoticed, animation allows us to poeticize, to fabricate, to face our uncomfortable, painful realities. Ultimately, to take us to the depths of the human condition."*

RE:FRAME

Together with the festival's main sponsor ERSTE Bank, the RE:FRAME program celebrates the tenth anniversary of the sponsorship program *Vermehrt Schönes!* The protagonists of RE:FRAME set out in search of lost stories and distant memories. They engage with the surreal, the abstract and the imaginary, (re)writing stories, claiming space and finding moments of feminist self-empowerment.

FAIRPLAY & WORK AFFAIRS

Tricky Women - that means always also *Tricky Realities*. With **Work Affairs** and **Fairplay**, *Tricky Women/Tricky Realities 2023* is showing two programs in cooperation with the *Vienna Chamber of Labour (AK Wien)* that deal with socio-political issues and look at them from a feminist-artistic perspective. The programs open up new spaces of exploration, question existing power dynamics and reflect on how we want to live in the future.

Exploring Realities

In conversation with individual as well as collective voices of the past, present and future, the program *Exploring Realities* is searching for the entanglements between lived experience and narration. Archives are being opened, present conditions confronted, and future utopias explored, creating a language for realities that often hide in invisibility, experiences that are difficult to express and memories that are systematically forgotten.

► #twtr23 ONSITE PROGRAMS IN THE CINEMAS (not online!):

Retrospective: Emma Calder (Cinema only!)

With a retrospective of British artist Emma Calder, *Tricky Women/Tricky Realities* once again puts a pioneer of animated film in the spotlight. Vivid and tactile, Emma Calder's unorthodox portraits of subjectivity, femininity and sexuality question the gendered hierarchies we inhabit. Calder's innovation is anarchic, bringing a punk aesthetic to the medium and carving out new terrain in animation and mixed medium filmmaking. The program shows her early experimentation evolve into a polished body of work.

Austrian Premiere MY LOVE AFFAIR WITH MARRIAGE by Signe Baumann (Cinema only!)

Signe Baumann's second feature-length film *MY LOVE AFFAIR WITH MARRIAGE* will screen as an Austrian premiere at *Tricky Women/Tricky Realities 2023*. Signe Baumann will present her film, on which she has worked for seven years, at the METRO Kinokulturhaus in person. In this story of emancipation, Signe Baumann looks at love, sex and gender roles from a self-reflexive, feminist perspective and tops things off with a sprinkle of humour, catchy musical numbers and relevant neuro-biological findings.

Workshops on documentary animation, lectures at the international forum **Best Practice at the Austrian Film Museum**, as well as audience discussions and **artist talks in the cinema and online** invite you to dive even deeper into the world of animated film.

Please find the festival program here ► [here](#).

Tickets & festival passes for the online programs are available at the festival platform ► [here](#).

Viewing material: To get a better impression of *Tricky Women/Tricky Realities 2023*, you can already preview a selection of films on our festival platform. If you are interested in this, please e-mail: presse@trickywomen.at.

Accreditation: Media representatives (print, internet, radio, TV, press agency) intending to cover *Tricky Women/Tricky Realities 2023* can apply for accreditation. Please e-mail us at presse@trickywomen.at.

Further media resources are available in our Press Area ► [here](#).

Many thanks for your support – we look forward to seeing your coverage!

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