

Short Biographies

Marina Abramović

*1946, woman (pronouns: she/her)

Marina Abramović is a Serbian artist and pioneer of performance art. She is famous for her critical, ruthlessly honest, and physically demanding art actions. In her work, she repeatedly questions hierarchies and power structures.

Photo: Wikipedia: https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Datei:Marina_Abramovi%C4%87_-_The_Artist_Is_Present_-_Viennale_2012.jpg

Source: artnet Marina Abramović: <http://www.artnet.de/k%C3%BCnstler/marina-abramovic/>; Wikipedia Marina Abramović: https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marina_Abramovi%C4%87

May Ayim

1960–1996, woman (pronouns: she/her)

May Ayim was a German poet, activist of the Afro-German (a term coined by herself) movement, and teacher. She stood up for the interests of Black people in Germany and her poems also dealt with Afro-German identity and life in racist structures. The first Black German Literature Prize was named after her (May Ayim Award).

Photo: Meta Katalog: https://www.meta-katalog.eu/Record/35288ffbiz#?showDigitalObject=35288ffbiz_1&c=&m=&s=&cv=&xywh=-3006%2C-199%2C8371%2C3973&r=

Source: May Ayim. Digitales Deutsches Frauenarchiv: <https://www.digitales-deutsches-frauenarchiv.de/akteurinnen/may-ayim#actor-content-about>

Johanna Dohnal

1939–2010, woman (pronouns: she/her)

Johanna Dohnal was an Austrian SPÖ politician and feminist activist. In 1990, she became the country's first Women's minister. After the shift to the right in the mid-1990s, which was accompanied by attacks on her person, she withdrew from professional politics but continued to work tirelessly on feminist and socialist issues.

Photo: Wikipedia Johanna Dohnal: https://de.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Datei:Johanna_Dohnal.jpg

Source: Johanna Dohnal. Frauenministerin, Feministin, Vorreiterin. SPÖ Frauen: <http://johanna-dohnal.at/>

Eli Erlick

*1995, woman (pronouns: she/her)

Erlick is an American trans activist and the director of Trans Student Educational Resources. She has a strong social media presence: she writes mainly on the subject of trans-hostility and inclusion which is also her professional expertise.

Photo: Wikipedia Eli Erlick: <https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Datei:Elieerlick1.jpg>

Source: Website Eli Erlick: <https://elieerlick.com/about.html>

Angel Haze

*1991, agender (pronouns he & she)

Angel Haze is an American rapper known for political lyrics and his*her activism. In his*her songs as well as on social media, Haze primarily addresses and fights against racism and queer hostility. He*she also talks about mental health issues and thus appeals to many young fans in particular.

Photo: flickr: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/nrk-p3/9477960737>

Source: PeoplePill.com. Angel Haze: <https://peoplepill.com/people/angel-haze/>

Alex Jürgen

*1976, intersex (pronouns: he/him)

Alex Jürgen is an inter-activist who publicly spoke about himself being intersex in a 2006 film "Tintenfischalarm" by Elisabeth Scharang. He is also a founding and honorary member of VIMÖ (association of intersex people in Austria, exists since 2014, <https://vimoe.at/>) In 2016, Alex Jürgen applied for an additional gender entry in addition to “male” and “female”. In 2019, he was the first person in Austria to have an “X” in his passport and a “diverse” on his birth certificate.

Photo: Volker, Weihbold: Alex Jürgen will vor Behörden weder Mann noch Frau sein:

<https://www.nachrichten.at/oberoesterreich/Prozess-um-das-dritte-Geschlecht-in-Linz-Sagen-Sie-Herm-zu-mir;art4,2334997,B::pic11180,1558418>

Sources: VIMÖ – Verein Intergeschlechtlicher Menschen Österreich: <https://vimoe.at/aktuelles/>; <https://vimoe.at/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/alex-abschied.pdf>; https://vimoe.at/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Question_and_Answers_Dritte_Option_Neu.pdf

Raúl Aguayo-Krauthausen

*1980, man (pronouns: he/him)

Raúl is a German-Peruvian activist who campaigns for disability rights, accessibility, and inclusion, among other things. He also has a talk show (Krauthausen - Face to Face) which is mainly about art (creators) and their everyday life. Raúl is also the inventor of a mini ramp for wheelchairs which can be produced with a 3D printer.

Photo: flickr; <https://www.flickr.com/photos/sozialhelden/17712615579>

Sources: Krauthausen face to face: <https://krauthausen.tv/>; Wikipedia Raul Krauthausen: https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Raul_Krauthausen

Audre Lorde

1934–1992, woman (pronouns: she/her)

Prof. Audre Geraldine Lorde was a Black feminist writer and activist. She mainly wrote essays and poems dealing with political issues. Lorde was a well-known face and important theorist in the women's movements of the 1970s and 1980s; she was considered a thought leader on feminist issues and still is a role model for many lesbian people today.

Photo: Wikipedia Audre Lorde: https://de.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Datei:Audre_lorde.jpg

Source: FemBio. Frauen. Biographieforschung. Audre Lorde: <https://www.fembio.org/biographie.php/frau/biographie/audre-lorde/>

Indya Moore

*1995, non-binary (pronouns: they/them)

Indya Moore is an American model and actor best known for their role in the Pose series. Indya repeatedly speaks out about the rights of non-binary and trans people. Furthermore, they also do important anti-racist work. In 2019, Moore was named one of Time Magazine's 100 Most Influential People of the Year.

Photo: Wikipedia Indya Moore: https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Datei:Indya_Moore.png

Source: Pyne, Irene: Indya Moore: 6 things to know about the transgender non-binary star of TV's Pose. Style, 14.08.2020: <https://www.scmp.com/magazines/style/celebrity/article/3022736/indya-moore-6-things-know-about-transgender-non-binary>

Moritz Neumeier

*1988, man (pronouns: he/him)

Moritz Neumeier is a German YouTuber, comedian, and presenter. He deals with various socio-political issues but is best known for his feminist videos and his humorous and critical analyses of right-wing politics.

Photo: Wikipedia Moritz Neumeier: https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Datei:2012-01-25-Moritz_Neumeier.jpg

Sources: Homepage Moritz Neumeier: <https://moritzneumeier.de/>; Youtube Moritz Neumeier: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCT8nuuAabPxKnQs6dX92ZgA>

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez

*1989, woman (pronouns: she/her)

AOC is an American activist, Democratic politician, and the youngest member of the United States House of Representatives. Above all, she is committed to the rights of (undocumented) migrants in the USA and campaigns against racism and for sustainable environmental policy. She became known internationally for her charismatic and passionate speeches, many of which can be found online.

Photo: Wikipedia Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez Official Portrait:

https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Datei:Alexandria_Ocasio-Cortez_Official_Portrait.jpg

Source: About contact issues servides. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. Biography: <https://ocasio-cortez.house.gov/about/biography>

Vivek Shraya

*1981, woman (pronouns: she/her)

Vivek is a Canadian writer, musician, and professor. She writes poems and novels and draws attention to political issues such as (trans) misogyny and racism in her writing as well as in her music. She also holds an assistant professorship in creative writing at the University of Calgary.

Photo: https://media.npr.org/assets/img/2020/04/23/vivekshraya_the-subtweet_press1_300dpi_wide-acc4e2a61dcc868deef734f2f1a3008f8d5063a7-s1500-c85.jpg

Source: About contact issues servides. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. Biography: <https://ocasio-cortez.house.gov/about/biography>

Sam Smith

*1992, non-binary (pronouns: they/them)

Sam Smith is a British musician and activist who repeatedly uses their fame to draw attention to different forms of discrimination such as queer-antagonisms and their intersections with racism. Smith is very successful especially in making music and repeatedly publicly criticized body ideals and compulsions to conform to the ideal.

Photo: flickr: https://www.flickr.com/photos/frf_kmeron/16072332453

Sources: Homepage Sam Smith: <https://samsmithworld.com/>; Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/samsmith/>

Tarik Tesfu

*1985, man (pronouns: he/him)

Tarik is a German blogger, trainer, and columnist. Among other things, Tarik has been hosting the show “Tarik's Trallafitti Show” since 2019 in which two celebrity guests humorously discuss topics related to patriarchy and gender. He repeatedly expresses himself publicly on gender issues as well as criticizes racism and queer hostility and is mainly active on platforms such as Instagram, where he combines political education with private life and humour.

Photo: flickr: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/boellstiftung/36252989522>

Sources: Gorki Ensemble: <https://www.gorki.de/de/ensemble/tarik-tesfu>, Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/tesfu_tarik/

Klaus Wowereit

*1953, man (pronouns: he/him)

Klaus Wowereit was the mayor of Berlin for 13 years until his retirement in 2014. He was a member of the SPD (Social Democratic Party of Germany) and one of the first well-known German politicians to speak about his homosexuality publicly for which he was celebrated as a role model by many homosexual people, both inside and outside politics. His statement "I'm gay — and that's a good thing!" is still quoted a lot. Wowereit was with his partner, who has passed away recently, for over 20 years.

Photo: flickr: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/xtranews/4509603525>

Source: Wikipedia Klaus Wowereit: https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Klaus_Wowereit