

## PRESS RELEASE

### PROGRAMME AND PRESS CONFERENCE: “FREQUENCIES. SHARING FEMINISMS” FESTIVAL IN BERLIN

The diversity of international feminist positions is the focus of the Goethe-Institut's festival “Frequencies. Sharing Feminisms”, which will be held at the Pfefferberg area and the Sophiensæle in Berlin from 19 to 21 May 2022. The programme includes discussions, workshops, performances, participatory formats, readings, music and films. The programme will be presented at a digital press conference on 27 April. Alongside Johannes Ebert, Secretary-General of the Goethe-Institut, writer and publisher Urvashi Butalia will speak about feminism in India and artist Natacha Muziramakenga will talk about her work in Rwanda.

**Johannes Ebert**, Secretary-General of the Goethe-Institut: “I am convinced that we as a society – and also as a cultural institution – function best and most fairly when the broadest range of diverse perspectives is productively incorporated into decision-making processes. Gender equality is a key prerequisite for this. On the one hand, there needs to be greater diversity in leadership positions, while issues such as care work should be discussed by society as a whole. These are just a few aspects of contemporary feminist debates in Germany – but they can also be found in many other parts of the world. This is precisely why we should consider feminism from a global perspective, which means listening to more critical and dissenting international voices and thus broadening our own viewpoints. The Goethe-Institut has been exploring gender issues around the world for many years – I am therefore delighted that we are dedicating the three days of the festival “Frequencies” to this topic alone.”

The festival programme will be presented in a digital press conference on **27 April at 10.30 am** by Johannes Ebert and the project manager **Carolin Nüser**. **Farah Batool**, a colleague from the Goethe-Institut in India, will discuss feminist perspectives in India with the writer and publisher **Urvashi Butalia** and the Rwanda-based multidisciplinary artist **Natacha Muziramakenga** will then talk with **Nadine Siegert**, Director of Goethe-Institut Nigeria, about her work. The press conference will be held in German and English.

#### International perspectives on feminist debates

Over fifty participants will explore feminist issues over the course of three days. There will be a focus on resistance and protest by women worldwide, discrimination, the asymmetries of power and violence, and changing role models.

How has the understanding and experience of the female body evolved over the decades and how does this differ across various cultures, social classes and religions? **Natacha Muziramakenga** will discuss questions of body politics, sexuality and self-care in an intergenerational conversation with Ghanaian writer **Nana Darkoa**, queer feminist blogger **Emma Onekekou** from Burkina Faso and activist **Yvette Abrahams** from South Africa. The festival programme will also include a spoken word performance by Natacha Muziramakenga.

“Imagining Futures”, a peer network of European performance festivals, asks for visions of the future for an equal and sustainable cultural sector: **Anna Mülter**, **Amy Letman**, **Angela Alves** and **Claire Lefèvre** will address the care aspects of festival work.



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**Fre  
quen  
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Feminismen  
global**

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The festival also invites guests to attend numerous workshops on topics such as the visual self-determination of Jewish WLINTA\* (women, lesbian, inter\*, non-binary, trans\* and agender people) with **Debora Antmann**, anti-racism and critical whiteness with **Kholoud Bidak** and **Rafia Shahnaz**, as well as feminist journalism and postcolonial queer feminist perspectives.

In co-production with the interdisciplinary art festival "Tashweesh", the performance artist **Rima Najdi** presents her new work *I Grew an Alien Inside of Me* for the first time, exploring bodily movement and the experience of time in two different contexts, that of birth and that of a political and social revolution. The film programme, curated by **Maïke Mia Höhne** and **Jyoti Mistry**, features narratives about female desire, violence, resistance and the role of women as workers.

**For interview requests and accreditation, please contact:**

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Further information can be found at [www.goethe.de/frequencies](http://www.goethe.de/frequencies), where you will also be able to register for the festival from the end of April. Most events will be free of charge.

**Accessibility**

The festival will be made accessible, particularly for people with disabilities. Measures have been taken in cooperation with those who are experts in their own right to facilitate access and participation and thus make the event more inclusive. The grounds and the event rooms are wheelchair accessible, some events in the programme will be translated into German Sign Language, and escort assistance will be available for visually impaired visitors if required. There will also be an awareness team on site to ensure the well-being of all visitors.

*The festival "Frequencies. Sharing Feminisms" is a project by the Goethe-Institut in partnership with Missy Magazine and Deutschlandfunk Kultur. Certain events in our programme are organized in cooperation with the ICI Berlin and the Sophiensæle.*

