

Science, Media, Necropolitics and Bastard Trans-feminism(s)

Intro into the thematic whole

Marina Gržinić

I decided to propose for this thematic whole younger positions coming from an academic field but as well having a strong activist engagement with the topic of trans-feminism/lesbian and queer positions and modes of lives.

I list the names of the authors here alphabetically: Tatjana Greif, Adla Isanović, Ivan Jurica, Tjaša Kancler, Jovita Pristovšek, Marko Stamenković and Aneta Stojnić.

What is the general topic of this thematic about? What I call “the former West” is the once first capitalist world, a Christian-capitalist patriarchal regime of power with a history and present processes of financialization that is becoming a pharmaco-pornographic hot system. Following Beatriz Preciado’s thesis developed in numerous texts, this system is becoming more and more “democratic” regarding the inclusion inside its capitalist matrix of all the non-heterosexual identities. The liberalization takes place in the Army (United States), and in the legalization of same sex partnerships in Europe (or in former Western Europe). The legalization of same sex partnerships opens the possibilities of legally sorting out questions of propriety, inheritance, retirement, care of the children and last but not least legal marriage and the adoption of children (that is the hard kernel). In France, Spain, Germany and etc., we see that these spheres are becoming more and more liberalized, that means biopolitically controlled and managed by the inclusion in the nation-state’s juridical system and judicial lineages. The queer knowledge, its theoretical and epistemological elaborations are becoming a mainstream in the western epistemological edifice.

On the other hand, we have the rest of the world, with conditions impregnated by death that is a violent setting of the world. These processes we name in relation to Achille Mbembe (and in difference to Michel Foucault’s biopolitics) the cold, necropolitical capitalism that violently subjugates and recirculates death in the realm of the gender, transsexual, lesbian and gay. Therefore, kludge’s of the necropolitical functions with misery, with “pure” format of exhaustion, malnutrition, exploitation, killings, slavery, seclusions, based directly on gender divisions.

So in the former West, the biopolitical presents an endless control of subjectivity through production, reinvestment, and intensification of libidinal drives until a complete fragmentation. This is an intensification of processes of depoliticization as well; fragmentation presents a disqualification of any political agenda or political intervention as a common struggle. On the other side, or better to say along the biopolitical we are witnessing the reign of the necropolitical, as an intensification of direct non mediated death and terror, violence and discrimination (social racism that works hand in hand with structural racism).

Both areas work with new strategies of representation, interventions, reproduction, financialization and control. These new strategies of representation, interventions, reproduction, financialization and control are in the focus of analysis in this thematic whole. Therefore the texts engage directly and precisely on the questions of sexual reproduction, labor and specifically on the questions of representation, the performative of sex and gender and the possibilities that could be open in relation to the questions of politics and the political subject in global capitalism today.

The texts are grouped in three subtopics.

The first is on the question of sexual reproduction, labor and specifically on representation politics (Marina Gržinić, Tjaša Kancler, Jovita Pristovšek and Marko Stamenković).

The second topic is on the performative of sex and gender and new media technology (Adla Isanović and Aneta Stojnić).

The third is on activism, exhibition’s politics and European Union’s politics (Tatjana Greif and Ivan Jurica).

Marina Gržinić,

philosopher, artist, theoretician, based in Ljubljana and Vienna