

13 January 2025

Flamboyant

ICI Berlin
In English

19:00

Towards a Theory of Failed Passing

This discussion will explore formal experimentation as an index for evolving expressions of male homosexuality from literary modernism to contemporary cinema. In so doing, it will expose a tradition of flamboyantly failed passing that is itself a surreptitious mode of passing: the flaunting of gay style as an intentionally unconvincing cover for gay content. While the phenomenon of passing has been surprisingly understudied in queer theory, this book presentation and discussion will expand on foundational conceptualizations of performativity and the closet, suggesting that subjectivity emerges precisely in the margin of error between existing identity models and their imperfect embodiments. Touching on a corpus of queer creatives ranging from Jean Genet to Troye Sivan, this event will intervene in trenchant debates about queer agency and disidentification, wagering that it is precisely in instances of conflict between these auteurs and their inventions that narrative becomes a laboratory for testing the sovereignty and self-determination of queer identity.



With
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Discussion and Book Presentation

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