

## **Maybe devotion is the only thing I can offer you**

by Philipp Gufler

With poster from the archive forum homosexualität münchen e.V.: Horst Middelhoff: Wir ziehen den Schwanz nicht ein!, 1988; Jan Schneider: Cruising, Mit Al Pacino, 1995; Deutsche AIDS-Hilfe (Foto: Michael Rock): Zeit für Safer Sex, 1986; Cosy Pièro and VioRosa: München leuchtet, Lesbisch Schwule Kulturwoche, 1985; Spartacus: More Gay Fun with Spartacus, 1980; Barbara Spiller: Safer Sex für Lesben, 2017; Ochsen Garten: Munich's first leather & fetish bar, undatiert; Unbekannt: Was Man(n) Frieden nennt, ist täglicher Krieg für Frauen, undatiert; Cosy Pièro: Dany Keller Galerie, 1985; Leo Heinik und Johannes Fedisch: Den Figuren das Leben (Südwind), 2017; Philipp Gufler: Hanky Codes, 2011; Ausstellungsansichten: I Wanna Give You Devotion, 2017, Installation von Philipp Gufler, Forum Homosexualität München e.V., Foto: Jan Erbeling; Richard John Jones: Windstärke Fünf (The Summit of Sex), 2013; Modernes Theater: Marie im Pelz, 1970; Deutsche AIDS-Hilfe (Foto: Martin E. Kautter, Grafik: Wolfgang Mudra): Daran hängt ein Mensch. Geh gut mit ihm um!, 2010; Philhomoniker – schwuler Chor München: Widernatürliche Lieder, 1992; Philipp Gufler: Room for Artlovers (Modernes Rom), 2015; Philipp Gufler: Erich Haas, 2017 mit: Dan Mitchell (FLORIDA Magazin #1): Do you like me?, 2015; Erich Haas: Brief, 2017; Johannes Büttner, Philipp Gufler, Richard John Jones und Cosy Pièro: Bei Cosy Amsterdam 2017; Raphaela Vogel: Beim Anblick werden Wimpern zu Flügeln und die Gedanken nisten im Bauch (Foto: Kira Bunse), 2017; AIDS Hilfe DDR und Deutsche AIDS-Hilfe: 175, Kein Anschluß unter dieser Nummer, 1990; Kriwet: Text-Sign, 1968; Stephan Dilemuth: From hands to hands, 2017; forum homosexualität münchen: Sonntagsklatsch, Gusti, Ochsen Gartenwirtin von '67–'77, 2000; Maria VMier: WUTMUTWUT(silver), 2017

Jäcki knows the camera is filming because he can see the red light blinking.

- I am afraid, am female, am male, double.

- I don't want to be strong, don't want to be sporty.

- I don't feel like throwing punches."

Jäcki feels as if he exists multiply.

He feels like a hollow form perceiving itself from the outside.

- Who is Jäcki?

Hubert?

Fantasma?

Jäcki in the Cockatoo Archive?

Jäcki in Athens?

I is not always Jäcki.

Jäcki is Jäckis.

- Maybe devotion is the only thing I can offer you.

On videotape at the grassroots Cockatoo Archive in Munich, he hears:

- Moreover, there was a plan to arrive with busses at the main homosexual meeting points and to submit them to a forced test.

Like Ronald M. Schemnikau, he meets with Dr. Jäger, who tells him:

- And upon entering Gauweiler's office, there were two crossed swords above his desk, which I found a bit strange, and behind the door was a dachshund, which I found quite likeable – a living dachshund. He somehow quietly conveyed the message to me, and by that I mean in a way not at all upset: »Mr. Jäger, you are still aiming to be someone«.

On 22 November 2013, just before Jäcki publishes his work on AIDS politics in Munich during the 1980s, Peter Gauweiler is elected Deputy Vice President of the CSU.

Jäcki wants to exclaim:

- For many people, his AIDS politics had, and still have today, material consequences: temporarily implemented occupational bans, stigmatisation, and social exclusion – but not for Gauweiler and many other politicians of that time who are to be held responsible. Today there is silence regarding his former AIDS and goodie two shoes politics, also because populism surrounding HIV and homophobia doesn't take such a form these days. But these policies remain the foundation of his political profile up to today.

Jäcki does not want to be an intruder at the archive.

- To empathise with everything, not just to do research.

- Can I stay until I have lived through all of it as well?

Man himself is not historical: to him, time does not originate from himself, he forms himself as a subject of history through the imbricated history of living beings, the history of things and the history of words.

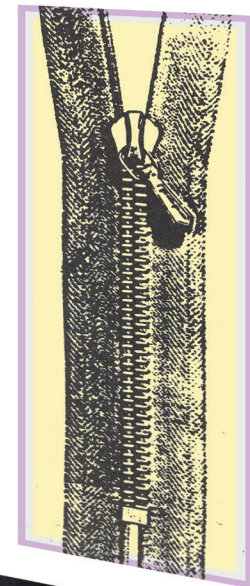
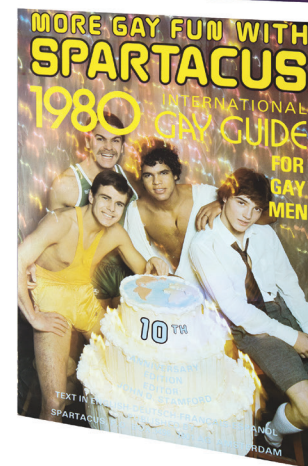
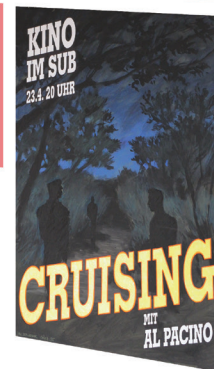
For fields to appear as fields, their borders must be demarcated, because borders are the significant property of a field.

- If you are that deep inside a certain thing, it easily happens that you adopt the slang of the disease. This seems hard to understand from the outside. A way of thinking that confides to the disease also has the chance to unmask »the healthy« as a construction.

- You can't take time off. The virus doesn't take a vacation either.

Jäcki himself becomes part of the Cockatoo Archive:

- What you experienced back then, you passing through and thinking: all of these houses are full of registries, and these registries determine you until the end of your life. And now all have withered away, and you have to watch out so you are not once again forced to pass through a street and feel like there are registries to the left and registries to the right.

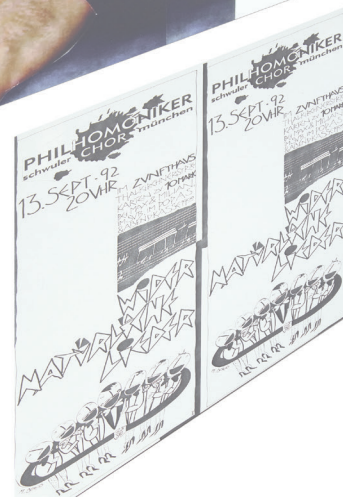






- We can't deal with potential death every second of our lives. In the middle of the conversation, an artist tells Jäck: - I hope you have AIDS. It leads to deeper experiences. Exaggerated identification. The counter-movement to Jäck's intoxication with rites. But also, the counter-movement to Jäck's urge to disobey rites. - Either one experiences loss of consciousness or one depicts it. Jäck states: - I don't want to turn into one of those who hunt for the panoramic shot. Jäck meets the photographer C. At night, Jäck lies in bed with C in his Munich flat and realizes, all of a sudden, that he's out of condoms in the house. Jäck has never had sex without a condom before. His time at the Cockatoo Archive has helped with his crippling fear of AIDS, but it hasn't made him less cautious. Despite that, they follow their desires, even though they have only known each other for two weeks. - At least we've always practiced safer sex in the past. Does Jäck really trust him? How can he trust him... after all he knows the kind of sex life C's had. - Why do you trust me, C? Their desire destroys their self-defence. - This is art!, he screams whilst coming in Jäck, unprotected. At least they'll get lucky with the HI virus.

Shortly after Jäck's publication of his work on AIDS, ninety-five-year-old Erich reads from his biography about his love for his friend Klaus at the Cockatoo Archive. Klaus and Erich ran the Petit Café in Munich from 1958 to 1960. Apart from the open-air cruising areas, their Petit Café was one of the first non-heterosexual meeting places in post-war Germany - For homosexuals, the Third Reich did not end after 1945 either, as paragraph 175 continued to be applied in the form that the Nazis had aggravated, says Albert, the chairman of the Cockatoo Archive. A gentlemen's bar, typical of the homophiles' movement, which had to continue to organize itself in secret. Jäck wants to interview Erich about his bar and asks C to take pictures of Erich. But Erich does not want to talk about the violence from German authorities he experienced after the Second World War. In his biography, he only addresses this in two pages. - Here in Germany I had to lead the life of a criminal. Only when Jäck tries to describe his own interest to him, he starts to tell him in more detail. A concrete refute of the theory of zero hour in the FRG.





For five months now, Jacki has had a relationship with photographer C, who documents how he interrogates Erich about paragraph 175.

In the late 1950s, the number of people sentenced under § 175 reached a new peak.

Klaus and Erich did not live in a monogamous relationship.

In Munich, Dr. Georg Bienlein investigated the meeting points, carried out raids, asked neighbours and put the gay scene and its advocates under massive pressure.

- And then I heard that once the police drove around town with a hustler and he showed them all the apartments he had been to. And then they took them out. They were with me at 6:00 in the morning, ringing the bell, saying, »Arrest warrant for Mr. Haas.« – »Yes, I am.« »We have to take you with us.« Twice that happened to me. I was just allowed to go to the bathroom, get dressed and wash. One of the officers stood in the doorway and there was no window in the bathroom. So I couldn't have gone away. They took me to the magistrate's office.

- And then you couldn't enter a job as hotel manager in Switzerland?

- And I was angry and said: »Klaus, I don't want to live in this country anymore« and then I went to the USA for 3 months.

It was not until 1994 that the paragraph was deleted without replacement. Until 2017, however, German law also distinguished between the status of heterosexual and non-heterosexual partnerships – only the categorical criminalisation of same-sex love was abolished.

Also in 2017, when Erich is now ninety-eight years old, the Federal Minister of Justice submits a bill to make amends for those convicted after World War II of paragraph 175.

Most of the convicts did not live to see this day after years of debate.

Erich refuses to accept reparations.

- It is completely inconceivable to me how-why-when this compensation should be useful.

- Should I do this to myself??

But it is only after the law has been repealed that Erich slowly begins to talk about Klaus's conviction and the forced labour on the Austrian border. After several years of getting to know each other, Jacki notices that Erich is at ease talking about the paragraph and his sexuality, which developed parallel to Jacki's own independence before Eduard.



Erich Haas

27. Februar 2017

Wahrhaftig verehrter Herr Minister,  
bevor ich auf das eigentliche Thema "Entschädigung" eingehe, erinnere ich mich lebhaft gerne an unsere eindrucksvolle Unterhaltung gelegentlich dem Charity im November 2015 im Grand Hyatt Hotel in Berlin, von der Magnus Hirschfeld Stiftung.

Nachdem ich in dem in Mopie beigefügten Artikel u.a. Erwähnung gefunden habe, steht fest, dass ich persönlich eine Entschädigung ablehne. Rein aus moralischen Gründen, abgesehen davon, dass ich aus dem uns/zugefügten Leid "kein Kapital schlagen will".

Ich bin nach Krieg und Flucht im April 1945, aus Siebenbürgen/Hermannstadt stammend, hierzulande auf dem Boden des "Grossdeutschen Reiches" als Verbrecher abgestempelt und verfolgt worden wegen meiner Veranlagung. In meiner Heimat hat das keine Rolle gespielt; es war überhaupt kein Thema.

Es ist mir ganz und gar unvorstellbar, wie-worin- wieviel eine Entschädigung von Nutzen sein kann. Dann müsste ich entschädigt werden, weil mir vom Richter mein Pass entzogen worden ist und ich die bereits vertraglich vereinbarte Stelle als Vizedirektor eines Schweizer Hotels nicht antreten konnte. Entschädigt für mindestens ein Jahr Verdienstausschluss?

Wissen Sie, Herr Minister, im 98. Lebensjahr stehend, kurz vor Lebensende - soll ich mir das überhaupt noch antun ???

Abgesehen vom Alter, bin ich alleinstehend, habe keine legalen Erben...

Ich habe mir meine Rente redlich verdient - auch sonst Vorsorge getroffen - infolge PARKINSON zwar gesundheitlich angeschlagen - lebe aber in Demut dankbar zufrieden - nur Ruhe haben wollend - vor der ewigen...

In Hochachtung mit freundschaftlichen Grüßen

Erich Haas





One plus Two plus Three plus Six plus Two plus Zero plus One plus Seven plus One plus Nine plus Nine plus Four plus One plus Nine plus Eight plus Five plus One plus Nine plus Four plus Nine plus One plus Nine plus Three plus Five plus One plus Eight plus Seven plus Two plus Two plus Nine plus Eight plus One plus Eight plus Six plus Seven.

- On 29 August 1867, Karl Heinrich Ulrichs gave a speech to 500 lawyers and demanded impunity for same-sex relationships.
  - From 1872 onwards, the paragraph was applied in the then German Empire and intensified by the Nazis in 1935.
  - In 1949, despite the continuing oppression and criminalisation of same-sex love, Erich became acquainted with Klaus.
  - In 1985, Peter Gauweiler wants to apply his catalogue of measures nationwide.
  - On 23 June 2017, the verdicts under paragraph 175 are annulled.
- Equals One plus Seven plus Five.  
Jäcki's birthday is still on May 17th.

Forty years Erich and Klaus lived together.

Klaus died thirty years ago.

Exactly seventy years Erich is older than Jäcki.

He is still flirting.

C is only one year older than Jäcki.

Jäcki and C are in love.

C takes pictures of Jäcki and Erich.

C thinks in thousandths of a second, in flashing lights and exposures, for Jäcki the conversation with Erich is a matter of memory.

Jäcki asks Erich and thinks like Albert in years, decades and epochs.

C wants to have no memory in this, just movement.

Erich replies:

- Because I didn't talk about my experiences in the past unless I had to. Of course, it's intensified. I'm living on memories now. I'll tell you and when I'm alone, I don't think about my future.

Jäcki tries to follow them both.

- Since when are you dating C? The first two years were the most difficult for Klaus and me.

- Am I a photo by C?

Seven months later, Jäcki and C split up.

- I would have made you the laundry, raised your children, washed your feet and could have drunk your sperm by the liters.

They haven't heard from each other in a year.

- I still feel you inside of me.

Jäcki cannot remember how he got to know Erich without thinking that C and he don't talk to each other anymore.

- How can I plan a forgetting?

During another visit Erich Jäcki shows his travel diary from the USA from 1961.

- At the »Y.M.C.A. Hotel« you just left the door open when you wanted to meet someone. You didn't even have to knock.

Erich still lives in Schwabing in Munich.

The doctors have meanwhile found out that he has no Parkinson's disease and his trembling has become less by itself.