

## Fasia Jansen artistic research residency presentation

### PACT Guest Fellows Princela Biyaa and Marny Garcia Mommertz present initial findings: 20 June 2021, 1.30 p.m.

Press release,  
19 May 2021

Internationales Frauen\*  
Film Fest Dortmund+Köln,  
15 - 20 June 2021

Since October 2020, Princela Biyaa and Marny Garcia Mommertz have been examining the life of singer-songwriter and peace activist Fasia Jansen. They were awarded the artistic research residency, jointly launched by IFFF Dortmund+Köln and *Interkultur Ruhr* as part of the initiative behind the Archive for Family and Amateur Film in the Ruhr region.

#### Black people's networks in Germany

In this first open-ended research residency on Fasia Jansen, research Fellows Biyaa and Mommertz set out to examine the extent to which Fasia Jansen's life can be understood and analysed from Black German perspectives. During their research, stories and works of Black people who knew Fasia Jansen played a key role in gaining a fuller picture of Black people's networks in Germany during and after the Second World War.

The two cultural creatives' work drew on conversations with Fasia Jansen's niece, Ms Vivian Seton, and also on interviews conducted by US-American theorist Tina Campt in 1992. In her landmark book *Other Germans: Black Germans and the Politics of Race* (2004), Campt was one of the first writers to examine Fasia Jansen's life in a socio-historical and critical context of racism.

For this current residency though, the exploration of Fasia Jansen's life represents the first step in a process where Biyaa and Mommertz pose and discuss questions about the archiving of Black narratives and histories. They seek to engage directly with people who adopt different archiving approaches, such as Fayo Said, founder of Oromia Records (an online archive on Oromo cultures).

The *Fasia Jansen Research Residency* was jointly set up in 2020 by *Interkultur Ruhr* and Internationales Frauen\* Film Fest Dortmund+Köln as part of the *Archive for Family and Amateur Film in the Ruhr region* initiative.

#### Evening discussion event

IFFF Dortmund+Köln (15 to 20 June 2021) is holding an evening discussion event with Princela Biyaa and Marny Garcia Mommertz, where the duo will share their experiences

from the research residency. They will also present their installation concept (currently in preparation) on another approach to the topic to a group of invited guests.

Host: Fayó Said (Oromia Records)

Graphical implementation of the installation concept: Image Alchemy Studio, designed by Samuel Jah.

Date: June 20<sup>th</sup>, 1.30 p.m. (CET)

### Princela Biyaa

Princela Biyaa is an education consultant for *Each One Teach One e.V.* She is based in the Ruhr area and Berlin. Since 2020 she has been the curatorial director of the *curl.collective*. Her current work focus on the topics of community care and self care in Black communities.

### Marny Garcia Mommertz

As a cultural producer, Marny Garcia Mommertz's work involves supporting projects that contribute to the self-empowerment of Black communities. She is currently doing a master's degree in Museum Studies at the *University of Amsterdam*.

The duo co-founded the *Association for Black Art\_ists e.V.* and, together with Fayó Said, were awarded the *PACT Fellowship 2020*.

All details about this year's online IFFF Dortmund+Köln will be available **from May 19 on our new website at the new URL [www.frauenfilmfest.com](http://www.frauenfilmfest.com)**

### Festival sponsors

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