

How do you understand feminism? How does it apply to your work?

Jana Bodnárová

I understand feminism as a kind of Revolution that has radically transformed the status of woman in her intimate and social life. In many geographical areas, it faces resistance of society, religion and even women, whose inner self is hindered by rigid traditions. Those willing to escape the violent stereotypes are akin to the role of *private anarchists*. I am captivated by the words of Julia Kristeva: “There are as many femininities as there are women.” They support my desire to reach greater inner freedom, while not being paralyzed by norms – what also applies to my work. I observe the world of my characters through female perspective and am glad if this translates into the final result: be it my videos that focus on the deeper and more archetypal “image” of women, or in my prose or theater plays, where I accent the social and existential context of my characters’ (who are mostly women) lives.

Petra Čížková

To me, feminism is a natural state of mind. The term “feminism” will remain relevant until there will be no difference between its meaning and something that we could call the “normal” philosophical attitude of the general public. The installation *Candida Serendipity* defies the normative objectification of female bodies, aiming for them to become entities that are not manipulated or instrumentalized by neither scientific apparatus nor gallant courtship. Here, female subjects become the subjects of transgression, as well as inner and sovereign sexual experience.

Mária Čorejová

Feminism played an essential role in the evolution of the Western society, because it was impossible to deny fundamental human rights of half of the population any longer. Over time, deeper study and research of cultures, including those different from ours western one, has highlighted the fact that the number of human sexualities is infinite and the boundaries between the attributes “male” and “female” have no real justification. Therefore, I wholeheartedly agree with the idea that feminism is humanism.

Anna Daučíková

I consider myself a feminist. It is the only “-ism” I am able to identify myself with unconditionally. From what I’ve learned about feminisms, I think that it is a non-dogmatic and brave thinking, but also a possibility to be truly critical. My work stems from various impulses found within a context broader than gender, woman’s role and criticism of patriarchy. However, the feminist perspective also has a paradigmatic dimension to it – although the feminist agenda is not always the main subject matter of my works, a sensible recipient can certainly read it.

Lucia Dovičáková

I have always been naturally inclined to feminism, as I despise injustice in all its forms. Even as a child, I found it irritating that all books worth reading only featured male protagonists. Fortunately, I later discovered Linda Veszprémi and Sarah Connor and no longer felt obliged to bake sand pies, while my cousins participated in an imaginary crossfire. I find feminism important for several reasons – not only for the ongoing objectification of women in the media, but also for the fact that women in their thirties often struggle to find a job. Employers reject them as they automatically expect them to have babies at some point. In my work I try to depict the world of women from the position of subject. Undeniably, this “body with breasts” has its very own inner universe, which is not exactly easy.

Eva Filová

I am a feminist. To me, feminism is an attitude as well as an instrument of (self)reflection. I don't think it is obsolete or even dead, nor do I think that our country or the rest of the world has successfully reached gender, ethnic, and economic balance.

Milan Mikuláščík

Given that gender inequalities still remain a sad reality within our society, I consider it totally natural to be a feminist. I even think that being one is an obligation if I want to call myself a democratically-minded person. I only find it beneficial when men openly subscribe to feminism. In comparison with their western fellows, Czech men are unbelievably chauvinistic. What I consider truly bizarre is the total aversion to feminism, which is widespread among Czech women. Edification is absolutely necessary.

Martin Piaček

Perhaps.
Definitely!
Probably.
Hopefully.
Of course.

Ivana Šáteková

The attitude towards feminism still remains dishonoring, for people still assume that it is represented by women fighting against men. Such an idea of angry militant feminists is truly comical. Additionally, if one's work focuses on “women's issues”, many see it as a reason to reject it. But what other issues should I pay attention to when I am a woman?

Jana Štěpánová

In the early 90s, feminism was a revelation to me. The gender and feminist theories I got acquainted with suddenly provided answers to long-unanswered questions. What surprised me the most was the extent and complexity of these theories, as well as their interconnection with existing philosophical currents. As such, “it” is something to live by, think about, play with or mock.