



HOMOMONUMENT AMSTERDAM

PRIDEWALK 2022 | MANIFEST

On the 30th of July 2022, we are marching in solidarity and for queer liberation! We are reclaiming our pride in Amsterdam, and in all the cities and prides that have been taken over by commercialization, capitalism, pinkwashing and other forms of exclusion and inequality.

What is going on?

Where Pride once started as a movement that fought for freedom and equality, it has now grown into a party that revolves around commerce and money. A celebration in which certain companies and political parties participate that have nothing to do with this struggle for freedom.

For us, there is no pride in arms trade and in the destruction of indigenous territory that ING finances. There is no pride in fighting resource wars or exploiting employees as multinationals like Amazon do. In fact, oppression and exploitation are diametrically opposed to the principle of human rights, and, therefore also LGBTQI+ people.

As in the times of Stonewall, our Pride is intersectional: we cannot celebrate the freedom of one group at the expense of the freedom of other groups.

Worldwide we see a huge growth of the far right, conservatism and, nationalism, accompanied by violence towards LGBTQI+ communities, refugees, undocumented migrants, Muslims, and BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) communities. Political parties such as the

VVD, CDA, D66, PVV, FvD and SGP conduct a scapegoat policy. In other words, the most marginalized groups are blamed for all socio-economic and social problems. While the neoliberal policy of the VVD in recent years of brutal cutbacks in health care, housing and education has had disastrous consequences. Especially for the most marginalized.

Where do we come from?

53 years ago, the Stonewall riots in New York – led by Sylvia Rivera and Marsha P. Johnson – marked the beginning of today's pride movement.

In a climate of constant intimidation and threats from the police, coupled with their disadvantaged position in society, a police raid at Stonewall Inn was the straw that broke the camel's back. The group that took action consisted mainly of women, sexworkers, trans people and people of color from the poorer sections of the society.

Although some gains have been made by the LGBTQI+ movement since Stonewall, there is also a world to be won in the Netherlands when it comes to liberation from hetero- and cis-normativity and sexism. Due to these forms of oppression, people on the street, at work, and at school are not safe and are forced to hide their sexual orientation and gender identity. Stonewall teaches us that it is important to note that the degree of racism, exclusion and discrimination often depends on colour, class and, gender. And that we must take this 'intersectional focus' into our struggle!

What do we want?

Pride should be a driver for structural change and the struggle for equality on a daily basis.

We no longer want our rights to be hijacked for racist political arguments and homonationalism. We want Pride to be ours, rather than used for a large-scale marketing campaign that covers up ongoing human rights violations. We demand an intersectional Pride that links the fight against discrimination based on sexuality and gender with the fight against racism, sexism, class and other forms of exclusion. We will not celebrate the freedom of one group by oppressing others. That is why we are reclaiming our Pride and marching in solidarity towards radical liberation.

This is why we are reclaiming our pride:

- **PRIDE IS A PROTEST** — The first pride started as a protest against racism, exclusion, exploitation, poverty, police brutality, transphobia and whorephobia. The heroes on whose shoulders we stand are black and brown trans sexworkers who started the resistance in New York in 1969.
- **STOP BRANDING PRIDE** — Rainbow capitalism is equal to the erasure of those in exile, those in the AZC's, and those who not only face queerphobia but are also confronted with social and institutional racism. Queerness should not be used as a marketing strategy for corporations and companies who claim queer narratives for their capital gain, avoiding the burden and responsibility of the political and structural change necessary for queer people to flourish.
- **STOP PINKWASHING** — From the Dutch Civic Integration policy to funding the Israeli military, the Netherlands employs pro-LGBTQIA+ rhetoric to enact violence worldwide. Do not use the discourse of saving LGBTQIA+ people as an excuse to justify violence.
- **ABOLISH IND | GRANT ASYLUM NOW** — Grant asylum to ALL that seek refuge fleeing from gender-based violence, regardless of whether they “look” queer enough, do not hold people in remote AZC locations, and make it possible for new immigrants to earn a living while they go through bureaucratic processes.
- **STOP INSTITUTIONAL RACISM**— Police violence is a problem in all countries, including The Netherlands. The ethnic and racist profiling the police enact against queer migrants, sexworkers, and refugees is blatant and ongoing. Consider the recent ‘toeslagen affaire’ - institutional racism led to horrific damage for over 50.000 families.

- **WE ARE NOT FREE—** Suicidal rates among trans people are 9 times higher than among cisgender people. 1 in 5 queer people have had to deal with violence. The same research shows that 40% of trans people had to deal with negative responses and violence. Political parties SGP en CU support practices that are aiming to 'cure' LGBTQI+ people.
- **STOP HOMONATIONALISM—** Homonationalism equates to (extreme) right-wing smear campaigns against Muslims, refugees, and migrants. We condemn these appalling political tactics because we too ARE LGBTQ+ muslims, refugees and migrants.
- **TRANSCARE NOW—** No waiting list and no diagnosis for trans people to access gender-affirming care. Easier access and fewer bureaucratic obstacles to change one's name and gender on IDs. Break the monopoly.
- **PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR MOUTH IS—** Mutual aid and solidarity with the queer community means direct action and paying when payment is due. End free labor and recycling process of community money, pay every speaker, artist, and any kind of laborer in the community.
- **QUEER SOLIDARITY AROUND THE GLOBE—** Remembering those of our community who lack access to basic human rights and are criminalized because of their queer existence. More support for the marginalized within the marginalized, whether gender-based, socially-based or economically-based. We stand in solidarity with our siblings in the Mediterranean, our siblings in war zones, in the West Bank and around Palestine, in Afghanistan, in Ethiopia, in Mexico and Latin America, Colombia, in Yemen, in Lebanon, in Ukraine, in Sudan and our siblings under continuous crackdowns in Egypt.

Pride Walk 2022 is an initiative by Stichting Homomonument and a multitude of other partners, movements and organizations that play a central role in the Amsterdam LGBTQI+ landscape.

The first block of Pride Walk will consist of approximately 250 LGBTQI+ people that are currently residing in AZC across the nation. Black people, people of color and trans people will take a central position in the first block as well as those that are to some extent more or less (dis)abled.

Pride Walk kicks off with the following speakers that will address LGBTQI+ activism and liberation in a multitude of ways. This program runs from 11.00u. - 12.00u. on the 30th of July. After that we will march.

NAOMIE PIETER (SHE/ THEM)
Queer Activist

BEYONG VELDKAMP (SHE/ HER)
Pride Amsterdam Ambassador

ELIE KARAM (HE/ THEM)
Queer Activist from Lebanon, Project Manager at *Secret Garden* and Curator at *International Queer and Migrant Film Festival*

MICHA ADARIAN (SHE/ HER)
Transgender Woman from Lebanon, Refugee and Trans Liberation Activist

DEVIKA CHOTOE (SHE/ THEM)
Artist en queer activist. Member of Fite Qlub and co- founder *Hindostaans & Queer*

MALA KENZA BADI (SHE/ HER)
Artist and Founder of *MarokKuir Zawya*

KYARA (SHE/ HER)
Singer/ songwriter en Transgender performance artist

For more information or questions you can contact Daan Smeelen from Stichting Homomonument at Daan@homomonument.nl