

27 April 2026: “Joy and Resistance – A workshop with Dr. Beverley Ditsie about the challenges of LGBTIQ+ struggles for human rights”

When: 27 April 2026, 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Where: Allerweltshaus Köln, Geisselstraße 3-5, 50823 Köln-Ehrenfeld

Who: Dr. Beverley Palesa Ditsie, activist, filmmaker, artist; South Africa

Moderation: Silvia Abiyeme de Bertolini, Black & Queer NRW; Cornelia Sperling, FLiP – Frauenliebe im Pott

You are warmly invited to a **workshop with Dr. Beverley Ditsie (they/them), an activist, author and filmmaker from South Africa**. Dr. Beverley Ditsie is a co-founder of GLOW (Gay and Lesbian Organisation of the Witwatersrand). At the UN World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995, Dr. Beverley Ditsie called for combatting discrimination against lesbians as an integral part of women's rights and thereby put lesbian rights on the global political agenda for the first time.

Join us on **Monday, 27 April 2026** for “**Joy and Resistance – A workshop with Dr. Beverley Ditsie about the challenges of LGBTIQ+ struggles for human rights**”, about activism in the current geopolitical situation and the role of the United Nations. Dr. Beverley Ditsie will share experiences of resistance by Black South Africans against multiple forms of discrimination, together with a personal understanding of “queer joy and affirmation”. Dr. Beverley Ditsie is also interested in activism in Germany. We are looking forward to an inspiring exchange of ideas!

The event will be held in English. Participation is free of charge. Seats are limited.

Please register by 20 April 2026 with your full name, email address and (if applicable) organization at: info@hirschfeld-eddy-stiftung.de

An Event by the Hirschfeld-Eddy-Stiftung in cooperation with FLiP – Frauenliebe im Pott, Black & Queer NRW, col.lit.ive/ allerweltshaus köln, Dachverband Lesben und Alter.



Media Cooperation:



Filmhaus Köln, April 25, 6 PM: Film Screening and discussion

“Lesbians free everyone” with Dr. Beverley Ditsie

Join us at IFFF Internationales Frauenfilmfest Dortmund + Köln for a FILM SCREENING and DISCUSSION with film maker Dr. Beverley Palesa Ditsie and moderator Ifeatu Nnaobi

When: 25 April 2026 at 6 p.m. Where: Filmhaus Köln, Maybachstraße 111, 50670 Köln.

IFFF and the Hirschfeld-Eddy Foundation cordially invite you to a screening of the documentary film **“LESBIANS FREE EVERYONE – The Beijing Retrospective”** by Dr. Beverley Palesa Ditsie (2020) Lesbians* from different continents talk about their activism in the “lesbian tent” at the legendary UN Women’s Conference in Beijing in 1995, and about their activism today. At the 4th UN World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995, the South African queer activist Beverley Ditsie delivered a historic speech calling for LGBT people to be equally protected by human rights. In 2020, the activists met again to remember and celebrate this euphoric moment for lesbian* visibility.

All Details and Tickets here: <https://frauenfilmfest.com/>

En event by Hirschfeld Eddy Foundation in cooperation with IFFF

media cooperation:

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Background information and links

Dr. Beverley Palesa Ditsie is a well-known anti-apartheid activist who worked at the forefront of the movement with Simon Nkoli to enable South Africa’s post-apartheid constitution to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity and open the door to same-sex marriage. Dr. Beverley Ditsie is an artist, instructor and activist, and co-founder of the inspiring House of Ditsie in Johannesburg.

- **A message from Bev Ditsie for CSW 2025**
<https://outrightinternational.org/insights/bev-ditsie-legacy-courage-and-fight-lgbtqi-inclusion-csw>
- **TED talk by Beverley Ditsie: “It's time to stop the lies”**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RgmrXRIPiwl>
- **Trailer for *Lesbians Free Everyone* by Dr. Beverley Ditsie**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h7exIJ1txmE>
- **Speech by Beverley Ditsie at the UN World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995**
<https://www.un.org/esa/gopher-data/conf/fwcw/conf/ngo/13123944.txt>

Both events are part of the project: [“The Pink Factor: LGBTIQ+ Rights in the Geopolitical Struggle about Values and Resources”](#)

