

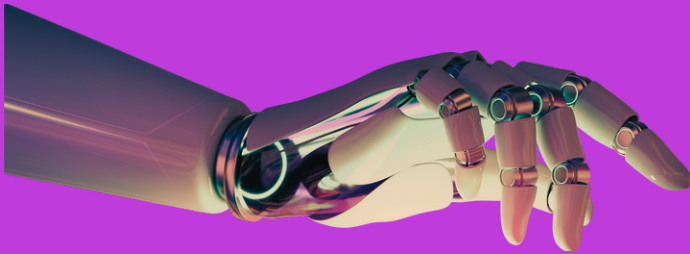


erfolgsfaktor



**FRAU**

Impulse für Wirtschaft  
und Gesellschaft



# Musings of a Mechatronic Mistress

## The Peculiar Purpose of Tiffany the Sex Robot



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ROBOTS  
WOMEN\*  
future & taboo



Co-funded by  
the European Union

# Musings of a Mechatronic Mistress

## The Peculiar Purpose of Tiffany the Sex Robot

This documentary explores the world of humanoid sex robots and their impact on human sexuality, relationships, and society as a whole. The film follows Tiffany, an "android", on her journey to understand her place in the world and the feminist and ethical implications of her existence.



## Who made this project possible



## General info

This movie is part of the project SEX ROBOTS - Future and Taboo for Women\* - An Educational Video as a Medium for Informal Learning in Adult Education (01.05.2022 - 31.09.2023) and is co-funded by the European Union through Erasmus+ Small-scale Partnerships.



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Our project is conceptualized for Adult Education and focuses on raising awareness about the influence of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in humanoid sex robots on female and non-binary people and their sexuality. We aim at reaching the public, as well as educators, and other adult education representatives.

## For more information and insights follow us on:

Website: [www.sexrobotswomen.com](http://www.sexrobotswomen.com)



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/erfolgsfaktor-frau-e-v/>



<https://www.instagram.com/sxrobotswomen/>

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## The story behind

### Musings of a Mechatronic Mistress

#### The Peculiar Purpose of Tiffany the Sex Robot

During her journey, Tiffany gathers insights from experts from various fields, such as Katta who raises questions about the societal and political significance of sex, and Kate who explores the possibility of sex robots enriching human intimacy. Johannes delves into the differences between sex robots and other intimacy aids and examines the future of sex and technology. Iris raises ethical concerns related to the development of sex robots, including potential privacy violations, while Janina discusses the construction of AI for sex robots and the potential therapeutic applications of the technology. Tanja proposes "new networks of desire" and addresses conflicts within feminist perspectives on sex robots.

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The documentary aims to stimulate reflection and discussion about the impact of technology on human sexuality and relationships, while questioning the ethical implications of developing humanoid sex robots. Through Tiffany's journey, viewers are invited to engage with questions about the role of sex in society, the objectification of women and non-binary people, and the potential for technology to promote or hinder human emancipation.



## The experts in this video:



Kate  
Devlin

Dr. Kate Devlin is Reader in Artificial Intelligence & Society in the Department of Digital Humanities, King's College London. With an undergraduate degree in archaeology and an MSc and PhD in computer science, her research investigates how people interact with and react to technologies, both past and future. Kate is the author of the critically acclaimed *Turned On: Science, Sex and Robots* (Bloomsbury, 2018), which examines the ethical and social implications of technology and intimacy. Kate is currently Advocacy and Engagement director for the UK's Trusted Autonomous Systems Hub – a collaborative platform to enable the development of socially beneficial robotics and AI systems that are both trustworthy in principle and trusted in practice. She is a board member of the Open Rights Group, a UK-based organisation that works to preserve digital rights and freedoms, and is a campaigner for gender equality to improve opportunities for women in tech.



Johannes  
Grenz-  
furthner

Johannes Grenzfurthner is an award-winning artist, filmmaker, author, and performer. He is the founder and artistic director of monochrom, an internationally acting art and theory group and film-production company. Being Boing referred to him as a leitnerd, a wordplay that ironically hints at his role in nerd/hacker/art culture. His last films were the feature-length horror films "Masking Threshold" (2021) and "Razzennest" (2022). He will soon release the documentary "Hacking at Leaves". Johannes is a lecturer on transmedia arts at the University of Applied Arts, Vienna, Austria, and communication theory at Leuphana University, Lueneburg, Germany. He is head of Arse Elektronika, a sex and tech festival in San Francisco, and organizer of Roboexotica, the Festival for Cocktail-Robotics in Vienna.

## The experts in this video:



Tanja  
Kubes

Dr. Tanja Kubes is a sociologist at the FU Berlin. As an expert on socio-technical topics, she worked as a researcher and lecturer at TU Munich, TU Berlin, TU Graz and LMU Munich. Her research ranges from queer posthuman robots to feminist AI. She was a member of the Standardisation Roadmap on Artificial Intelligence and collaborated on UNESCO's Artificial Intelligence for more Gender Equality and against Discrimination policy action plan. She is a reviewer for numerous international journals and scientific organizations and spokesperson for DIG\*IT\*AL, which critically examines digitization processes.



Janina  
Loh

Prof. Dr. Janina Loh née Sombetzki is an ethicist (Stabsstelle Ethik) at Stiftung Liebenau and honorary professor for Ethics of Technology and its Social Contexts (Ethik der Technik und ihrer sozialen Kontexte) at Hochschule Bonn-Rhein-Sieg, University of Applied Studies, Centre for Ethics and Responsibility (ZEV). Their main research interests lie in the field of responsibility research, trans- and posthumanism (esp. critical posthumanism), robot ethics, Hannah Arendt, feminist philosophy of technology, sustainability (esp. in the context of Loh's concept of a critical posthumanist ethics and with regard to artificial intelligence, digitalization, and robotics), polyamory, and ethics in the sciences.

## The experts in this video:



Iris  
Phan

Iris Phan is a lawyer in the IT Law Department at Leibniz Universität Hannover, Germany. She also teaches robot ethics at the Institute of Philosophy and conducts research on the ethical and legal implications of artificial intelligence. Her focus is on data protection law, IT security and the impact of artificial intelligence on society. The working title of Iris' doctoral thesis is: Legal and ethical implications of artificial intelligence using the example of the sex robot.



Jason  
Scott

Jason Scott is a digital archivist and historian, and founder of TEXTFILES.COM. Based in New York, USA, Jason works to protect and preserve at-risk digital creations on and off the Internet. In the 1980s he was busted at his middle school for selling ASCII pornography at 50 cents a printout.

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## The experts in this video:



katta  
spiel

I hold a career position on 'Critical Access in Embodied Computing' at the Vienna University of Technology, Austria and I am working in the field of Human Computer Interaction. I research marginalised perspectives on embodied computing through a lens of Critical Access drawing on queer and crip theories. My work informs design and engineering supporting the development of technologies that account for the diverse realities they operate in. In my interdisciplinary collaborations with neurodivergent, Deaf and/or nonbinary peers, I conduct explorations of novel potentials for designs, methodologies and innovative technological artefacts.



## The organisations behind the project



erfolgsfaktor FRAU e.V. is a NGO based in Nuremberg and operating in all of Germany. It advocates for women rights and feminism in business and society with focus on raising the representation of women in technical and leadership positions. One of its greatest achievements was the influence on the German politics, which lead to the establishment of the First and Second Management Positions Act (FüPoG I and II). In its projects and events eff also concentrates on the impact of digitalization e.g., on women and society.



ostblok is a film and media collective based in Vienna, Austria. Since 2011, we focus on principles conceptually strong, top-notch film production. Our portfolio includes

the production of cinematic features and documentaries—as well as commercials, shorts, music videos, and all things digital. With an educational background ranging from producing to digital art we also service clients, institutions and production companies—providing creative direction, service production, post-production and motion design capabilities.

## The organisations behind the project



Consultoría de Innovación Social established in 2020 works mostly in the fields of employment, entrepreneurship and gender equality. It aims to achieve impact and sustainability through innovative approaches to target existing social challenges and requirements. Believing in the potential of people, our main objective is empowerment to raise capacities for finding the most appropriate and effective solutions. They created the design of this booklet.

We thank FRANZ JOSEFS KAI 3, a contemporary art space and gallery in the heart of Vienna for their beautiful premises as setting for our shoot. The filming took place at this location.

## The people behind this project:



Eva  
Gengler,  
Project  
Manager

Eva is the project manager of this project and a PhD researcher in Information Systems at the Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen-Nuremberg in the International Doctorate Program: Business and Human Rights at the Schöller Endwood Chair for Information Systems. With a feminist-intersectional and inclusive perspective, she researches the impact of AI on our society. To bring her findings also to business and society, she co-founded the think tank FemAI – Center for Feminist Artificial Intelligence. She is also co-founder of the organization and IT consultancy enableYou and has been an honorary board member of erfolgsmfaktor FRAU e.V. since 2021. Besides she is an artist.



Jasmin  
Hagen-  
dorfer,  
Director

Jasmin Hagedorfer, an artist, filmmaker, curator, and co-founder of ArtUnAnchored based in Vienna, has initiated and led numerous projects in the art and culture scene. With a focus on installation, sculpture, and performance, she has exhibited her works in many countries. As a filmmaker, Jasmin engages with sociopolitical discourses and questions of gender identity, particularly in relation to post-porn politics. In her role as creative director of two Viennese film festivals - the Porn Film Festival Vienna and the Transition International Queer & Minorities Film Festival - Jasmin focuses on the artistic potential inherent in each festival concept. Jasmin also conducts workshops and lectures on the topics of feminist pornography and queer art.

## The people behind this project:



Dagmar  
Kiener,  
Project  
Finance  
Expert

Dagmar Kiener is a business engineer who has worked in international telecommunications corporations. In the early 2000s, she became self-employed with a regional development office for the Northern Bavarian region. In 2012, she started a GmbH with two women to help small businesses and startups obtain funding for their technological innovations and handle the financial implementation of funded projects. As a founding member of erfolgskfaktor FRAU e.V. and with her knowledge of European funding, national and federal funding programs, as well as contract and management skills, Dagmar was entrusted with the financial and administrative project implementation activities.



Stefan  
Lacina,  
Project  
Initiator

Stefan is the initiator of this project and a feminist activist. Apart from the conceptualization of this short film, he also did the composition and production of the film music together with a composer. Stefan produces music for his band TOUGH MAMA and for other acts. His motivation for gender equality lies in one simple sentence. "If something is not fair, we should change it." Whether as a woman or a non-woman, Stefan takes this attitude as a guide to fight for equal rights for everyone. Besides intersectional feminism and music, he also just launched an organization for barista trainings called BOHEMIAN BARISTAS.

## The people behind this project:



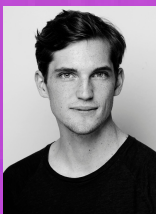
Anton  
Paievski,  
Editor

Anton is currently a Digital Art student at the University of Applied Arts Vienna but he studied filmmaking in the past. He works as film editor with ostblok, monochrom, handmitauge and various production companies in Vienna. In his artistic practice he works with experimental film and electro-acoustic music.



Patryk  
Senwicki,  
Producer

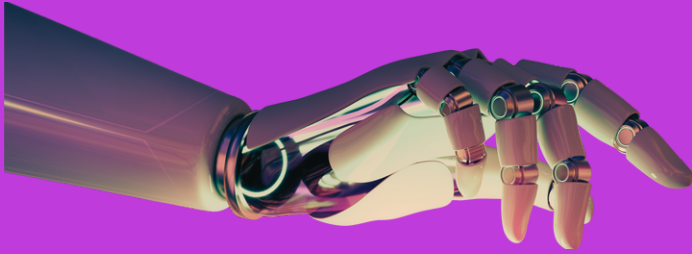
Patryk Senwicki is a producer, director, and artist. He studied at the University of Vienna and the University of Applied Arts Vienna, specializing in digital art. His films and artistic works have been widely exhibited and awarded internationally, including at the Ciratec Festival in Portugal, re:publica in Berlin, as well as festivals in Austria such as Vienna Shorts and Diagonale. In addition to commercial projects, he collaborates with ostblok on documentary films in cinematic format.



Dominic  
Spitaler,  
Producer

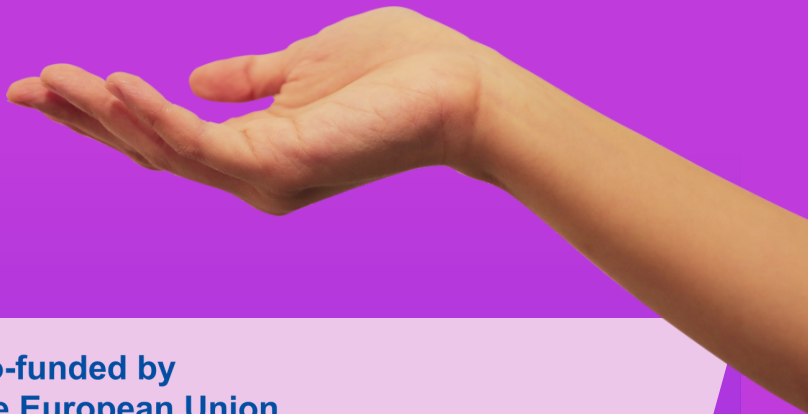
Dominic studied psychology, followed by screenwriting at the Vienna Film Academy, and art and cultural management at King's College London. His short films have been screened at festivals such as Karlovy Vary, Nouveau Cinéma, Max Ophüls, Diagonale, Interfilm, and Vienna Shorts. He works as a production manager (currently at KGP Filmproduktion and Ruth Beckermann Film) in Austria and Sweden, as well as a producer of commercials, music videos (including for Soap & Skin), and multimedia since the founding of Ostblok in 2019. In 2020, his graduation film was nominated for the First Steps Award and sold to Arte. He was a Berlinale Talent in 2022.

A movie can only be turned into reality with a lot of support from numerous people. We thank each and every one of you! It has been great!



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