

**CELEBRATING
BIPOC &
NON
WHITE
IDENTITIES
IN GERMANY**

MARGARITA V BELTRAM

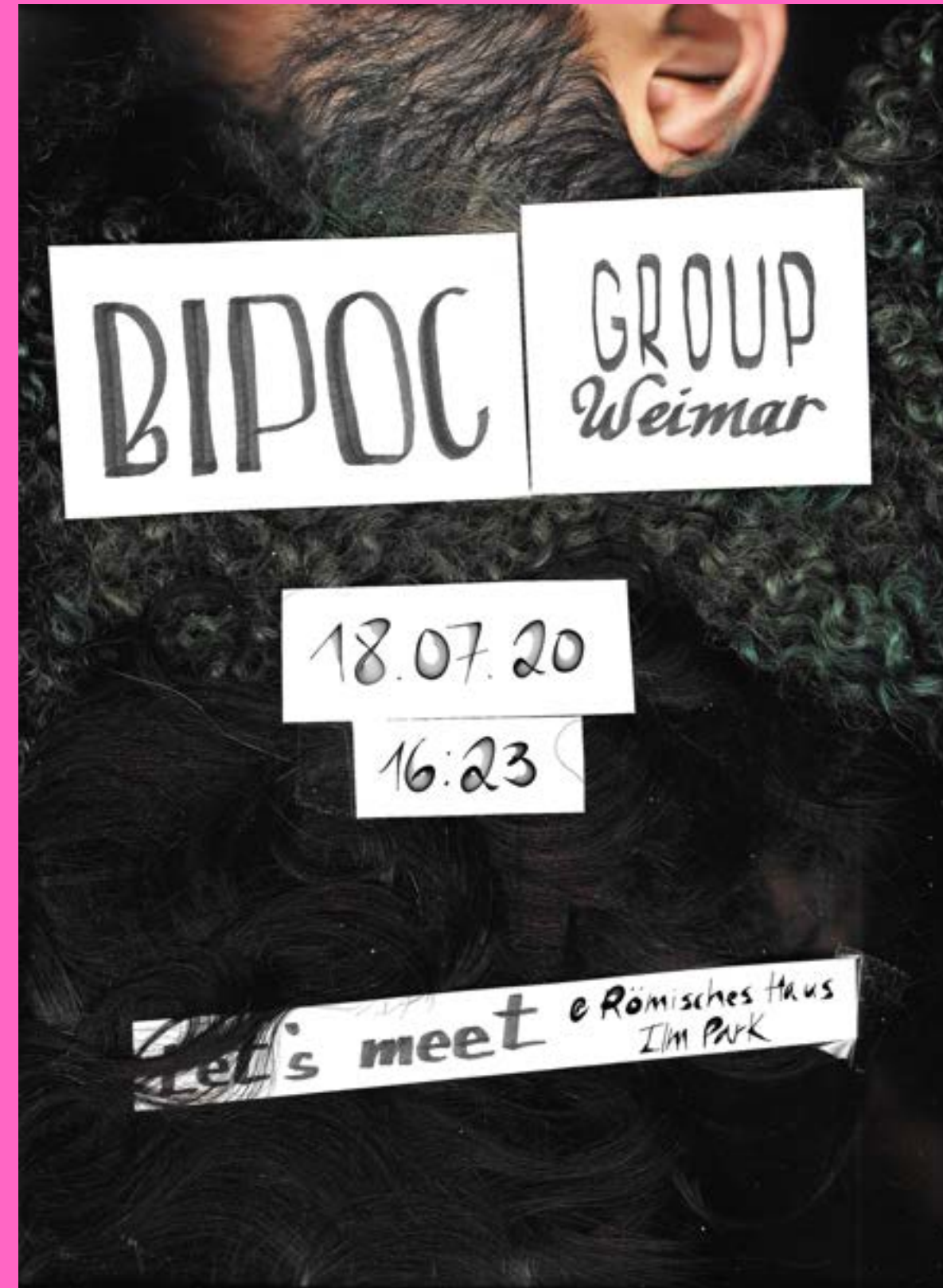


I am Margarita. I am a Latinx photographer based in Germany. For a couple of years now, I have worked with topics of race, gender, and biopolitics in the context of Colombia and from a decolonial perspective. I am a co-founder of the group BIPOC YMR, a support group for people in Weimar; and I am part of the antiracist network of Thüringen.



While in Germany, I began a project about non-white identities in Thuringen, a region that needs more diverse representation and where currently many BIPOC individuals are leading a fight against racism and discrimination.

Here are some of the portraits I have taken and a very short introduction of the people.





VALERIE

Valerie is a German student of Music in Weimar. For Valerie, the gardens and surroundings of the castle in Belvedere Allee are her special and intimate place, a space to relax but also to study and perform music. They are also connected to her first memories in the city, some of them challenging; while she attended the boarding school next to Castle Belvedere, she faced racist comments by Students from her high school and understood how normalized racism was when her fellow peers and teachers didn't find such comments problematic. Last year, in the midst of Black Lives Matter demonstrations, Valerie decided that It was time for her to step up and bring the conversation alive in Weimar; She and a couple of her friends lead the Black lives Matter Demo in the city, bringing together different individuals and organizations from all over Germany to protest in opposition to hate crimes and police brutality against black people in Weimar.

ADHIKA

(pronouns- he/she/them)

Adhika is a student of Masters of Public Art and New Artistic Strategies at the Bauhaus University in Weimar. For them, rollerblading is a form of meditation but also a way of resistance; especially in a city like Weimar that has a very complex and specific social context and history. They are a part of BIPOC Group YMR, which is a support group formed to address experiences of racial discrimination for BIPOC in Weimar. That is why occupying spaces in the city, as simple as walking down the streets or skating in front of Bauhaus Museum and inhabiting them becomes a form of resistance through representation; for Adhika, a way to transform and diversify spaces.





MARGARITA

M. is an artist, lecturer and graduate student at the Bauhaus University, Weimar. Her work interrogates questions of borders, and history via performative (and often edible) interventions. In 2020 she founded a new course at the university addressing discrimination from the perspective of racism #BLM. In 2020 she was elected to the Ausländerbeirat, representing international citizens for the city. She is portrayed floating in the cold clear waters of the "Ochsenauge" spring in the Park an der Ilm, as she is at home in "Quellen" a German word which means both a source of drinking water and academic or original knowledge. Thus the spring is a place of artistic, creative and indigenous knowledge, with water from a deep, centered source.

OPEN CALL!

I hope that you liked my pictures and the project!

In the month of April, I am looking to photograph & interview people that identify as BIPOC in the area of THURINGEN and that would be interested in sharing their experiences in this project. I'm excited to hear from you, write me to:

IG @margarita.v.beltran

margarita.valdivieso@posteo.net