

**Galerie im Tempelhof Museum**  
30 January – 19 April 2026

# Sabrina Labis

## Miss Universe

In this day and age, when the boundaries between private opinion and public discourse are becoming increasingly blurred, societal norms and expectations are often upheld or reinforced—including views on the role of women. Despite growing acceptance of their rights, in many areas discrimination against women persists.

In her work, artist and filmmaker Sabrina Labis examines how sexism manifests itself in everyday language, stereotypical body images, and social structures. In doing so, she exposes the mechanisms at work in the background. Her works address how women are placed at a disadvantage in the realms of science, culture, and media, exploring the corresponding effects on our perception and actions.

The exhibition “Miss Universe” is the internationally renowned artist’s first solo exhibition in Berlin. It consists of two video works, textile elements, and photographs that provide a deeper understanding of the complex issue of gender stereotypes and sclerotic patterns of thinking. Labis examines the effects of language and media images on gender-based stigmas as well as forms of power and oppression. The exhibition focuses on the presentation and analysis of sexist prejudices that appear in various forms in science and pop culture.

The video work “OBAFGKM” refers to an established mnemonic verse used in astronomy: “Oh Be A Fine Girl! Kiss Me!” It is used to remember the spectral classification of stars while at the same time putting forward a discriminatory view on women. In the video, Labis has the performer translate the letters O, B, A, F, G, K, and M into gestural movements. The accompanying soundtrack offers alternative mnemonic verses intended to upend existing power relations and open new associative spaces of meaning.

The second video work, “Miss Universe,” analyzes the idealized and male-connoted image of women in the context of a Miss Universe beauty pageant held in Miami in 1964. Here, young women are evaluated and judged exclusively on account of their physical characteristics and measurements. The general perception of women is dominated by such narrow, stereotypical views to this day.

In the exhibition, textile sashes embroidered with various phrases complement the two video works, drawing on the public portrayal of women in the media as well as alternative mnemonic verses to remember the letters of spectral classification. Furthermore, the photographic view of a starry sky alludes to the universe as a space for thought—a visual system oscillating between representation and abstraction, knowledge and imagination.

In “Miss Universe,” Labis explores the sexist thought patterns that still remain deeply ingrained in social structures. By critically examining the mechanisms of gender-based prejudice in various spheres of public life, e.g. in science and culture, the artist advocates for a more respectful perception and appreciation of women.

**Press release**  
January 2026

**Exhibition**  
30 January–19 April 2026

**Opening**  
Thursday, 29 January  
7 p.m.  
Introduction  
Rossella Scrascia,  
art historian and  
curator of the exhibition

**Artist Talk**  
with Sabrina Labis  
and Rossella Scrascia  
Friday, 20 February  
7 p.m.

**Guided tour**  
with Sabrina Labis  
and Rossella Scrascia  
Thursday, 26 March  
7 p.m.

**Finissage**  
with Sabrina Labis  
and Rossella Scrascia  
Sunday, 19 April  
4 p.m.

**Address**  
Gallery in the  
Tempelhof Museum  
Alt-Mariendorf 43  
12107 Berlin  
Telephone 90277-6964  
[www.hausamkleistpark.de](http://www.hausamkleistpark.de)

Free admission  
No barrier-free access  
Closed on Mondays  
Tues–Sun 1–6 p.m.  
Thurs from 10 a.m.

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press photos**  
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An exhibition  
by the Department of Art,  
Culture and Museums  
Tempelhof-Schöneberg.

**Kommunale  
Galerien  
Berlin**   
Amt für  
Weiterbildung  
und  
Kultur  
Tempelhof-  
Schöneberg

Sabrina Labis (b. 1990 in Zurich, Switzerland) studied fine arts at the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts (HSLU). She is a master's student in experimental film and media art at the Berlin University of the Arts. She has received multiple awards and scholarships, including the exhibition prize of the Kunstmuseum Luzern (2015) and the Elsa Neumann scholarship of the state of Berlin (2019).

Her work has been exhibited internationally at festivals as well as institutional solo and group shows, most recently at the Academy of Arts (Akademie der Künste) in Berlin (2025), the 19th International Human Rights Film Festival in Albania (2024), the Katarzyna Kozyra Foundation in Warsaw (2023), and the Centre Pompidou in Paris (2022).

