

MARCELA VILLANUEVA

Cultural Manager, Curator, Producer, Mentor and Author

Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, 12 November 1972 | Based in Berlin, Germany

[LinkedIn](#) | [Instagram @realmarce](#) | [Karne Kunst](#) | [Personal Website](#)

Profile

Marcela Villanueva is an Argentine cultural manager, curator, producer, mentor and feminist cultural organizer based in Berlin. She founded Karne Kunst in 2017 as an independent platform for socially and politically engaged contemporary art, with a focus on migration, gender equality, intersectionality and artistic practices connected to Latin America and the Global South. She is the founder of the Vierte Welle Film Festival, co-founder of Sorora e.V., and artistic director of Bardo Projektraum. Her work combines exhibition-making, moving image, public programming, cultural production, professional development and the creation of sustainable structures for migrant, women and FLINTA* artists and cultural workers. She has developed and directed publicly funded programs, exhibitions, festivals, residencies, mentoring initiatives and workshops in Berlin and internationally. She is also the author of *Funding Fiesta*, a practical and feminist guide to cultural funding in Germany.

Current Roles and Initiatives

2026–present Managing Director and Artistic Director, Karne Kunst gUG, Berlin

Leads the nonprofit company's artistic strategy, institutional development, fundraising, cultural production and partnerships. Karne Kunst gUG develops exhibitions, public programs, mentoring formats and production services with a feminist and decolonial approach.

2024–present Artistic Director, Bardo Projektraum, Berlin

Directs the artistic and public program of an independent project space in Friedrichshain-Kreuzberg. Responsibilities include curatorial development, funding, team management, artist relations, production, mediation, communications and long-term institutional planning.

2017–present Founder and Director, Karne Kunst, Berlin

Founded a feminist arts and culture platform supporting artists with migration backgrounds and promoting gender equality through exhibitions, screenings, workshops, networking, publications and international exchange.

2019–present Founder, Vierte Welle Film Festival, Berlin

Founded an international intersectional feminist film festival and cultural platform connecting cinema, visual arts, activism and community-building. The initiative later expanded into Cuir Pride and related exhibition and public-program formats.

c. 2020–present Co-founder and Board/Project Lead, Sorora e.V., Berlin

Co-founded a feminist association that develops artistic, educational and professional programs for migrant women and FLINTA* cultural workers. Leads or has led programs including ABC Kultur / ABC Incuba, Vierte Welle, NEST and Resonance.

2024–present Director, Projektraum Coswig, Coswig (Anhalt)

Develops a rural residency and project space connecting artistic research, production, exhibitions and exchange between Berlin, Saxony-Anhalt and international practitioners.

2026–present Program Director, Ponyhof and The Pocket Gallery, Berlin

Develops experimental performance, rehearsal and micro-exhibition formats, including the monthly Ponyhof Rodeo Sessions and site-specific commissions for a one-square-metre gallery vitrine.

Selected Curatorial and Cultural Projects

2027 Bardo 2027: No Fixed Ground, Bardo Projektraum, Berlin

Artistic director and project developer. A year-long cumulative exhibition project structured in four chapters — Carry, Hold, Locate and Gather — bringing together twenty Berlin-based artistic positions. The project uses a shared modular spatial system transformed throughout the year and combines exhibitions, mediation, public formats, documentation and printed/digital publications.

2026 Unhousing: An Enclave for Queer Utopia, Bardo Projektraum / Cuir Pride, Berlin

Artistic direction. A contemporary art exhibition and public program addressing queer memory, migration, housing, belonging and utopian forms of collective life. Curated by Gabriela Gioia as part of Cuir Pride 2026.

2026 PINOCENO: Following the Trace of Dispossession, from Germany to the Global South, Bardo Projektraum, Berlin

Artistic direction. Research-based exhibition by Mercedes Lozano and Tin Wilke tracing colonial extractivism, pine monocultures and transnational histories linking Germany and the Global South. The exhibition combined video, sound, objects, archival materials, guided visits, screenings and a closing gathering.

2026 RADAR – Experimental Live Sessions, Berlin

Project director. A concert and performance series for experimental and interdisciplinary music, funded by Musikfonds. The 2025–2026 program presented Sarvenaz Mostofey, A.M.E.T., Nour Sokhon, Nino Davadze, Gubbi Ann and Marina Cyrino, Sofia Albanese, Golsana Shenasei and Karen Chalco.

2026 ABC Incuba, Sorora e.V., Berlin

Project lead. A Spanish-language incubator and stipend program for six migrant FLINTA*-led cultural teams, combining mentoring, group sessions, co-working, public work-in-progress presentations, financial planning and professional development. Funded through Weltoffenes Berlin.

2025 Territorial Bodies, Bardo Projektraum, Berlin

Curator. Exhibition exploring the body as territory, archive and site of belonging, memory and resistance. The project connected feminist, diasporic and decolonial artistic practices and was accompanied by public conversations and written reflections.

2025 Resonance: Empowering FLINTA Musicians in Europe, Berlin / Europe

Program director. Mentoring, workshops and public performance opportunities for migrant FLINTA musicians based in Europe, developed by Karne Kunst.

2024 Habitar la Imagen / Bildbewohnung: Frauen im Fokus – Kunst und Identität, Bardo Projektraum, Berlin

Producer, with Irene Garcia; curated by Gabriela Alatorre. Karne Kunst's first group exhibition in Germany brought together thirteen women artists working with photography and contemporary art around self-representation, identity and empowerment. Funded by the Friedrichshain-Kreuzberg cultural project fund.

2024 ABC Kultur, Sorora e.V., Berlin

Project manager. Professional-development and cultural-networking program for migrant women and FLINTA* cultural workers, supported by the Berlin Senate Department for Culture and Social Cohesion. Predecessor to ABC Incuba.

2023 ARCHIVO MADRE, Berlin

Project manager. Artistic and archival project developed in relation to memory, migration and feminist cultural production.

2023 RADAR, Berlin

Project manager of the first edition of an experimental live-session format connecting sound, performance and interdisciplinary artistic practice.

2022 Con Nombre Propio, Embassy of the Argentine Republic, Berlin

Curator. Group exhibition of Argentine women artists based in Germany, presented during Women's Month. Participating artists included Lucía Szych, Karina Villavicencio, María Carolina Díaz, Justina Leston, Delfina Carmona, Sofia Nordmann, Mora Kirchner and Vale Vola.

2019–2022 Vierte Welle Film Festival, Berlin

Founder and project director. Developed and produced multiple editions of an international feminist film festival presenting screenings, talks, artistic interventions and networking formats, with a focus on women, queer and migrant perspectives.

Selected Bardo Projektraum Programme

2026 But Call Me Lolita: The Poetics of the Pose. Exhibition and expanded public program connecting Lima, Berlin and Mexico City through archive, body, image, femininity, publishing, sound and the politics of the gaze.

2026 Archivum Naturae. Exhibition by Ana Palacio and Andrea Nosetti exploring archives, nature, materiality and ecological memory.

2026 Anatomies of Air, The Pocket Gallery. Site-specific micro-exhibition by Alice Brunello Luise.

2025 A Constant State of Becoming. Group exhibition focused on transformation, identity and process.

2025 I Remember How It Feels to Be Made of Flesh, Ida Sophia. Solo exhibition exploring embodiment, memory and material presence.

2025 Maternajes Transfronterizos. Exhibition and public program on transnational forms of mothering, migration and care.

2025 Ruhezeit. Exhibition addressing rest, labour, time and bodily or social exhaustion.

Teaching, Workshops and Mentoring

2026 Access and Secure Funding, DIY Music Career Lab, Borderless Creatures, Theaterhaus Mitte, Berlin

Workshop on navigating Berlin's cultural funding system, developing project narratives and building coherent budgets and applications.

2026 MA Digital Narratives Seminar, ifs Internationale Filmschule Köln, Cologne

Two-day seminar contributing professional expertise in project development, cultural production and funding.

2026 You Got the Grant — Now What?, ABC Incuba, Bardo Projektraum, Berlin

Workshop on grant administration, contracts, budgets, crediting obligations, production planning and reporting.

2024–2026 ABC Kultur / ABC Incuba Mentoring Programme, Sorora e.V., Berlin

Ongoing group and individual mentoring for migrant FLINTA*-led artistic and cultural initiatives, including strategy, funding, budgeting, organizational development and public presentation.

2020 Cultural Event Production: From Idea to Action, Karne Kunst, Online/Berlin

Three-session workshop and individual follow-up covering cultural project planning, creative collaborations, budgeting, grants, funding and project presentation.

Ongoing Funding, Project Development and Career Mentoring

Individual consulting and workshops for artists, cultural workers and organizations on funding applications, financial plans, sustainable structures and professional positioning in Germany.

Selected Talks and Professional Contributions

2026 From Informal Networks to Institutions, Get Connected!, Kreativ Kultur Berlin, Podewil, Berlin

Round-table contribution on turning informal artistic networks into sustainable collectives, associations and cultural organizations.

2026 Public talks, presentations and moderation across Bardo, ABC Incuba and Cuir Pride programmes

Topics include feminist cultural production, migration, public funding, institutional development, artistic self-organization and community-building.

2025 Curatorial Program for Research (CPR), Community 2025

Participant in an interdisciplinary curatorial research community spanning exhibitions, moving image and experimental cultural programming.

Publications and Writing

2023 Funding Fiesta: A Quirky, First-Hand, Proofed, and Not Very Modest Handbook for Artists and Creatives in Germany

Author. Practical guide to arts and cultural funding in Germany, written from a migrant, feminist and first-hand perspective.

Selected Grants and Public Funding Managed

2026–2027 Berlin Senate Department for Culture and Social Cohesion — Basisförderung for Bardo Projektraum

Structural funding supporting Bardo's artistic program, team and institutional development.

2026 Weltoffenes Berlin — ABC Incuba

Funding for a migrant FLINTA*-focused incubator and stipend programme.

2025–2026 Musikfonds — RADAЯ Experimental Live Sessions

Project funding for experimental and interdisciplinary music programming.

2026 Berlin district and Senate programmes

Funding managed for feminist, queer, migrant and interdisciplinary artistic projects, including Cuir Pride / Vierte Welle and other cultural programmes.

2024 Friedrichshain-Kreuzberg Cultural Project Fund — Habitar la Imagen

Project funding for Karne Kunst's first group exhibition in Germany.

Education and Professional Development

1990–1993 Universidad del Cine, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Field of study and degree status.

Memberships and Networks

Co-founder, Sorora e.V., Berlin.

Member, AndersMachen eG / Haus A, Berlin.

Curatorial Program for Research (CPR), Community 2025.

Professional networks across Berlin's independent visual arts, film, music and migrant cultural sectors.

Languages

Spanish — Native

English — Professional working proficiency

German — Working proficiency

French — Basic/intermediate

Selected Online Links

Personal website: <https://marcelavillanueva.com/>

Karne Kunst: <https://www.karnekunst.com/>

Vierte Welle Film Festival: <https://viertewellefestival.com/>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/villanuevamarcela/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/realmarce/>

Priority Items to Verify for the Next Version

- Exact academic degree or programme completed at Universidad del Cine.
- Complete employment history before 2017, including employers, job titles, countries and dates.
- Founding date and formal board role at Sorora e.V.
- Exact starting dates for Bardo Projektraum, Projektraum Coswig, Ponyhof and The Pocket Gallery.
- Complete list of curatorial projects before 2019 and full details for ARCHIVO MADRE.
- Language proficiency levels and formal certificates.
- Publication data for Funding Fiesta and earlier fashion/editorial publications.
- Any juries, awards, residencies, advisory roles, press coverage and international collaborations not yet listed.