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14 years of Vietnamese Queer Movies

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Abstract

The official release of *Adrift* opened a new chapter in the history of LGBTQIA movement in Vietnam. To the Vietnamese LGBTQIA community, the 13th of November, 2009 is a significant day. After a long time living in the hidden and humiliated closet, a lesbian film was released describing the repressed female sexuality of two young women living in a traditionally patriarchal world. The appearance of such a same sex piece of art paved the way to the flourishing of the queer movies in Vietnam. Through entertainment media, the Vietnamese LGBTQIA population has entered society with pride and dignity, leaving behind them all the abuse and discrimination of the past. Queer movies have unprecedentedly prospered, breaking social taboos, and decreasing social prejudice against the LGBTQIA population. LGBTQIA life has become a topic of artistic creativity that interests social media and Vietnam's cultural community.

14 years of Vietnamese Queer Movies examines the background in which the Vietnamese queer movies were born and develop; its styles, themes as well as its own particular and similar features with the queer movies in Asia. The paper also studies its identity, positive role in the entertainment industry, its role in diversifying of Vietnam's queer culture and its role in the promotion of the welfare of the Vietnamese LGBTQIA citizens by furthering the native LGBTQIA rights movement.

Keywords: Vietnam, LGBTQIA, queer, culture, movies