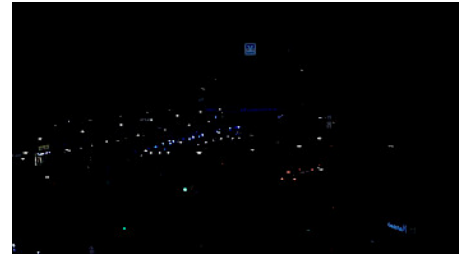




THIS SUFFOCATING NOW

by Vika Kirchenbauer



SYNOPSIS

At a time when elements of fascisation are becoming ever more apparent, ever more pervasive, artist Vika Kirchenbauer takes a personal look at what is in the air in present-day Germany. *This Suffocating Now* witnesses the historical present as a condition marked by vectors of violence that have continuously and habitually existed, and puts its focus on the fault lines that have most explicitly exposed the illiberal underbelly of a liberal state and society in recent years: Palestine solidarity as well as queer and trans rights. Drawing from a vast variety of source material, the 16-minute essay film flows in an uneven rhythm through still and moving imagery. Observations from the past three years – such as the increased police presence and recurring police violence, which Kirchenbauer captures from her balcony in Berlin – are viewed within a broader German historical framework. Over mundane images of her home improvement efforts, the artist problematises her own social ascent to...

CAST AND CREW

DIRECTOR Vika Kirchenbauer · SCREENPLAY Vika Kirchenbauer

Germany 2026

16 min

FORMAL CATEGORIES

Conflicts, History, Current Affairs

ORIGINAL LANGUAGES

German

PRODUCTION COMPANY

[Vika Kirchenbauer](#)

Berlin

Germany