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Telling on the On/Scene Act: The Making of Amateur Porn 2.0 as Fiction of the “Real”

Visual hard core porn has often been perceived as a genre capturing real-life bodies performing genuine sex acts, and thus being able to represent a “real” of sex. Others have suggested to read the genre as representing utopian fantasies which could, and should, be analyzed like other works of fiction. Amateur porn videos, allegedly user-produced and distributed for free via video sharing websites, seem to toy with this representational undecidability: they promise to reveal something we do not yet know about authentic people having authentic sex, but often adhere to the fantastic, pornotopian narrative conventions of commercial, staged porn. This paper explores 2.0 amateur porn as fiction telling on how we conceive of the “truth” - about gender, about sexualities, about genitals, about how and whom to fuck. It will ask how heteronormativity figures in these narratives, and whether there is any chance for resistant, (contra-)sexual (counter-)stories to emerge from these user-generated pornotopian fictions of the sexual “real.”