

# BANNED BOOKS IN CONVERSATION

## BOOK TALK AND WORKSHOP

# 26 MAR

### *Gender Queer*

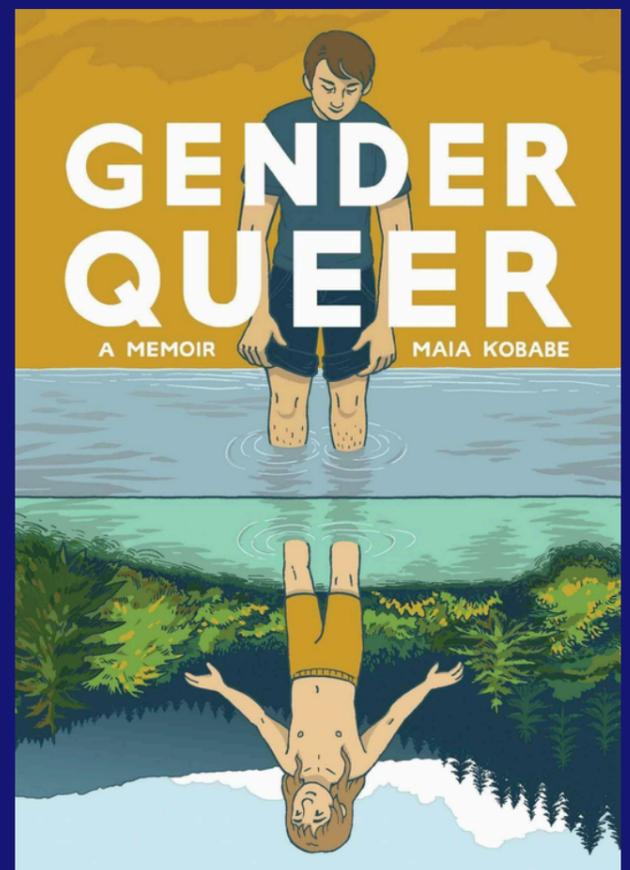
by Maia Kobabe

Aline Franzus

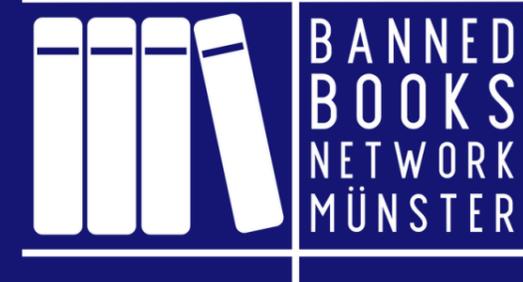
🕒 18-20 Uhr | 📍 SpecOps, Gesellschaftszimmer

### About the event:

Aline Franzus will lead a conversation on Maia Kobabe's *Gender Queer* (2019), a graphic novel about the author's own exploration of gender identity and sexuality. *Gender Queer* has become one of the most frequently banned books in recent years. First published in 2019 and initially marketed toward older teens and adults, *Gender Queer* originally received a fairly small print run. Perhaps ironically, calls to censor the book triumphantly moved Kobabe's memoir from the margins of the publishing landscape to a mainstream commercial success. While the reasons for *Gender Queer*'s success story bear the opposites of a triumph, it does paint a remarkable narrative of the paradoxical mechanisms of contemporary book censorship.



### About Banned Books Network Münster:



In response to the steep increase in book banning and attempted book challenges in the USA and beyond, the University of Münster's Chairs for Book Studies and American Studies have co-founded "Banned Books Network Münster" (BBNM). Our purpose is to raise awareness of the increase in book banning and create spaces for engagement with banned books, and to discuss the wider repercussions of these bans. Our events are inclusive in nature, and we hope to engage students, teachers, colleagues, and the wider reading public with our initiative.

Registration via Indico is requested but not mandatory; it will also give you access to the reading materials we will discuss during the events. To access the registration link and for the latest information, please visit our website by scanning or clicking on the QR-code. For any further questions, please contact [bannedbooksnetwork@uni-muenster.de](mailto:bannedbooksnetwork@uni-muenster.de).

