



**'Woman who married the Eiffeltoren' could recently be read on this Internet site. The bride, who Erika La Tour Eiffel calls herself, is so-called objectum-sexual, people who romantic and sometimes even sexual relations maintained with objects. That can be everything, from hekken to cars, laptops and even guillotines.**

It sounds bizarre. Are objectum sexuals (OS) frustrated, unworldly, and crazy persons? That painted picture, Erika La Tour Eiffel, who works actively for the organisation Objectum Sexuality Internationale (OSI), wants from the world to help. 'A lot of objectum sexuals are good people who lead normal lives and simply take part in the society,' says the American. 'They always said that it comes from a bad youth. But there are many who experience nothing. I am, however, since a child had a troubled life and have grown up in several foster homes. But I have chosen to study and go to university and have a successful career. Moreover my OS sister did not have a traumatic youth and she is OS and others who have much worse trauma still do not become OS.' Erika says she has been sensitive for objects since a little girl.

### **Paraphile**

According to Erika, who will take part in September in the World Championships Archery, OS belongs in the same row of sexual temperament as hetero and homosexuality. 'That goes too far,' says Sexologist Rik van Lunsen. 'Objectum-sexuals create their own name. This group cultivates it, makes of it something artistic. But it is simply a paraphile: a sexual preference for everything other than that of a person. There are a couple hundred forms. It cannot be of everything, usually it's a single thing like one's feet, and then concerns themselves only for the feet and for the person who has them.'

### **Not fetishism**

Paraphiles are a sexual development and according to Van Lunsen, the consequence of a disturbed youth. Erika finds that a preconception drawn from the basic book of sexology denies OS its correct definition and classes OS as fetishism. 'The definition of fetish is that someone has to maintain a certain touch with an object necessary for sexual excitement. Objectum sexuality is not fetishism because we feel the inner soul of an object. I always say that our focus is the object and the object is the one and only aim.'

### **Animism**

But it seems nevertheless difficult to have a relation have with a non-living object. For objectum sexuals however, objects are not inanimate. 'It is the same as with animism, such as indigenous tribes believe that certain objects have a soul. I can feel that also,' explains Erika.

In a typical human relationship the partners communicate with each other. That seems with an object rather cumbersome. No problem, finds Erika. 'You have nevertheless also a relation with your house pets, without them talking with you? You sense things. The way I communicate with a bridge is very particular, but my bridges I am not able compare with people. I have relations and friendships with people but not the intimacy which I have with a bridge. For me I need nothing more. It is different, but satisfactory.'

### **Unfortunate**

Many objectum sexuals would be however really unfortunate. Sexologist Rik van Lunsen says many treat people in its practice in the AMC as a paraphile. 'They feel there is a shortage because of the lack of reciprocity in the relation. They make an effort to have a loving relation with people and missing developing warmth.'

Short-sighted, Erika finds. 'It is typical of mainstream: people cannot accept in themselves that objectum sexual people are actually able to be happy. Just because it does not make you happy does not mean you must say that I cannot be happy.'

### **Sex**

How does it sit then with the sex? 'It depends of your definition of sex. I always say: sex is in the eye or the beholder,' tells Erika. 'If you replace the word sex with intimacy, it can mean many things for everyone. For one person, intimacy may be holding each other's hand, while others it means full intercourse. That last is not my definition of intimacy. According to that definition, I have no sex with the Eiffeltoren. Other objectum sexuals have that perhaps. Okay, to the components that may not fit to each other, a bridge is not appropriate inside a woman. But there are other manners. A disabled person has to find manners if they wish to be intimate with someone. But really, all in all, I do not find because we are different that it is appropriate to ask someone how he or she has sex.'

### **Union with Eiffeltoren**

Finally: how does it sit in fact with that marriage with the Eiffeltoren? 'The media made of it a sensational tale and wrote that I had married with the Eiffeltoren. I speak rather of a union which I have closed with the Eiffeltoren. My union with the Eiffeltoren is symbolic and stands for my love for bridges. The Eiffeltoren is the guardian of the bridges in the world, since Gustav Eiffel an engineer has those many bridges had been built. I do not call the Eiffeltoren simply my spouse, already I consider her, however, as a woman. She is the grand lady of Paris. But I have indeed also romantic feelings for the Eiffeltoren.'

The ceremony was a meeting with good friends. We have gone to a beautiful spot at the Eiffeltoren. A good friend read the oath in French. I read a love poem, in which I also explained what the marriage meant. It did not concern the technicalities of the marriage, but my union with the bridges of the world.

**Trefwoorden:** [objectum-seksualiteit](#), [OS](#), [Erika La Tour Eiffel](#)

### **Objectum-Sexuality Internationale**

The organization Objectum Sexuality Internationale (OSI) has as the aim of informing mainstream concerning objectum sexuality, and of helping identify like-minded and putting OS individuals in contact with each other.

#### **From the website:**

"What is the difference between OS sex and masturbation?

Clearly the one of the most irritating questions we entertain when a person gets a mental image of us in "the act" with an object.

Naturally, it would seem there is no difference because the question is being posed by one who does not love the object. OS sex may be viewed simply as instrumental manipulation to self pleasure. However, in the case of a person utilizing some object in this manner, the object is none other than a means to an end.

To an OS person, our focus is on the object we love.' ([Objectum-Sexuality Internationale](#))

### **Married to the Berlin Wall**

Swedish Eija-Riita Berliner-Mauer (1954) invented the term objectum sexuality. In 1979, she married with the Berlin wall. 'Like every married couple, we have our ups and downs. We even made it through the terrible disaster of November 9, 1989, when my husband was subjected to frenzied attacks by a mob.'

### **Documentaire**

Erika La Tour Eiffel cooperated in the documentary "The Woman Who Married the Eiffel Tower." She has been afterwards frustrated concerning the documentary, which was in her eyes sensation-loving. They depicted me as a freak. The film concerned only sex. The makers did not stand quiet that we are people that also have a life.