

Pop-Kultur/2023

Press release from 28th August 2023

Pop-Kultur 2023 kicks off: the festival runs from 30th August to 1st September

- Around 120 concerts, Commissioned Works and talks, including Sho Madjozi, Anika, The Düsseldorf Düsterboys, Kwam.E, cumgirl8, T'neeya, Fuffifufzich
- Berlin's Senator for Culture Joe Chialo to open Pop-Kultur
- An accessible festival with inclusive talks
- Full timetable now online



cumgirl8

In just two days, the ninth edition of Berlin's Pop-Kultur festival will kick off and take place from **30th August to 1st September**. Among the hotly anticipated artists appearing at the Kulturbrauerei's various venues are **Sho Madjozi, Anika, The Düsseldorf Düsterboys, Kwam.E, cumgirl8, T'neeya** and **Fuffifufzich**. In addition to live concerts, the ninth edition of the festival includes 15 Commissioned Works, talks, readings and films, as well as showcases for **»Pop-Kultur Nachwuchs«** and **Goethe Talents**. It will also focus on football as a pop-cultural phenomenon as a prelude to next year's European Football Championship: **»Can I Kick It? Yes, You Can!«** takes place free of charge and deals interactively with football from queer-feminist and post-migrant perspectives.

This focus on different communities resonates with **Joe Chialo**, Senator for Culture and Social Cohesion in Berlin: *»It's of utmost importance for Berlin's cultural landscape that Pop-Kultur puts a strong emphasis on alliance and*

solidarity – whether it's about football, Ukrainian club culture or simply considering different realities of life in the city. By taking on this task, the festival is showing how culture can contribute to social cohesion, and even be the basis for it. For example, seeing Pop-Kultur think about music cultures beyond Europe and having acts from African countries and Afro-diasporic communities on the Kulturbrauerei's main stages makes me extremely happy.»

Curatorial focuses at Pop-Kultur

The delegates' panel »Spotlight on African Music Festivals - Fostering Stronger Collaboration Between Music Festivals and Actors From the African Continent and Berlin« will provide deeper insights into various African music cultures and the possibilities of cooperation with German stakeholders. **Abdul Karim Abdullah** (Afrofutur, former Afrocoachella, Ghana), **Lorenz Herrmann** (Sauti Za Busara, Tanzania), **Charles Tanoh-Boutchoué** (La Sunday, Ivory Coast), **Fui T.** (Manifestivities, Ghana) and **Oliver Asike** (Thrift Social Nairobi, Kenya) will participate. The discussion was initiated by **Pamela Owusu-Brenyah**, who has also booked festival acts such as **T'neeya**, **Sho Madjozi** and **Fave** as well as Afro-German rap artists **Albi X**, **Kwam.E** and **Ansu**. **Christian Morin** has invited figures from Ukraine's clubbing scene, like **TUCHA** and **Morwan**, along with musicians **Charlotte Brandi** and **Anika**, electro-pop duo **Junior Boys** from Canada and rising star **Fishbach** from France. **Yeşim Duman**, also part of Pop-Kultur's curatorial trio, has designed the Çaystube as a safer space for queer and post-migrant acts like **Prince Emrah** and **Banoffee**, while also bringing live acts **Empress Of** and **umru** to Berlin.



»Can I Kick It?!« panelists from left to right:
Claudia Roth, Dauaride Empere, Josephine Henning, Tülin Duman © Hassan,
Luam Kessette © WDR, Dirk Borm

The football programme she conceived, »Can I Kick It? Yes, You Can!«, is multifaceted and includes a talk with the Minister of State for Culture **Claudia Roth**. She is the chair of the supervisory board of Stiftung Fußball & Kultur EURO 2024 gGmbH, which is coordinating the cultural programme for the European Championship. Roth will discuss the socio-political aspects of football and the European Championship with **Dauaride Empere**, co-founder of CSV Afrisko Berlin - the soccer club featured in an exhibition at Pop-Kultur - as well as **Josephine Henning** and **Tülin Duman**, members of the council for the EURO 2024 cultural

programme. They will address the roles of diversity, participation and anti-racism in the arts and culture programme for UEFA EURO 2024.

The Pop-Kultur lineup also features acts taking part in this year's »Pop-Kultur Nachwuchs« programme as well as Goethe Talents. At »Pop-Kultur Nachwuchs live supported by Thomann«, newcomers perform on the Pop-Kultur stage in the Frannz Garten with free admission. The programme also includes performances by recipients of Musicboard residencies.

Talks on inclusion at Pop-Kultur

Pop-Kultur ascribes great importance to accessibility and inclusion – both on and off the stage. This includes producing the festival with as few barriers as possible as well as programming in cooperation with people with disabilities and self-advocacy organisations. In the talk »Disability Pride – (How) Do We Celebrate Our Disability in Germany?«, queer-feminist rapper and activist **Sookee**, actress **Kübra Sekin**, performer **Saioa Alvarez Ruiz** and musician **Johanna Krins** will explore the question of whether and how people in Germany with disabilities publicly champion their disabilities. Celebration and nightlife are also discussed in »Young & Disabled – (What) Do Young People with Disabilities Celebrate?«, in which teens and young adults with disabilities have their say. **Linus Bade**, **Marie Lampe** (representative of the DBSV youth group) and **Mathilda Quantz** (representative of the BKMF youth group) will talk about how they still cannot fully participate in all areas of pop culture, from the stairs to the basement club to prejudice and discrimination in nightlife. Acts with disabilities from the live programme and the Commissioned Works also share their experiences in the »Pop-Kultur Diskurs« programme: Deaf performers **Inna Shparber** and **Mark Petersen**, taking part in the festival with their Commissioned Work »four elements – natural and human powers«, will join **Elisabeth Kaufmann** (German Deaf Association) and **Wille Felix Zante** to discuss how Deaf people celebrate music. **Drag Syndrome**, meanwhile, will talk about their artistic activities as the world's first collective of drag queens and kings with Down's syndrome.

Opening & Events on 30th August 2023

At the opening of Pop-Kultur on 30th August at 17:30 in Palais, **Charlotte Brandi** will perform some of her eclectic, timeless art-pop songs. Speaking afterwards will be the Senator for Culture and Social Cohesion in Berlin **Joe Chialo**, the cultural policy spokesperson of the FDP parliamentary group **Anikó Glogowski-Merten** (MdB), Pop-Kultur festival director **Katja Lucker**, and the Pop-Kultur programming team of **Yeşim Duman**, **Christian Morin** and **Pamela Owusu-Brenyah**. Later in the evening, expect an atmospheric vibe with **A Song For You**. This special ensemble project consists of up to 60 singers and a band that highlights the collaborative spirit of Berlin's neo-soul/R&B/hip-hop scene. Exclusively at Pop-Kultur, **A Song For You** will perform the Commissioned Work »UNRAVEL a return to self through collective expression«, an incredible live performance experience that incorporates dance, storytelling and visual installations alongside their engaging vocal arrangements. Furthermore, **Anika** will open up a space for »Lost Voices« in her Commissioned Work. She will play, sing and manipulate tracks from her album »Change«, originally produced for headphones. Fellow musician **Sally Wanda Whitton** joins her on stage for a collaborative piece that asks: What makes us breathe? What takes our breath away?

There will also be performances by national and international acts such as Honduran-American synth-pop musician **Empress Of** and Turkish-Kurdish-Armenian up-and-coming rapper **BRKN** from Kreuzberg.

Concerts and DJ sets by:

21 downbeat / Aili / Aka Kelzz & Ria Boss (Accra-Berlin Residency) / Albi X / Ansu / ARY / Augustus Williams & Souci (Detroit-Berlin Residency) / Banoffee / BRKN / C'est Karma / Casey MQ / Charlotte Brandi / Chrisman & Sara Persico (Kampala-Berlin Residency) / Codeine / Crack Cloud / cumgirl8 / Das Kinn / Dina Summer / Drag Syndrome / Empress Of / ERRORR / EVÎN / Fave / FEM*ERGY COLLECTIVE/ Fheels / Fishbach / Free Love / FRZNTÉ / Get Jealous / Indigo Sparke / J. Vague / Jonas Schilling & Odelly (Tel Aviv-Berlin Residency) / Junior Boys / Karl Vento / Kwam.E / Lola Marsh / MADANII / Meagre Martin / Morwan / mui zyu / Mulay / NAS TEA / Nashi44 / pape / Prince Emrah / Rasha Nahas / Robert Kretzschmar / Rosa Anschütz / Sam Quealy / Selin Davasse / Sho Madjozi / Sofie Royer / Sophia Blenda / Sorry / Stella Sommer / T'neeya / Tami T / The Düsseldorf Dusterboys / Tigre Bleu / TUCHA / umru / Wa22ermann / Walter Astral / Wellen.Brecher / Zainab Lax / Zustra

Commissioned Works by:

Anika / A Song For You / FAAM Studio / Fuffifufzich / Garagen Uwe / Gloria de Oliveira / Deaf Performance: Inna Shparber & Mark Petersen / Krista Papista / L Twills / Mariana Sadovska/Vesna / Nichtseattle / Nikita Netrebko & Serhiy Yatsenko »Kyiv Black Box« / Portrait XO / Voodoo Beach & Die Wilde Jagd

Talks and readings:

»African Women in the Music Industry«: Fave, Ria Boss, Mod.: Pamela Owusu-Brenyah / »A Record Label (What Is It Good For?) II«: Anton Teichmann, Marc Hollander, Olga Karatzioti-B., Mod.: Christina Mohr / »Clashing Differences«: Filmscreening & Q&A mit Merle Grimme / »Culture in a Warzone«: Dmytro Kyrpa, Maria Tuchka, Serhii Vel, Mod.: Simon Bonney / »Die Frau mit dem Arm«: Andreas Dorau & Gereon Klug / »Eastern Responses in Pop & Art to Imperialism«: Creams, Faina Yunusova, Mod.: Julia Boxler / »Leuchtturmprojekte für ein gerechteres Miteinander in der Musikbranche«: Felix Brückner, Fine Stammnitz, Franziska Lauter, Mod.: Anika Jankowski / »Im Morgen wächst ein Birnbaum«: Fikri Anıl Altıntaş, Mod.: Miriam Davoudvandi / »Lakonisch Elegant: Skandal und Moral in der Popkultur«: Aida Baghernejad, Dieter Gorny und Samira El Ouassil, Mod.: Christine Watty / »Money, Money, Money – gerechte Bezahlung?«: C'est Karma, Christin Nichols, Robert Kretzschmar, Mod.: Ariana Zustra / »Note to Self« – Artist Talk with Banoffee & Rasha Nahas moderated by Lior Neumeister / »Fabulous Drag Night Talk« – Chit Chat with Drag Syndrome and Saioa Alvarez Ruiz / Talk von Deutschlandfunk Kultur »Kritische Männlichkeiten: Wie viel Platz bietet der Pop für reflektierte Männer?«: Charlotte Brandi, Fikri Anıl Altıntaş, Frank Spilker, Mod.: Christoph Reimann & Juliane Reil / Pride & Performance – (Wie) Feiern Taube Menschen Musik?: Elisabeth Kaufmann, Inna Shparber, Mark Petersen, Mod.: Wille Felix Zante / »Jung & Behindert – (Was) Feiern Jugendliche mit Behinderung?«: Linus Bade, Marie Lampe als Vertreterin der DBSV-Jugendgruppe, Mathilda Quantz als Vertreterin der BKMF-Jugendgruppe, Mod.: Ed Greve / »Disability Pride – (Wie) Feiern wir in Deutschland unsere Behinderung?«: Linus Bade, Marie Lampe als Vertreterin der DBSV-Jugendgruppe, Mathilda Quantz als Vertreterin der BKMF-Jugendgruppe, Mod.: Ed Greve / »Spotlight on African Music Festivals – Fostering Stronger Collaboration Between Music Festivals and Actors From the African Continent and Berlin«: Abdul Karim Abdullah, Lorenz Herrmann, Charles Tanoh-Boutchoué, Fui T., Oliver Asike

Thematic focus »Can I Kick It? Yes, You Can!«:

»Can I Kick It?!«: Claudia Roth, Dauaride Empere, Josephine Henning, Tülin Duman, Mod.: Luam Kessette (Talk) / »Can I Kick the Pay Gap?«: Duygu Ağal, Ronny Blaschke, Saskia Wichert, Mod.: Felicia Mutterer (Talk) / »Colonastics«: Elisabeth Hampe, Joana Tischkau (Workout-Performances) / CSV Afrisko (interaktives Ausstellungsprojekt) / »Football Under Cover« (Film) / »Football Under Cover - Fußball, Aktivismus und die aktuellen Geschehnisse im Iran«: Marlene Assmann-Khoueiry, Nada Arbaji, Sanaz Azimipour, Mod.: Aida Baghernejad (Talk) / »Karaoke Xpress« von gal sherizly, Nhu Huỳnh & MC Coach Trinity (Soccer Hymns) / »Locker Room Talk«: Andi Pek, Johanna Behre (Podcast & Interviews) / »Mädchen am Ball« & »Nach dem Spiel« (Films) / »Nach dem Spiel«: Aysun Bademsoy, Duygu Ağal, Mod.: Cana Bilir-Meier (Talk) / »Schwarze Adler« (Film) / »Tor zur Freiheit«: Tuğba Tekkal, Mod.: Maria Popov (Reading)

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