

Pop-Kultur/2024

Press Release from 10th April 2024

Pop-Kultur turns 10: Here Are The First 44 Acts Playing in 2024

- Anniversary edition: 10 years of Pop-Kultur
- Live: Blumengarten, Ilgen-Nur, A Certain Ratio, James K and many more
- Applications for »Pop-Kultur Nachwuchs« open on 24 April 2024; »Pop-Kultur lokal« starts in May
- Pop-Kultur happens from 28-30 August 2024 at the Kulturbrauerei



Blumengarten

Pop-Kultur is celebrating its tenth edition this year! While marking this milestone, the Berlin festival is continuing its focus on the pop culture of today and tomorrow.

»A decade on, Pop-Kultur continues its mission of creating a space for music-inspired discourse and for discourse-inspired music. This year, I am looking forward to the international dimension and creative energy of our festival, which pushes the boundaries of pop-cultural possibilities further with each new edition,« says **Marie von der Heydt** in her capacities as interim managing director of Musicboard Berlin and festival director of Pop-Kultur.



Sextile (Credit: Sarah Pardini)

44 acts have already been confirmed, including a certain band that shot to fame in 2023: **Blumengarten**. With disarming vulnerability and honesty, they played a number of sold-out shows last year, even before the release of their debut album. Pop-Kultur audiences can revel in the rock 'n' roll spirit with post-punk legends **A Certain Ratio**, who have been active since 1977. The line-up also includes US-American punk-ravers **Sextile**, New York house and ambient musician **James K**, Kenyan experimental electronic producer **Blinky Bill**, and the American-Belgian newcomer duo **GHOSTWOMAN**, who create a highly danceable garage sound with just guitar and drums.

Indie-rock artist **Ilgen-Nur** will also be performing at Pop-Kultur 2024. This is her third time following her newcomer appearance and *Commissioned Work*. *»It's no mere coincidence that Ilgen-Nur is doing us the honour in our anniversary year – many acts start their careers at Pop-Kultur and remain loyal to the festival afterwards,«* comments festival dramaturge **Christian Morin**, adding, *»This combination of consistency and innovation is very important to us. It's part of the Pop-Kultur festival spirit.«*



Pari Eskandari (Credit: Gunnar Heilmann)

Standing in creative solidarity are **Hope**, who previously participated in »Pop-Kultur Nachwuchs« and played a concert at the festival, and are now returning to contribute a Commissioned Work. The Berlin band, which has previously supported Depeche Mode, is collaborating with British visual artist and environmental activist **Emma Critchley** to take a deep dive with festival goers into endangered underwater worlds. The other Commissioned Works also touch on themes such as mindfulness and self-reflection. Iranian artist **Pari Eskandari**, whose »Chadors« was released on Tricky's label False Idols, for example, is devoted to exploring inner psychological states and worlds – her own as well as those of her family. Video artist **Lillevan**, musician **Schneider TM** and their guests welcome you to the audiovisually immersive »Echo Chamber UTOPIA«, dealing with the uncertain future of the Anthropocene.

The multifaceted nature of Iranian sounds will also be reflected in the live programme. The female duo **Stereotype**, for example, could no longer keep their rebellious industrial sound underground and so decided to emigrate. **Esfand**, meanwhile, combine Iranian folk music and electronic sounds. The music culture of Iran will also be the subject of a Pop-Kultur panel talk.

Things will be getting genre-fluid with **futurbae**, bringing her intoxicating sound. In general, the presence of non-male voices remains strong at this festival edition, especially in the hip-hop department. That includes the Hamburg all-female collective **bangerfabrique**, or the fresh, confrontational lyrics of **OG LU** from Frankfurt.

While applications for the »Goethe Talents« 2024 programme ended on April 2, the next call is arriving. From April 24, any newcomers in the broad field of pop music can again apply for one of 150 spots at this year's »Pop-Kultur Nachwuchs«: the call goes out to musicians, producers, DJs, managers, bookers, label owners, video directors, PR agents and journalists. And to get you in the festival mood ahead of time, the first edition of »Pop-Kultur lokal« will take place in May.

Pop-Kultur 2024 with concerts and Commissioned Works by:

A Certain Ratio / Anushka Chkheidze / Arab Strap / bangerfabrique / Blinky Bill / Blumengarten / Cheap Wedding / Eden Derso / Esfand / EsRAP / EuroEyez / Evija Vēbere / Fee Aviv / futurebae / GHOSTWOMAN / Hope & Emma Critchley (CW) / Ilgen-Nur / Ivo Dimchev / Jaakko Eino Kalevi / James K / Jenys / Kabeaushé / Keeley Forsyth / Lady Donli / Lambrini Girls / Martina Stock / Melenas / MPC Lafote / OG LU / Pari Eskandari (CW) / Pillow Fite / Plattenbau / Rachael Lavelle / Rasco / Rich Aucoin / Schneider TM & Lillevan (CW) / Sextile / Stereotype / Swell Maps C21 / Tarwater / The Morning Stars / VV & The Void / What Are People For? / ZIMBRU

Further live acts will be announced soon.

Pop-Kultur is funded by the Senate Department of Culture and Social Cohesion of the State of Berlin with funds from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) within the program »Strengthening the Innovation Potential in Culture III (INP III)«. Commissioned Works & Pop-Kultur Inter:national are funded by Initiative Musik gemeinnützige Projektgesellschaft mbH with project funds from the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media (BKM). »Goethe Talents« is funded by the Goethe-Institut.



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