

# Pop-Kultur/2024

Press Release from 26th August 2024

10 Years of Pop-Kultur: Join the anniversary edition, happening 28 to 30 August 2024

- More than 100 slots in the programme: Concerts, Commissioned Works & »Pop-Kultur Diskurs«; performances by Yemi Alade, Black Sherif, Christin Nichols, Blumengarten, A Certain Ratio, Ivo Dimchev, Ilgen-Nur, Lambrini Girls, and many more
- Commissioned Works expanded with Martina Stock and Hindsight exhibition; »Pop-Kultur Diskurs« is complete
- The Tiny House project offers dialogue on the grounds of the Kulturbrauerei
- Claudia Roth, Minister of State for Culture and the Media, opens Pop-Kultur



from left to right:  
Yemi Alade, Lambrini Girls, Ivo Dimchev

The tenth edition of Berlin's Pop-Kultur kicks off this Wednesday. From 28 to 30 August 2024, the festival invites you to the Kulturbrauerei to celebrate and discuss all facets of pop culture. Artists from numerous countries have confirmed their appearance, including pop greats such as **Yemi Alade**, **A Certain Ratio**, **Black Sherif**, **Christin Nichols**, **Arab Strap**, **Blumengarten**, **Ivo Dimchev**, and **Ilgen-Nur**. In addition to live concerts, Pop-Kultur will also be premiering 15 Commissioned Works. Furthermore, »Pop-Kultur Diskurs« offers a wide-ranging programme of talks and readings, while the »Pop-Kultur Nachwuchs« participants and the Goethe Talents will hone their skills. To mark its tenth anniversary, Pop-Kultur is looking back, but also looking ahead: The festival will be honoured in an exhibition, a quiz, and various talks.

**Claudia Roth**, Minister of State for Culture and the Media, emphasises the importance of the festival:

*»Pop-Kultur Berlin brings together artists from a variety of genres and countries and has become a symbol of cultural diversity and artistic innovation.«*

This year, there is a special »Focus on Africa«, supported by Kulturprojekte Berlin. With acclaimed African pop stars such as **Yemi Alade**, **Black Sherif**, **Lady Donli**, and **Blinky Bill**, programme team member **Pamela Owusu-Brenyah** is bringing the musical diversity of the African continent to Berlin. She has booked further exciting acts, **Blumengarten** and **Rachael Lavelle**, whose careers are just taking off. The curation of her programme colleague **Yeşim Duman**, meanwhile, focuses on the pioneering work of post-migrant and queer artists. Among the acts she is bringing to the festival are Austrian sibling duo **EsRap** with their ironic and captivating lyrics, the electronic style of **James K**, and the punk attitude of the **Lambrini Girls**. Duman has curated the open-access Çaystube, a Commissioned Work and safer space on site, where **Olympia Bukkakis** and her friends will be hosting a wild karaoke session. **Christian Morin**, the third member of the programme team, has invited veterans such as **A Certain Ratio** and post-punk duo **The KVB** as well as exceptional talents like **Anushka Chkheidze** from Georgia and newcomer **Kabeaushé** from Kenya. He has also selected neo-harpist **Martina Stock** - her high-tech Commissioned Work fuses classical harp sounds with electronic music, as well as light, mirrors, and movement.

Christian Morin is not only a curator - he has also been helping shape Pop-Kultur as a festival dramaturge. The genesis of Pop-Kultur Berlin will be put under the microscope in three talks to mark the anniversary. Pop-Kultur founder and former festival director **Katja Lucker**, now the managing director of Initiative Musik, will reflect on past festival editions foregoing nostalgia, joined by **Jens Balzer**. Taking a decisive look ahead, meanwhile, will be a panel consisting of **Katrine Friis Sønderby** (Spot Festival), **Muthoni Drummer Queen** (Blankets & Wine), and **Kristoffer Patrick Cornils** (moderator), discussing the future of festivals from an international perspective. **Norman Palm** and **Alexander Winkelmann** from **fertig design** will explain the creation of the formative festival »artvertising« campaigns with their cute creatures or utopian worlds, now decorating many living room walls. In the Hindsight exhibition, visitors can not only marvel at posters from the last ten years, but also browse through the digital works created during the pandemic as well as the Inkluthek, the music video library with accessible music clips and deaf performances commissioned by the festival. A pop quiz hosted by **Yvonne Sembene** will round off the anniversary focus.

Further talks have been confirmed for the »Pop-Kultur Diskurs« programme. Two of them will take place in the context of the »Heavy Metal in der DDR« exhibition at the Museum in der Kulturbrauerei: **Robert Mießner** and **Vincent Bababouilabo** will speak with **Sandra Teitge** about the existence and disappearance of music cultures in the GDR after reunification in »Echos musikalischer Erinnerungen aus der DDR«, and **Luca Schuldt** and **Lukas Juretko** will join Julia Boxler for »Metal im ›Osten‹: Fantum, Rechtsrock, Gatekeeping und Gender«.



»Festivals, Events und DisCo (disabled community): Wie sind die Infrastrukturen?«  
from left to right:

Martin Vahemäe-Zierold, Xenia Dürr, Inna Shparber, and Ulrich Hartmann

»Festivals, Events und DisCo (disabled community): Wie sind die Infrastrukturen?« will address festival infrastructures with performance artist **Inna Shparber** (who contributed a deaf performance as a Commissioned Work at Pop-Kultur 2023), artist/photographer **Xenia Dürr**, and **Martin Vahemäe-Zierold**, the district office worker responsible for queerness and anti-discrimination. The talk will be hosted by **Ulrich Hartmann** aka **Ulla**, who is also realising a Commissioned Work for this year's festival. Other practical festival issues are on the agenda with the talk »Menstruation hört auf einem Festival nicht auf«: **Franka Frei**, **Katharina Müller**, **Lena Olvedi**, and **Rike van Kleef** will be joined by experts from the worlds of culture and business to discuss ways to better consider menstruation at festivals. Three talks are dedicated to current and emerging challenges in the music industry. In »KI – Chance oder Risiko?«, **Claudia Schwarz** (Music Tech Germany), the forward-thinking feminist pop artist **FLOSS**, and **Marina Guz** (Endel) will address the accelerating technological developments in AI. For »Releases & Strategies mit **Amy Zayed**«, Zayed has invited label owner **Anton Teichmann** and musicians **Denitza Todorova** (DENA) and **John Moods** to talk about the best approaches to releasing music in the age of streaming. And once again, radio station and Pop-Kultur media partner Deutschlandfunk Kultur is hosting a live podcast at the festival: for an episode of »Lakonisch Elegant«, **Christine Watty** will talk to **Jorin Zschesche**, **Steffi von Kannemann**, **MC Fitti**, and **Johanna Amelie** about the difficulty of reconciling parenthood with everyday life in the music business in »Kinder, ich muss kreativ sein! – Parenthood in Music«.

This year, exchange and dialogue will also take place outside of the main Pop-Kultur programme at the Kulturbrauerei: The festival has invited social entrepreneur and activist **Shai Hoffmann** with his Tiny House project »Über Israel und Palästina sprechen«, based on his podcast of the same name as well as his dialogue project for schools. Together with **Zakariyya Meißner**, a Palestinian German, Shai Hoffmann – managing director of the non-profit organisation Gesellschaft im Wandel – will spend three days talking to visitors and passers-by about their thoughts, feelings and opinions on the conflict in the Middle East in an intimate, moderated, and multi-perspective setting. The discussion aims to promote a diversity of opinions, mutual listening, and understanding. The Tiny House will be open from 7:00 PM to midnight on all three days of the festival.

#### **Opening & Events on 28 August 2024**

The evening will be opened musically by the duo **Twin Flame**: K.ZIA and Sedric Perry offer a spiritual sound combining influences from Afrobeats, amapiano, soul, and R&B. Afterwards, **Claudia Roth**, Minister of State for Culture and the Media; **Sarah Wedl-Wilson**, State Secretary for Culture of the Senate Department for Culture and Social Cohesion; **Katja Lucker**, Managing Director of Initiative Musik; and **Marie von der Heydt**, Interim Managing Director of Musicboard Berlin GmbH and Festival Director of Pop-Kultur will speak. In addition, the programme team – **Yeşim Duman**, **Christian Morin**, and **Pamela Owusu-Brenyah** – will introduce this year's diverse Pop-Kultur line-up.

On the opening day, **Hope & Emma Critchley** will immerse Pop-Kultur visitors acoustically and visually in impressive underwater worlds with their Commissioned Work »Navel«. There will also be concerts by **Kabeaushé** from Kenya, legendary Manchester band **A Certain Ratio**, who will be making a rare appearance at Pop-Kultur in the 47th year of their band history, and the Tamil-Swiss rising star **Priya Ragu**. The anniversary events celebrating »10 Years of Pop-Kultur« will also begin on Wednesday.

The »Pop-Kultur Nachwuchs« programme will have an exclusive opening on Wednesday with **Sorry the Hedgehog** and **505**. On Thursday and Friday, all festival visitors will have the opportunity to experience the »Pop-Kultur Nachwuchs« acts **Daada**, **Schnallo**, and **Sloe Noon** live in the Frantz Garten. Meanwhile, the **Goethe Talents** will perform both in solo and group configurations in a jam session on Thursday, and you will have another chance to see them after the festival on Saturday, 31 August 2024 at ACUD MACHT NEU.

#### **With Concerts and DJ Sets from:**

505 / A Certain Ratio / Anni Porrasmäki (DJ-Set) / Anushka Chkheidze / Arab Strap / bangerfabrique / Bashar Murad / Black Boboi trifft Rosa Anschutz & Eddna (Tokyo-Berlin Residency) / Black Sherif / Blinky Bill / Blumengarten / Cheap Wedding / Daada / douniah / Eden Derso / Emo Rugene (DJ-Set) / Esfand / EsRAP / EuroEyez / Evija Vēbere / Fee Aviv / futurebae / FÜR ELISE / Gaye Su Akyol / Goethe Talents Jam-up / GHOSTWOMAN / hotgirl / Ilgen-Nur / Ivo Dimchev / Jaakko Eino Kalevi / James K / Jenys / Kabeaushé / Keeley Forsyth / Krista Papista (DJ-Set) / Lady

Donli / Lambrini Girls / Levente (DJ-Set) / LUCIDVOX / Mary Ocher / Melenas / MOLHAM / MPC Lafote / Ms Nina / Neta Weiner und Samira Saraya (System Ali) & Hoyah (Tel Aviv-Berlin Residency) / OG LU / Olympia Bukkakis & Friends / Pillow Fite / Plattenbau / Priya Ragu / Rachael Lavelle / Rasco / Rich Aucoin / Sam Karugu & Luna Vassarotti (Kampala-Berlin Residency) / Schnallo / Sextile / Sinem / Shawescape Renegade & Sara Miller (Detroit-Berlin Residency) / Sloe Noon / Sorry the Hedgehog / Stereotype / Susan Augustt & Dumama (Accra-Berlin Residency) / Swell Maps C21 / Tarwater / Taylah Elaine / The KVB / The Morning Stars / Twin Flame / VÍZ / VV & The Void / What Are People For? / Zebra Katz / ZIMBRU / Zuzanna Czebatul (DJ-Set)

**With Commissioned Works from:**

21 downbeat / Christin Nichols / »MY CIRCLE« - Dance Battle / Hope & Emma Critchley / Künstler\*innenkollektiv parallelgesellschaft + Philo Tsoungui / Martina Stock / Melanie Jame Wolf & friends / Otis Mensah / Pari Eskandari / Schneider TM & Lillevan + guests / Steve Mekoudja / Ulla / »HINDSIGHT - Ausstellung 10 Jahre Pop-Kultur«

**With Talks and Readings from:**

10 Jahre Pop-Kultur: »10 Jahre Artvertising«: Norman Palm, Alexander Winkelmann / 10 Jahre Pop-Kultur: »Pop-Kultur: Wie alles begann ...«: Katja Lucker, Jens Balzer / 10 Jahre Pop-Kultur: »The Future of Festivals - An International Perspective«: Katrine Friis Sønderby, Muthoni Drummer Queen, Mod.: Kristoffer Patrick Cornils / »Echos musikalischer Erinnerungen aus der DDR«: Vincent Bababoutilabo, Robert Mießner, Mod.: Sandra Teitge / »Festivals, Events und DisCo (disabled community): Wie sind die Infrastrukturen?«: Martin Vahemäe-Zierold, Xenia Dürr, Inna Shparber, Mod.: Ulrich Hartmann / »Inkarnation und Intuition: Inszenierung von rechter Esoterik«: Talk mit Fashion The Gaze / »KI - Chance oder Risiko?«: FLOSS, Marina Guz, Mod.: Claudia Schwarz / Kulturpodcast »Lakonisch Elegant« meets Pop-Kultur: Kinder, ich muss kreativ sein! - Parenthood in music: Jorin Zschesche, Steffi von Kannemann, MC Fitti, Johanna Amelie, Mod.: Christine Watty / »Menstruation hört auf einem Festival nicht auf«: Franka Frei, Lena Olvedi, Katharina Müller, Mod.: Rike van Kleef / »Metal im ›Osten‹, Fantum, Rechtsrock, Gatekeeping und Gender«: Lukas Juretko, Luca Schuldt, Mod.: Julia Boxler / »Poptism - Remembrance in Music Culture«: Ariel Efraim Ashbel, Imran Ayata, Sanaz Azimipour, Mod.: Carmen Herold / »Releases & Strategies mit Amy Zayed«: Anton Teichmann, Denitza Todorova, John Moods, Mod.: Amy Zayed / Row Zero: Gewalt und Machtmissbrauch in der Musikindustrie Lesung & Talk mit Lena Kampf und Daniel Drepper / »Sounds of the Revolution«: Bahar Roshanai & Matthias Koch / »Testcard - Rechtspop: Über rechtsradikale Memes und rechte Frauen in der Popkultur«: Viola Nordsieck, Veronika Kracher, Mod.: Ariana Zustra / »What Do You Meme By?« mit Sveamaus & Galerie Arschgeweih, Mod.: Yvonne Sembene / »Wir sind die Türken von morgen«: Lesung mit Ulrich Gutmair

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Press Contacts Marie Ketzscher Ines Weißbach E-Mail [press@pop-kultur.berlin](mailto:press@pop-kultur.berlin)  
Website <https://www.pop-kultur.berlin> Press Area [www.pop-kultur.berlin/press/](http://www.pop-kultur.berlin/press/)