

RUHRTRIENNALE

FESTIVAL DER KÜNSTE _____ 2021

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Ruhrtriennale 2021 Status 20/09/2021

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01 PRESS RELEASE

Ruhrtriennale ends on 25 September. Festival team looks back with satisfaction on the first edition under new artistic direction

Bochum, 20/09/2021 – Shortly before the end of this year's Ruhrtriennale on 25 September, the team around the new artistic director and theatre director Barbara Frey looks back on the festival with satisfaction. "The desire for an intensive and artistically inspiring experience has come true for us," stated Barbara Frey, artistic director of the Ruhrtriennale 2021-2023, in a preliminary assessment. "We were able to realise - despite the dynamics of the ongoing pandemic - an international festival of the arts with artists from a variety of countries as well as the region. The public's longing for art that can be experienced directly was also reflected in the high demand for tickets and was a great pleasure for us. I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to our audience, the artists and the entire team in equal measure for the trust they have placed in us."

Events in the final week of the festival for which tickets are still available include Perera Elsewhere's pop concert on 23 September and the concert "Fumeux Fume" with the Huelgas Ensemble on 24 and 25 September. Anyone who was unable to purchase tickets for the sold-out "Nachtraum" concert on 25 September will have the opportunity to listen to the event on WDR 3 at a later date.

In addition, the following exhibits will be open until the end of the festival - and all of them are an invitation to linger, like the **Pappelwaldkantine** and the **Festival Library** in front of the Jahrhunderthalle Bochum: "**21 – Erinnerungen ans Erwachsenwerden**" (21 – Memories of Growing Up) by the artist Mats Staub shows a century in moving portraits and can be seen in its imposing size in the Turbinenhalle at the Jahrhunderthalle Bochum. Created on different continents, the filmed memories from the beginning of the Second World War to the outbreak of the Coronavirus pandemic have been supplemented by further stories of eleven people from the Ruhr area.

As a contribution to this year's Ruhrtriennale, Urbane Künste Ruhr invites you to the installation "**Absorption**" in the former Allbauhaus in Essen's city centre until 25 September. The work by US-American Asad Raza convinces with a great sensual power and is based on the cultivation of earth. During the exhibition, a team of "Cultivators" will be on site to filter the earth, break it down into its components, analyse it and remix it under scientific supervision. The new soil will be given to visitors, allotment garden associations and social institutions.

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Beyond the venues, free of charge, mostly in the fresh air and around the clock, by tram, bicycle or on foot, alone or together, regional artists invite us to discover the paths between the venues of the Ruhrtriennale in Bochum, Duisburg, Essen and Gelsenkirchen. The only thing you need for the "**Wege**" project: a smartphone and headphones.

The Ruhrtriennale 2021 creates extended access to art **with various digital offers** until the end of the festival. One artistic project can still be experienced exclusively digitally: "Aparición", translated as "Appearance", by Regina José Galindo. The performative work by the Guatemalan artist, continued as a commissioned work of the Ruhrtriennale in the Ruhr area, draws attention to the high number of murders of women and domestic violence against women.

The musical theatre "Bählamms Fest", which - in great demand - could be experienced in the Jahrhunderthalle Bochum until 22 August, is available via **video-on-demand**. Fritz Hauser's concert "Point Line Area" with several dozen percussionists can also be experienced as video-on-demand, as can the image-rich docufictional play "La Luna en el Amazonas" by Mapa Teatro.

Furthermore, seven recordings of Ruhrtriennale events were made in cooperation with the **ARD Radio Festival and Kulturradio WDR 3 as part of the WDR 3 cultural partnership**: The concerts with the Trio Full Blast around the saxophone legend Peter Brötzmann, "Stil ist Gewalttat" with the Ensemble Modern as well as "Visionary Architects" of the Bochumer Symphoniker can be listened to in the ARD Audiothek and via the festival website at www.ardradiofestival.de. Those who missed the dialogue series "Die Natur des Menschen" (Human Nature) can listen to the astute guests – expertly presented by the writer Lukas Bärfuss – on the podcast "WDR 3 Forum" at www.wdr3.de.

Shortly before the end of the six-week festival, an overall **occupancy rate of almost 90 percent** is expected. With around 20,000 tickets issued and a further 40,000 users of the digital audio and video services as well as free admission formats at various venues, around 60,000 people attended this year's Ruhrtriennale.

The programme, which was planned with foresight, did not experience any significant coronavirus-related changes since its publication in May and could be carried out in compliance with the pandemic rules. In particular, the graduated package of measures contained in a qualified hygiene concept, developed together with the responsible authorities and the Hochschule für Gesundheit in Bochum, enabled the festival to act flexibly in the face of the pandemic dynamics.

Dr. Vera Battis-Reese, managing director of Kultur Ruhr GmbH, is very satisfied. "We are very pleased that around 60,000 people were able to experience the Ruhrtrien-

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nale programme under the new artistic directorship of Barbara Frey. We are extremely grateful to our many partners, our supporters and the entire team for making this outstanding festival possible in a special year."

Barbara Frey and her artistic team interrogated contemporary fault lines, unsettled historical constructions of identity, collective and individual memory, the ghosts and restless dead, and humanity's relationship to nature. The Ruhrtriennale 2021 is the first edition under the directorship of the Swiss theatre director. The annual festival of the arts, domiciled in nine venues in the cities of Bochum, Duisburg, Essen and Gladbeck from 14 August to 25 September 2021, celebrated a programme spanning the intersections of music theatre, concert, drama, dance, performance, installation, literature and dialogue, complemented by digital offerings.

The Ruhrtriennale 2021 comprised 37 productions and projects, including eleven in-house and co-productions. With eight world premieres, five German premieres and four adaptations from the programme of the Ruhrtriennale 2020, the internationally oriented festival invited its audience to a wide variety of artistic experiences in a total of 114 events. More than 600 artists from around 30 countries were involved.

Details of the programme and background information on the content can be found **in the magazine** at www.ruhr3.com/magazine and in the **festival catalogue** with a photo series by the artist Tobias Zielony commissioned by the Ruhrtriennale.

Please use this information for editorial purposes and feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Kind regards

Angela Vucko
For the Press Office Team

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02 FACTS

The Ruhrtriennale 2021 comprised

- 37 productions and projects, including 11 in-house and co-productions as well as 8 world premieres, 5 German premieres and 4 transfers from the programme of the Ruhrtriennale 2020
- 114 events
- at 9 venues in the cities of Bochum, Essen, Duisburg and Gladbeck
- with more than 600 artists from around 30 countries
- With around 20,000 tickets issued, a total capacity utilisation of almost 90 percent is forecast.
- Around 40,000 visits to the digital offerings and free admission formats on site are expected by the end of the festival.

11 IN-HOUSE AND CO-PRODUCTIONS (listed chronologically based on performance dates)

"Morning Choir" Chris Watson in "Konzert im Morgengrauen"

"The Life Work" Mette Ingvarsen / Installation, Performance

"Der Untergang des Hauses Usher" Edgar Allan Poe, Barbara Frey / Theatre

"Bählamms Fest"

Olga Neuwirth, Leonora Carrington, Elfriede Jelinek / Music Theatre

"L'Étang" Gisèle Vienne / Theatre

"A Divine Comedy" Florentina Holzinger / Dance

"D • I • E" Michael Wertmüller, Albert Oehlen, Rainald Goetz / Music Theatre

"CASCADE" Meg Stuart, Philippe Quesne, Brendan Dougherty / Dance

"Los Años" Mariano Pensotti / Theatre

"Wege" / includes audio walks in public spaces

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8 WORLD PREMIERES

"Morning Choir" Chris Watson in "Konzert im Morgengrauen"

"The Life Work" Mette Ingvarsen / Installation Performance

"Der Untergang des Hauses Usher" Edgar Allan Poe, Barbara Frey / Theatre

"D • I • E" Michael Wertmüller, Albert Oehlen, Rainald Goetz / Music Theatre

"A Divine Comedy" Florentina Holzinger / Dance, Performance

"Point Line Area" Fritz Hauser / Concert

"Los Años" Mariano Pensotti / Theatre

"La Luna en el Amazonas" Mapa Teatro / Theatre

5 GERMAN PREMIERES

"Die Toten" James Joyce, Barbara Frey / Theatre

"CASCADE" Meg Stuart, Philippe Quesne, Brendan Dougherty / Dance

"The History of Photography in Sound" "Michael Finnissy / Concert

"GROSSE STIMMUNG" Edu Haubensak / Concert

"tränseö" Ragnhild Berstad in "Nachtraum" / Concert

4 ADAPTATIONS FROM THE RUHRTRIENNALE 2020 PROGRAM

"CASCADE" German premiere
Meg Stuart, Philippe Quesne, Brendan Dougherty / Dance

"Elias"
Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy, Conductor Florian Helgath / Concert

"Los Años" World premiere / Mariano Pensotti / Theatre

"GROSSE STIMMUNG" German premiere / Edu Haubensak / Concert

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4 EVENTS THAT OFFER FREE ADMISSION

"Absorption" Asad Raza / Installation

"Wege" Concept: Aljoscha Begrich, with Anna Kpok, RUHRORTER, Stefan Schneider, tehran:public, loekenfranke, peng! Collective / Public Space Project

"Pappelwaldkantine" at the Jahrhunderthalle Bochum

Festival Library at the Jahrhunderthalle Bochum

DIGITAL OFFERS

Two artistic projects were conceived exclusively digitally: "**Aparición**" by Regina José Galindo, whose actions in public space will be documented on site on the Ruhrtriennale website until the end of the festival, and the interactive zoom performance "**Unterscheidet euch!**" by Turbo Pascal as part of the Junge Triennale.

VIDEO (chronologically)

"**Bählamms Fest**" as video on demand from 23/08 at www.ruhrtriennale.de

Svetlana Maraš & Peter Evans as livestream on 25/08 at www.ruhrtriennale.de

"**Point Line Area**" as Livestream on 18/09 and as video on demand from 20/09 at www.ruhrtriennale.de

"**La Luna en el Amazonas**" as video on demand from 19/09 at www.ruhrtriennale.de

AUDIO (chronologically)

The concert with **Full Blast** can be accessed as a compilation of "**Stil ist Gewalttat**" and "**Visionary Architects**" at www.ardradiofestival.de.

"**Nachtraum**" will be recorded by WDR for radio and broadcast at a later date in "WDR 3 Konzert". www.wdr3.de.

The three-part dialogue series on human nature directed by Lukas Bärfuss, recorded for WDR 3 Forum in cooperation with the cultural radio station WDR 3 as part of the WDR 3 cultural partnerships, available at www.wdr3.de.

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A variety of **play introductions and conversations** are available as continuously supplemented audio offerings at www.ruhrtriennale.de.

LOCATIONS AND PERFORMANCE VENUES

BOCHUM Jahrhunderthalle Bochum, Turbine Hall and surrounding premises

DUISBURG Kraftzentrale and Gebläsehalle, Landschaftspark Duisburg North

ESSEN

Salzlager, UNESCO World Heritage Zollverein
Museum Folkwang
PACT Zollverein
Former Allbauhaus

GLADBECK Maschinehalle Zweckel

TICKETING

ONLINE www.ruhrtriennale.de; BY PHONE AT +49 (0) 221 280-210, Mon – Fri 8 AM to 8 PM / Sat 9 AM – 6 PM / Sun 10 AM – 4 PM.

Combination ticket: The admission tickets are valid for the entire public transportation system Rhine-Ruhr (VRR) throughout the day of the event on all buses and regional transportation trains (2nd class) for travel to and from the event location. The tickets are non-transferable.

Deine Triennale! (Your Triennale Passes): Children / school and university students (up to 30 years of age) receive a discount of 50 % upon presentation of relevant documentation.

Last Minute Tickets are available to children, school and university students (up to 30 years of age) starting 30 minutes prior to the event start time for EUR 10; subject to availability. These discounts are also in effect for federal volunteer workers, apprentices and out of work individuals. This discount cannot be combined with the early reservations discount.

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03 SPONSORS / SUPPORTERS / PARTNERSHIPS

The Ruhrtriennale would like to express its special gratitude to our sponsors and friends of the Ruhrtriennale. If it were not for their generous support, the festival would not be able to implement such an ambitious program. Their assistance enables the Ruhrtriennale to enjoy the freedom of realizing ideas and to create a place of extraordinary artistic productions and experiences.

SHAREHOLDERS AND SPONSORS

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Kultur und Wissenschaft
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FESTIVAL
2021

WDR 3

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WAZ

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DIE ZEIT

MEDIA PARTNERSHIPS

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COOPERATIVE AND NETWORK PARTNERSHIPS

The Ruhrtriennale 2021–2023 is a partner of the action network Nachhaltigkeit in Kultur und Medien (Sustainability in Culture and Media), which is supported by the German Federal Government's Commissioner for Culture and Media.

Bochum Marketing / Proust Book Store / Kultur.Pott Ruhr / Museum Folkwang / Publicity Werbung GmbH / Ruhr Tourismus GmbH / Zollverein Foundation / RuhrBühnen / Ströer Media.

04 PRESS RELATIONS

MEDIA SUPPORT CENTER ON THE WEBSITE

A media folder, which, among other things, provides brief copy on all events is available in PDF format for download from www.ruhrtriennale.de/presse. In the media support area you will also find a selection of print ready photographs that are available without paying a licensing fee.

Please talk to us!

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