

Pop-Kultur/2019

Press Release: 27th of August 2019, Berlin

A festival for everyone: the fifth edition of Pop-Kultur attracted 10,000 visitors to the Berliner Kulturbrauerei for performances from the likes of **CocoRosie**, **Station 17**, **молчат дома (Molchat Doma)**, **alyona alyona**, **Mykki Blanco**, **Planningtorock** and **Anna Calvi** as well as various Pop-Kultur commissioned works by **Lisa Morgenstern**, **Ilgen-Nur**, **Janto Djassi Roessner**, **Rosaceae**, **KlitClique** and **21 Downbeat** feat. **Jens Friebe**.

Over 100 concerts, DJ sets, talks, screenings, readings and exhibitions took place from the 21st to the 23rd of August, led by Katja Lucker, the Managing Director of Musicboard Berlin, and curated by Martin Hossback and Christian Morin. **Pop-Hayat**, the commissioned work by **Yeşim Duman**, once again gathered artists from various worlds of pop music to take the stage, create installations and exhibitions and host talks, from right within the accessible courtyard of the Kulturbrauerei.



Mykki Blanco © Christoph Mangler

Pop-Kultur enables local and international artists to develop and present new works – free from the constraints of the industry. “Precise with the interest of artists in mind, we continue to work on realising artistic and discursive stimuli outside of market trends, making genre-transcending experiments possible. This simply wouldn’t be attainable without the support we have received from the federal government over the past three years. That’s why we are hoping that funding will be granted further for the coming years,” emphasises **Katja Lucker**.

Additionally, the festival has firmly established itself as a platform for strategies of inclusion. “We’ve been able to bring a number of successful measures to life that push societal progress in terms of inclusion and participation within

pop culture,” says **Christian Morin**. Many artists also stress the importance of the festival, which has always been focussed on the interdependencies between art and society: “This festival is so beautiful – inclusive and diverse! We need more events like this one in Germany,” said **Pedro Goncalves Crescenti** onstage, in the same breath thanking **Laura M. Schwengber** for providing simultaneous sign-language translation of his commissioned work with **International Music & The Dorf**.



21 Downbeat feat. Jens Friebe: »Der Ring« © Andi Weiland

The »Pop-Kultur Nachwuchs« workshop programme for newcomers, which runs parallel to the festival, and the »Goethe Talents« programme received 1,502 applications and 250 participants from 77 countries, a bigger resonance than ever before. “Bringing together younger talents and established greats, such as CocoRosie and Stephen Morris from Joy Division and New Order, promotes intergenerational dialogue and inspiration. We are helping new networks to form via mutual exchange that everyone can only benefit from,” concludes **Martin Hossbach**.

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