

RUHRTRIENNALE

FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS _____ 2023

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Ruhrtriennale 2023

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01 PRESS RELEASE

The Ruhrtriennale 2023 ends on September 23. Barbara Frey bids farewell with a positive report of the Ruhrtriennale 2021–2023

Bochum, 21.09.2023 – Together with her artistic team, Barbara Frey, artistic director of the Ruhrtriennale 2021–23, looks positively at her third and last edition. Shortly before the end of the annual festival of the arts on September 23, she sums up: "It was a great pleasure for us to be able to create a festival of this scope, size and importance with such a large number of participants. I would like to thank our audience, the incredibly inspiring artists from all over the world and the region, the supporters, and the team of all employees. We are delighted that the festival has been received so well as a place to come together. So many unique things have been created through numerous site-specific commissions, through both large-scale and intimate productions, through the encounters and artistic involvement of people from the region! Artistic work is community work, and for me, success has a lot to do with successful exchange."

Until **Saturday, September 23, 2023**, the Ruhrtriennale will present art in the former industrial monuments of the Metropole Ruhr in the cities of Bochum, Dortmund, Duisburg, and Essen. The annual festival at the interfaces of music theatre, theatre, concert, dance, visual arts, literature and film offered diverse approaches to art in these special venues. This year's Ruhrtriennale is the third edition of Swiss director Barbara Frey's three-year artistic directorship. This year's festival presented 34 productions and projects in 113 events, including 13 in-house and co-productions, five world premieres, one European and eight German premieres, and involved more than 600 artists from over 35 countries.

Shortly before the end of the almost seven-week Ruhrtriennale, an **overall capacity rate of around 86 percent** is expected. Around 31.000 tickets were sold and a further 30.000 people attended the free events, bringing the total number of visitors for this year's festival to around 61.000.

Dr. Vera Battis-Reese, managing director of Kultur Ruhr GmbH, has a positive verdict as well: "The Ruhrtriennale 2023 was fully successful. We are delighted with the outstanding productions and sold-out performances, including numerous highlights such as 'Ein Sommernachtstraum' directed by artistic director Barbara Frey, 'Skatepark' by choreographer Mette Ingvarsten, 'Abendlob und Morgenglanz' with Chorwerk Ruhr under the direction of Florian Helgath or 'Aus einem Totenhaus' directed by Dmitri Tcherniakov. Looking back on the three festival editions under the directorship of Barbara Frey, we have experienced art at the highest level, three years that have always been inspiring and have had a remarkable brilliance, despite the great challenges facing

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society. I would like to sincerely thank Barbara Frey, the dramaturges, the entire team and all our supporters.”

The events of the last week of the festival, for which tickets are still available, include the large-scale concert "Play Big!" on Thursday September 21 and Friday September 22 in Bochum and the touching performance "Die Möglichkeit von Zärtlichkeit" on Thursday September 21 in Essen. Furthermore, the installations "Jetzt & Jetzt" and "My Body Is Not An Island" invite to Bochum and Duisburg. The last of the three "Wege"-projects, "¿Dónde Estamos?", leads visitors on a walk through Essen on Wednesday, September 20, Thursday, September 21 and Saturday, September 23. The documentary film "We Are All Detroit", which has won numerous awards, concludes the retrospective about the work of the loekenfranke film collective on Saturday September 23 in Bochum.

The Pappelwaldkantine is open until Saturday September 23, including the festival library next to the Jahrhunderthalle Bochum under the poplar trees - planted by Jürgen Flimm during his time as artistic director of the Ruhrtriennale in 2006.

Big band and symphony orchestra come together in the Jahrhunderthalle Bochum for "**Play Big!**": Sofia Gubaidulina takes her audience through whimsical, psychedelic landscapes in "Revuemusik". Composer Michael Wertmüller ignites a virtuoso "Shlimazl" in a world premiere with the NDR Bigband and Sinfonietta Basel, along with two international jazz soloists. Simon Steen-Andersen then takes it to the extreme and turns, together with Chorwerk Ruhr, the sonic duo into a "TRIO", complemented by a gigantic video screen on which he creates loops and collages of Beethoven, Handel, Strauss and Swing to form a time machine.

"**Die Möglichkeit von Zärtlichkeit**" by Teatro La Re-sentida led by Chilean director Marco Layera is dedicated to the multi-layered attributions of masculinity. Developed together with seven young actors, the visually powerful and fast-paced production focuses on questions of expectation and the consolidation of attributions and is aimed at everyone from the age of 14.

Until Saturday, September 23, the installation "**Jetzt & Jetzt**" by Mats Staub, located in the Turbinenhalle at the Jahrhunderthalle in Bochum, has 100 people looking at two moments of their lives between 2021 and 2023 and the growth process in between through conversation recordings and life-size video portraits. "**My Body Is Not an Island**" by Eva Kořátková, a contribution to Ruhrtriennale by Urbane Künste Ruhr, invites visitors to a walk-in world of experience in the Kulturkirche Liebfrauen in Duisburg until Saturday September 23.

In the last of three "Wege" projects, Argentinian urban explorer Gaby Blanco takes us on a two-hour walk through Essen under the title "**¿Dónde Estamos?**", focusing on

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the theme of working in the mining industry. The retrospective about the work of the documentary film collective loekenfranke ends with the presentation of the award-winning film "**We Are All Detroit**" at the Metropolis Cinema in Bochum, where the film takes a closer look at Bochum and Detroit, both cities that faced major challenges after the departure of the car industry.

The events were accompanied by **digital activities**, including concert recordings and podcasts in cooperation with media partnerships as well as audio introductions to many productions. Four radio recordings were made in collaboration with the German public radio broadcasters **NDR** and **WDR**, among others as part of the WDR 3 cultural partnership. The broadcast dates of both the dialogue series "Natur des Menschen" led by author Lukas Bärfuss and the concert recording of "Play Big!" have not yet been determined.

The **festival catalogue 2023**, which contains more than 220 pages, invites the reader to explore the programme and its guiding principles through a wealth of images and text and is also available after the festival as a free download and in print. Beginning with Barbara Frey's first season, the Ruhrtriennale commissioned artists to present their perspectives on the Ruhr region and its people. The results were used both for the image sections of the catalogue and as key visuals for the communication campaigns. The photos were taken by **Tobias Zielony** in 2021 and **Mischa Leinkauf** in 2022. In 2023, the collective **loekenfranke**, which works in Witten near Bochum, focused on groups of people and their view of nature.

With the end of the Ruhrtriennale under the artistic directorship of Barbara Frey, the official handover of the **festival library** to the Bochum public library will take place on Monday, 25 September at 4 pm: More than 100 books – brought as gifts to the Ruhr region by a large number of the invited international artists – will be presented on the upper floor of the central library during a public event.

Yours sincerely

Angela Vucko

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02 FACTS

Ruhrtriennale 2023: Thu August 10 – Sat September 23 with

- **34** productions and projects, with **13** in-house and co-productions, **5** world premieres, **1** European, **8** German premieres and
- **4** projects with free admission in **113** events
- in **12** different venues in **4** cities: Bochum, Dortmund, Duisburg and Essen
- and more than **600** artists from over **35** countries.
- With around **31.000** sold tickets and a further **30.000** people attending the free events the overall capacity rate is estimated at around **86 percent**

13 IN-HOUSE AND CO-PRODUCTIONS (chronological)

- **„Ein Sommernachtstraum“** William Shakespeare / Barbara Frey / Martin Zehetgruber / Burgtheater Wien / Theatre / from 10.08.
- **„Die Erdfabrik“** Georges Aperghis / Jean-Christophe Bailly / Music Theatre / from 11.08.
- **„Skatepark“** Mette Ingvarsen / Dance / from 12.08.
- **„Wege“** / Performances, walks, encounters in public space / from 12.08.
- **„EXTRA LIFE“** Gisèle Vienne / Theatre / from 16.08.
- **„Jetzt & Jetzt“** Mats Staub / Installation / 24.08. – 23.09.
- **Schlagzeugmarathon** with Marilyn Mazur / Billy Cobham / Mohammad Reza Mortazavi and many more / Concert / 26.08.
- **„Aus einem Totenhaus“** Leoš Janáček / Dmitri Tcherniakov / Dennis Russell Davies / Bochumer Symphoniker / Chor of the Janáček-Opera of Brno National Theatre / Music Theatre / from 31.08.
- **„Le Jardin des délices“** / **„Der Garten der Lüste“** Philippe Quesne / Vivarium Studio / Theatre / from 07.09.
- **„The Visitors“** Constanza Macras / Dorkypark / Dance / from 09.09.
- **„La posibilidad de la ternura“** / **„Die Möglichkeit von Zärtlichkeit“** Marco Laya / Teatro La Re-Sentida / Theatre / from 14.09.
- **„Aufzeichnungen aus dem Kellerloch“** Fjodor Dostojewski / Barbara Frey / Bettina Meyer / Nina Hoss / Alex Silva / Theatre / from 20.09.
- **„Play Big!“** Sofia Gubaidulina / Michael Wertmüller / Simon Steen-Andersen / Titus Engel / Basel Sinfonietta / NDR Bigband / Chorwerk Ruhr / Concert / from 21.09.

5 WORLD PREMIERES (chronological)

- **„Die Erdfabrik“** Georges Aperghis / Jean-Christophe Bailly / Music Theatre / from 11.08.
- **„EXTRA LIFE“** Gisèle Vienne / Theatre / from 16.08.

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- „**Jetzt & Jetzt**“ Mats Staub / Installation / 24.08. – 23.09.
- „**La posibilidad de la ternura**“ / „**Die Möglichkeit von Zärtlichkeit**“ Marco Layera / Teatro La Re-Sentida / Theatre / from 14.09.
- „**Shlimazi**“ Michael Wertmüller, for symphony orchestra and big band (2023) / Concert / as part of "Play Big!" / from 21.09.

1 EUROPEAN PREMIERE

- „**The Visitors**“ Constanza Macras / Dorkypark / Dance / from 09.09.

8 GERMAN PREMIERES (chronological)

- „**Skatepark**“ Mette Ingvarsten / Dance / from 12.08.
- „**EXÓTICA**“ Amanda Piña / Dance / from 01.09.
- „**Le Jardin des délices**“ / „**Der Garten der Lüste**“ Philippe Quesne / Vivarium Studio / Theatre / from 07.09.
- „**Im Garten der Potiniers**“ Compagnie Ersatz / Création Dans La Chambre / Object Theatre / from 07.09.
- „**Monument 0.10: The Living Monument**“ Eszter Salamon / Carte Blanche / Dance / from 15.09.
- and „**Spark**“ Emilio Guim, „**Cinque Notturmi**“ Kevin Juillerat and „**myarelee**“ Lucia Kilger / Ensemble of Nomads / Concert MaschinenHausMusik / 13.09.

4 PROJECTS WITH FREE ADMISSION (chronological)

- „**My Body Is Not An Island**“ Eva Kořátková / Installation / 12.08. – 23.09.
- **TEENS IN THE HOUSE III** Participation project as part of Junge Triennale / 09.09.– 15.09.
- **Pappelwaldkantine** at the Jahrhunderthalle Bochum and
- **Festivalbibliothek** *both throughout the festival*

OUTREACH

- >**Audience talks** after selected performances (on site)
- >**Audio introductions** to almost all productions (digital)
- >**Introductions** in the context of the retrospective by loekenfranke (on site)
- >**Evening programmes** for all music theatre und concert productions (digital and on site)
- >**Behind-The-Scenes** / Backstage at the music theatre production „Aus einem Totenhaus“
- >**Regional school workshops** and
- >**performances exclusively for schools** during the festival as well as the
- >**Youth project** TEENS IN THE HOUSE III (09.09.–15.09.) of the Junge Triennale
- >**Festival campus** with students from 14 universities, 7 of them from European countries, 7 from Germany. (17.08.–20.08. / 07.09.–10.09. / 14.09.– 17.09.)
- >**Festival catalogue** with additional articles, available by August (print/digital)
- >**Venue portraits** as videos (digital)

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The curatorial team around Barbara Frey includes: Barbara Eckle, Head Dramaturge Music Theatre, Concerts | Judith Gerstenberg, Head Dramaturge Theatre, Performance, Dance | Sara Abbasi, Dramaturge | Andri Hardmeier, Author, Lector | Anne Britting, Dramaturge Junge Triennale | Aljoscha Begrich, Dramaturge, Artist | Mats Staub, Scouting, Artist | Nina Bade, Assistant Dramaturge.

VENUES

BOCHUM: Jahrhunderthalle Bochum / Turbinenhalle / Pappelwaldkantine, An der Jahrhunderthalle 1, 44793 Bochum, www.ruhr3.com/Jahrhunderthalle
Metropolis Filmtheater (in Bochum Main Station), Kurt-Schumacher-Platz 13, 44787 Bochum www.ruhr3.com/metropolis

DORTMUND: Maschinenhalle, Zeche Zollern, Grubenweg 5, 44388 Dortmund-Bövinghausen, www.ruhr3.com/zollern

DUISBURG: Gebläsehalle / Gießhalle / Kraftzentrale Landschaftspark Duisburg-Nord, Emischerstraße 71, 47137 Duisburg, www.ruhr3.com/landschaftspark
Kulturkirche Liebfrauen, König-Heinrich-Platz 3, 47051 Duisburg, www.ruhr3.com/liebfrauen

ESSEN: Maschinenhaus Essen, Wilhelm-Nieswandt-Allee 100, 45326 Essen, www.ruhr3.com/maschinenhaus

Mischanlage, UNESCO-Welterbe Zollverein, Kokereiallee 71, 45141 Essen, www.ruhr3.com/mischanlage

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TICKETING

Online Phone www.ruhrtriennale.de/en +49 (0) 221 280-210, Mon–Fr 8am–8pm / Sat 9am–6pm / Sun 10am–4pm. **In person** at the box office of the respective festival events. All information about ticketing and discounts can be found under www.ruhrtriennale.de/en/tickets.

The purchased tickets are valid on the day of the event in the entire The Rhine-Ruhr Public Transport Association (VRR) in all buses and local trains (2nd class) for round trip to and from the venue. **Children / schoolchildren / students** (up to 30 years of age), persons doing voluntary service, trainees and unemployed persons are entitled to a discount and receive reduced tickets at a price of €12 on presentation of appropriate proof. There may be different reductions for standard prices. The Ruhrtriennale is once again offering **ticket sponsorships** as part of the Festival Pass for young visitors, supported by the Association of Friends and Sponsors of the Ruhrtriennale. Refugees are given the opportunity to attend events of the festival with free admission.

03 PRESS SERVICE

- The **press kit** as well as the **programme calendar** are available for download at www.ruhr3.com/presse.
- In the press area, you will find a selection of **press images**, which is free of charge.
- **Audio and video material** of selected productions will be available shortly before the individual production dates.

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04 SUPPORTERS / PARTNERSHIPS

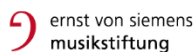
Our special thanks goes to the supporters, sponsors and partners of the Ruhrtriennale. Without them, we could not realise such an ambitious programme. With their support, they give us the freedom to realise ideas and provide a place for extraordinary artistic productions and experiences.

ASSOCIATES AND PUBLIC SUPPORTERS

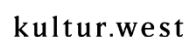
Ministerium für
Kultur und Wissenschaft
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PROJECT SUPPORTERS



MEDIA PARTNERS



CO-OPERATION PARTNERS

The Ruhrtriennale 2021–2023 is partner of the Aktionsnetzwerkes Nachhaltigkeit in Kultur und Medien, supported by the Beauftragten der Bundesregierung für Kultur und Medien Bochum Marketing / Kultur.Pott Ruhr / Publicity Werbung GmbH / RuhrBühnen / Ruhr Tourismus GmbH / Ströer Media GmbH.