

Pop-Kultur

Press release from the 30th of August, 2021

Pop-Kultur 2021 was a complete success

- 6,000 people over four days on the grounds of the Kulturbrauerei
- Three-sold out festival days
- Next edition: 24th to the 26th August, 2022

The seventh edition of Berlin's Pop-Kultur festival came to an end with a spectacular performance by rapper **Eunique** at the Kesselhaus. Despite the rainy weather and challenges presented by the pandemic, the festival was a complete success, featuring athletic feats by pole-dance performer **FRZNTÉ** with new sounds by the musician **Apex Anima** at the Maschinenhaus, euphoric as well as reflective and political moments at the **Çaystube** with family members of the tragically deceased writer **Semra Ertan**, a sweaty performance by the duo **WaqWaq Kingdom**, a set by beatmaker **Mechatok**, and the opening of the immersive club **Studio 21** as well as energetic shows by **Danitsa**, **Mandhla.**, **Drangsal**, **Layla** and **Floyd Lavine**.



(Eunique by Dominique Brewing)

Reduced visitor capacity, new outdoor stages, seated concerts indoors and a well-planned hygienic policy formed the foundations on which Pop-Kultur was able to take place live on the grounds of Berlin's Kulturbrauerei from the **25th to the 28th of August**. A total of **6,000** people made their way through the site over the four days - three of which were completely sold out.



(Floyd Lavine presents Omang by Dominique Brewing)

"People want and need art and culture. It was evident that the artists and visitors alike had an uplifting experience. This festival edition was hard work -

but it was worth it. We hope to set an inspiring example for other organisers. In the process, vaccination is paving the way for society,” sums up **Katja Lucker**, festival director and managing director of Musicboard Berlin. Over 120 slots with **Conny Frischauf**, **John Moods**, **Ata Canani**, **Station 17**, **Liraz**, **Erika de Casier**, **Sexes**, **21 Downbeat**, **Nightschool**, **Andreya Casablanca** and more filled the location with life. In addition to concerts, commissioned works, talks, workshops, films, contributions by Berlin collectives and installations, a particular highlight of the festival was the **shared social experience**.



(FRZNTÉ & Apex Anima by Camille Blake)

“Everyone was mostly very disciplined in terms of the health regulations and grateful to be able to experience culture together again,” says **Leyla Yenirce**, who put together the programme along with **Yeşim Duman**, **Christian Morin** and **Pamela Owusu-Brenyah**. “However, some bookings that were initially planned could not be realised and we had to get very creative, sometimes switching to film projects to incorporate certain perspectives, and booking more locally-based acts to perform,” says **Pamela Owusu-Brenyah**, who, in addition to her booking, also created a film in Ghana as a Commissioned Work for the festival. “The organisational preparation and dramaturgical planning were more difficult than ever this year. It is all the more wonderful that the festival could take place, making so many artists and our audience happy,” adds **Christian Morin**. **Yeşim Duman** adds that the four days on the grounds of the Kulturbrauerei were filled with pleasant experiences: “We spoke to numerous people who were totally blown away by all the range of sensations they had to forego for such a long time. In addition, some had the opportunity for the first time to immerse themselves in artistic disciplines that were new to them or in the lifeworlds of different communities. This kind of broadening of individual perspectives is important to us.”



(Druckwelle by Kathe deKoe)

Pop-Kultur is meant as a process in which the audience and artists participate alongside the team: Collective approaches, post-migrant identities, intersectional discourses, inclusive projects, diasporic narratives, queer perspectives and breaking away from musical expectations have all contributed to creating a space for shared exchange. This year's accessible and pandemic implementation has also

had the goal of truly providing access and enabling participation for all. The eighth edition of Pop-Kultur will take place from the 24th to the 26th of August, 2022.



(Erika de Casier by Christoph Mangler)

Pop-Kultur is funded by the Senate Department for Culture and Europe of the State of Berlin with funds from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) in the programme “Strengthening the Potential for Innovation in Culture II (INP II)”, Pop-Kultur Commissioned Works & Pop-Kultur International are funded by Initiative Musik gemeinnützige Projektgesellschaft mbH with project funds from the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media.



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