23 May 2019

20th poesiefestival berlin casts a glance at the art of poetry in the US. Programme with Eileen Myles, Queer Poets and Walt Whitman

The 20th poesiefestival berlin (14 – 20 June) forges the USA into focus. A stage production relocates Walt Whitman’s Leaves of Grass to an American trailer park and unfolds into a kaleidoscopic verbal journey through the landscape of the United States. In the associated Poetry Talk Kyle Dacuyan (USA) from the Poetry Project New York, the director of the staging, Leopold von Verschuer (Germany) and Ulla Haselstein (Germany) from the John F. Kennedy-Institute of the Freie Universität Berlin will be attempting to get to the bottom of how Whitman and his Leaves of Grass interrogate present-day USA and Europe.

The translation workshop VERSschmuggel – ReVERSible pairs up six US poets (Jericho Brown, Mario Chard, Linda Gregerson, Ilya Kaminsky, Sandra Meek, Brenda Shaughnessy) and six German poets. The results of this intensive poetic exchange will be presented in a bilingual reading and in an anthology due for publication by Das Wunderhorn Verlag in Spring 2020. In the Poetry Talk A Peaceful Country the authors from the workshop will be talking about the social climate on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean.

Two events on queer poetry are linked to 50 years of Stonewall, referring to the riots in the gay scene bar “Stonewall Inn” in New York that marked the beginning of the Christopher Street Day parades and the gay rights movement worldwide. Readings and
discussion in Queer Poets. Queer Voices – 50 Years on from Stonewall reflect on the current situation of the LGTB-community in different countries with Angélica Freitas (Brazil), Lee Mokobe (South Africa), Urayoán Noel (Puerto Rico/USA) and Eugeniusz Tkaczyszyn-Dycki (Poland). In the panel discussion Stonewall was a riot! the US authors Edmund White, Eileen Myles and Jericho Brown, will try to get to the bottom of what remains of the spirit of that revolt.

The spoken word icon from the US, Sarah Kay, together with Yugen Blakrok (South Africa), Francesca Beard (Malaysia/UK) and Julian Heun (Germany) perform in the first-rate spoken word night Superpowerpoetry.

A Poet’s Evening and a Poetry Talk about Translingual Poetics present border crossers in language. Don Mee Choi (South Korea/USA), LaTasha N. Nevada Diggs (USA), Johannes Göransson (Sweden/USA), Sawako Nakayasu (Japan/USA) und Urayoán Noel (Puerto Rico/USA) have the US as common reference point but how can English be bent towards Spanish, Swedish, Korean, Japanese, Maori, Hindi and Swahili? The authors will be presenting their texts as sound installation, performance, reading or collage.

Events of the 20th poesiefestival berlin related to the US

Weltklang – Night of Poetry
FR 14 June | 8 pm | Studio | 13/8 € incl. anthology
info & tickets: bit.ly/2Hvl6SB

With Yugen Blakrok (South Africa) | Patrizia Cavalli (Italy) | Anja Golob (Slovenia) | Rainer René Müller (Germany) | Eileen Myles (USA) | Marion Poschmann (Germany) | Fatemeh Shams (Iran/USA) | Keston Sutherland (UK) | Xi Chuan (China)
Presenter: Maren Jäger (Germany) literary scholar

In the original languages and in German translation.

superpowerpoetry
Spoken Word meets Slam Poetry meets Hip Hop
SA 15 June | 8 pm | Kl. Parkett | 14/10 €
info & tickets: bit.ly/2HwZczJ

With Yugen Blakrok (South Africa) | Sarah Kay (USA) | Francesca Beard (Malaysia /UK) | Julian Heun (Germany) | Presenter: Julian Heun

The event will be taking place in German and English. The texts are available in their original language only.
Stonewall was a riot!
Panel discussion for the 50th anniversary of the New York gay uprising
MO 17 June | 5.30 pm | Clubraum | 6/4 € · 13/8 € Combiticket incl. reading
info & tickets: bit.ly/2VFcw92

With Edmund White (USA) | Eileen Myles (USA) | Jericho Brown (USA) Presenter: Peter Rehberg (Germany) cultural and media scholar

English-German interpreting will be available for the event.

Queer poets. Queer Voices – 50 Years on from Stonewall

MO 17 June | 7.30 pm | Kl. Parkett | 10/7 € · 13/8 € Combiticket incl. Poetry Talk
info & tickets: bit.ly/2HasLH1

Reading and discussion with Angélica Freitas (Brazil) | Lee Mokobe (South Africa) | Urayoán Noel (Puerto Rico/USA) | Eugeniusz Tkaczyszyn-Dycki (Poland)
Presenter: Matthias Frings (Germany) journalist and author

English-German interpreting will be available for the event. The texts are available in German translation.
Poets’ Evening #6: Freily ausgefranst. Translingual Poetics
MO 17 June | 9.30 pm | Studiofoyer | 10/7 €
info & tickets: bit.ly/2VJoFcX

Performances with the authors Don Mee Choi (South Korea/USA) | LaTasha N. Nevada Diggs (USA) | Johannes Göransson (Sweden/USA) | Sawako Nakayasu (Japan/USA)| Urayoán Noel (Puerto Rico/USA) | Concept and presenters: Christian Hawkey (USA) poet und Uljana Wolf (Germany) poet

The event will be taking place in German and English and interpreting will not be available. A chapbook will be published for the event by hochroth, including statements, texts and translations and will be on sale on the evening for € 8.

Poetry Talk: Freily ausgefranst. Translingual Poetics
TUE 18 June | 4.30 pm | Clubraum | 6/4 €
info & tickets: bit.ly/2HNDImq

With Don Mee Choi (South Korea/USA) | LaTasha N. Nevada Diggs (USA) | Johannes Göransson (Sweden/USA) | Sawako Nakayasu (Japan/USA) | Urayoán Noel (Puerto Rico/USA) | Concept and presenters: Christian Hawkey (USA) poet und Uljana Wolf (Germany) poet

English-German interpreting will be available for the event.
Poetry Talk: A Peaceful Country
TUE 18 June | 6 pm | Clubraum | 6/4 € · 13/8 € Combiticket incl. VERSschmuggel / reVERSible
info & tickets: bit.ly/2vIwrnq

With Linda Gregerson (USA) | Ilya Kaminsky (USA) | Ulrich Koch (Germany) | Ronya Othmann (Germany) | Presenter: Karolina Golimowska (Germany) literary scholar and translator

English-German interpreting will be available for the event.

VERSschmuggel – USA – Germany – reVERSible
TUE 18 June | 7.30 pm | Kl. Parkett | 10/7 € · 13/8 € Combiticket incl. Poetry Talk
info & tickets: bit.ly/2we7Psy

With Jericho Brown (USA) & Georg Leß (Germany) | Mario Chard (USA) & Ronya Othmann (Germany) | Linda Gregerson (USA) & Ulrich Koch (Germany) | Ilya Kaminsky (USA) & Dagmara Kraus (Germany) | Sandra Meek (USA) & Yevgeniy Breyger (Germany) | Brenda Shaughnessy (USA) & Anja Kampmann (Germany) | Presenter: Karolina Golimowska (Germany) literary scholar and translator

Jericho Brown © Stephanie Mitchell, Georg Leß © Dirk Skiba, Mario Chard © Michael Reese, Anja Kampmann © Juliane Henrich
With the assistance of language mediators Irina Bondas (Germany) | Catherine Hales (UK & Germany) | Magdalena Kotzurek (Germany) | Anneke Lubkowitz (Germany) | Lilian Maria Pithan (Germany) | Joel Scott (Australia)

Reading and discussion in English and German.
Poetry Talk: Walt Whitman – Leaves of Grass
WED 19 June | 6 pm | Clubraum | 6/4 € · 13/8 € incl. staging
info & tickets: bit.ly/2wo2ajP

Kyle Dacuyan (USA) The Poetry Project New York | Leopold von Verschuer (Germany) director in conversation with Ulla Haselstein (Germany) John F. Kennedy Institute of the Freie Universität Berlin

English-German interpreting will be available for the event.

Walt Whitman: Leaves of Grass – A Staging
WED 19 June | 7.30 pm | Studio | 13/8 € incl. Poetry Talk
info & tickets: bit.ly/2WWiGXf


Leopold von Verschuer © Miriam Knickriem, Claudia Burckhardt © Alice Ionescu
In the German translation by Jürgen Brökan.

The 20th poesiefestival berlin is a project of the Haus für Poesie in co-operation with the Academy of Arts. Sponsored by funding from the Hauptstadtkulturfonds (Capital City Cultural Fund) and the German Foreign Ministry, with the kind assistance of the Maritim proArte Hotel Berlin. Presented by taz, BÜCHERmagazin, tip Berlin, ASK HELMUT and Deutschlandfunk Kultur.

14–20 June 2019
20. poesiefestival berlin: Finally time for Language
Akademie der Künste
Hanseatenweg 10
10557 Berlin

Press photos for download:

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20th poesiefestival berlin: Finally Time for Language

The poesiefestival berlin is entering its 20th edition this year. Organised by the Haus für Poesie, it is taking place from 14 to 20 June 2019 in the Academy of Arts in Hanseatenweg. Under the title of Finally Time for Language, it will present international poetry in all its many and varied forms and in conjunction with art, theatre, performance, music, film and digital media.

Language is the medium of thought and the central means by which people can understand each other. Language expresses and translates, and creates understanding and connection. At the present time we are experiencing the toxic contamination of language. Language is being used to shift the parameters of standards of morality and respect, to discredit the truth and to make autocracy, nationalism and discrimination socially acceptable. It is time for linguistic counter-measures and artistic intervention.

For the 20th poesiefestival berlin the Haus für Poesie is inviting poets from around the world to present on the stage poetry as a counter-argument to linguistic dumbing down, populism and incitement to hatred, to make connections and a display of complexity.

The country in the Festival’s focus this year is the USA. In the translation workshop VERStschmuggel / reVERSible, in which German-speaking and American poets will be translating each other, the dialogue form is a fundamental requirement. Languages, art and people come together in all their diversity and come to understand each other with the aid of intermediaries and translations. There will be two special events dedicated to queeres Schreiben / queer writing to mark the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall riots in New York, which sparked off the gay liberation movement. Freily ausgefranst, curated by German poet Uljana Wolf and American author Christian Hawkey, is all about translingual writing. Walt Whitman is considered to be the founder of modern American poetry; his long poem Leaves of Grass is adapted for the stage for the poesiefestival berlin. American artist Sarah Kay, a star of the international scene, will be flying in for a big Spoken Word evening.

Central and South America come into the limelight too. There will be a day dedicated to looking at contemporary poetry in Cuba, culminating in a concert by legendary Cuban singer-songwriter Raúl Paz. Argentinian poet Sergio Raimondi will give the 2019 Berlin Poetry Lecture on global questions and their impact on writing.
The Festival will open in the traditional way with Weltklang, a panoramic survey of international poetry in many languages, featuring among others Marion Poschmann and Eileen Myles.

In the run-up to the Festival, the exhibition Aubergine mit Scheibenwischer / Aubergine with Windscreen Wiper will be opening on 8 June. It shows drawings by the poet Oskar Pastior that have never before been on show in this scope.

The poesiefestival berlin has been taking place since 2000 and is the biggest of its kind in Europe. Each year it brings around 150 well-known poets and artists from around the world to Berlin. Poetry has long been seeking other forms of presentation beside the book and experimenting with theatre, performance, music, dance, film and digital media. The Festival has up to 12,000 visitors each year, for whom it makes poetry in all its diversity of forms a tangible experience.

The 20th poesiefestival berlin is a project of the Haus für Poesie in co-operation with the Academy of Arts. Sponsored by funding from the Hauptstadtkulturfonds (Capital City Cultural Fund) and the German Foreign Ministry, with the kind assistance of the Maritim proArte Hotel Berlin. Presented by taz, BÜCHERmagazin, tip Berlin, ASK HELMUT and Deutschlandfunk Kultur.

14–20 June 2019
20th poesiefestival berlin
Academy of Arts
Hanseatenvweg 10
10557 Berlin

In the run-up
8 June Aubergine mit Scheibenwischer – die Zeichnungen von Oskar Pastior
(Aubergine with Windscreen Wiper – the Drawings of Oskar Pastior)
Exhibition opening

11 June poets corner
Readings in Berlin’s city districts

For enquiries and information please contact
Haus für Poesie
Press & Publicity
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E-Mail: presse@haus-fuer-poesie.org
Press Release from the Haus für Poesie

7 June 2019

Poet’s Corner: Poets are reading in their Berlin neighbourhoods
Preview of the 20th poesiefestival berlin on upcoming Tuesday

Poet’s Corner floods the city with poems. Over an entire evening and with the kind support of the city districts and cultural institutions, over 30 poets living in Berlin and one collective present their work, reading in libraries, galleries, museums and cultural centres – there’s room for poetry everywhere! Afterwards the exchange goes on – Neue Nachbarschaft in Moabit will be hosting a Come Together. Poet’s Corner marks the prelude of 20th poesiefestival berlin from 14 – 20 June.

Tuesday, June 11 | Poet’s Corner – Poetry in the City Districts

6 – 8 pm Tempelhof-Schöneberg
Schöneberg Museum | Hauptstraße 40/42 | S Schöneberg
With Marica Bodrožić | Norbert Lange | Steffen Popp | Elisa Weinkötz | Presenter: Ines Berwing

6.30 – 9 pm Mitte
Instituto Cervantes | Rosenstraße 18 | S Hackescher Markt
With Timo Berger | Izaskun Gracia Quintana | Jorge Locane | Sonia Solarte with SolArte | Presenter: Laura Haber
The event will be taking place in Spanish and German with interpreting available.

7 – 8.30 pm Lichtenberg
studio im HOCHHAUS | Zingster Straße 25 | S Hohenschönhausen
With Sandra Burkhardt | Tobias Herold | Ilia Ryvkin | Joel Scott | Presenter: Peter Holland

7 – 9 pm Friedrichshain-Kreuzberg
Pablo-Neruda-Bibliothek | Frankfurter Allee 14a | U Frankfurter Tor
With Alexandru Bulucă | Mariola Grzyb | Alexander Kappe | Odile Kennel | Mati Shemoelof | Presenter: Chris Möller
7 – 9 pm Treptow-Köpenick
NOVILLA | Hasselwerderstraße 22 | S Berlin-Schöneweide
With Max Czoltek | Julia Dorsch | Anna Hetzer | Simone Kornappel | Steve Mekoudja | Abdulkadir Musa | Music: Nikolaus Neuser, trumpet | Els Vandeweyer, vibraphone |
Presenter: Vera Kurelnina

7.30 – 9.30 pm Pankow
Brotfabrik | Caligariplatz 1 | S Prenzlauer Allee
With Cecilia Erisman | Moritz Gause | Sandra Gugić | Adelaide Ivánova | Kevin Junk | Douglas Pompeu | Presenter: Alexander Graeff

8 – 9.30 pm Mitte
Neue Nachbarschaft // Moabit | Beusselstraße 26 | S Beusselstraße
With Ruth Johanna Benrath | Bettina Hartz | Kollektiv Wiese (including Nauras Ali, Marwa Younes Almokbel, Orsolya Kalász, Rahaf Gharzaddien, Kenan Khadaj) |
Presenter: Christian Filips

from 9.30 pm Come Together in Neue Nachbarschaft

Poets’ Corner: Poetry in the City Districts is presented with the kind support of the Bezirksamt Treptow-Köpenick, Fachbereich Kultur und Museum, movingpoets Berlin gGmbH. Internationales Zentrum für Kunst, Kreativität und Begegnung, the Bezirksamt Friedrichshain-Kreuzberg, the Bezirkszentralbibliothek Pablo Neruda, the Instituto Cervantes Berlin, the Bezirksamt Tempelhof-Schöneberg, Amt für Weiterbildung und Kultur, Fachbereich Kunst, Kultur, Museen, Museen Tempelhof-Schöneberg, the Bezirksamt Lichtenberg, Amt für Weiterbildung und Kultur, Fachbereich Kunst und Kultur, the studio im HOCHHAUS, the Bezirksamt Pankow, Amt für Weiterbildung und Kultur, Fachbereich Kunst und Kultur, the Brotfabrik Berlin, the Brazilian Embassy in Berlin, the Bezirksamt Mitte, Amt für Weiterbildung und Kultur, Fachbereich Kunst und Kultur and Neue Nachbarschaft // Moabit.

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14.–20.6.2019
20th poesiefestival berlin: Finally Time for Language
Akademie der Künste
Hanseatenweg 10
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SAVE THE DATE: Sergio Raimondi gives the Berlin Poetry Lecture
At the 20th poesiefestival berlin he will be speaking about the excessiveness of capitalism

Save the Date

Sunday | 16 June 2019 | 7.30 pm
2019 Berlin Poetry Lecture: Sergio Raimondi
Problems with Writing an Ode to the Pacific Ocean

Akademie der Künste, Hanseatenweg 10,
10557 Berlin | Kl. Parkett/Small Stage
€ 6/4

The Argentinian poet Sergio Raimondi is giving this year’s Berlin Poetry Lecture in the Akademie der Künste on 16 June as part of the 20th poesiefestival berlin. Raimondi has given his lecture the title: Problems with Writing an Ode to the Pacific Ocean.

Localising the actual ocean is more difficult, since all known depictions show it banished to the edge of this completely rectangular world and split into two halves. How can it be grasped in its entirety?

In his lecture, he discusses Adorno’s call for a poetry that is commensurate with capitalism. Sergio Raimondi rejects this call as being boundless, since capitalism itself is boundless, he says, by its very nature and with all its global strategies. Does the poet have to operate with maps and statistics in order to give an appropriate poetic response? Answering this question shows clearly that the poet has an equally boundless advantage. Capitalism is never up to the level of poetry.

Problems with Writing an Ode to the Pacific Ocean is being published for the event by Wallstein Verlag (€ 13.90) in Spanish and German (translated by Timo Berger). The lecture is being given in Spanish, with a German translation.

The Berlin Poetry Lecture has been given annually at the poesiefestival berlin since 2016. Previous speakers have been Oswald Egger, John Burnside and Elke Erb.

Sergio Raimondi (born in 1968 in Bahia Blanca, Argentina) has been seen as a reviver of Argentinian poetry since the publication of his first volume, Poesía civil, in 2001 (translated into German as Zivilpoesie, Reinecke & Voß 2017, by Timo Berger). The poet
Arturo Carrera praised *Poesía civil* for its absolute contact with reality, cleansing the language of our age. Raimondi’s texts are always political, in an empathetic sense. For nearly two decades Raimondi has been working on a second volume, an enormous, encyclopaedic project that is nearing completion and will be entitled *For an Annotated Dictionary*. A selection appeared in German translation in 2012 from Berenberg Verlag under the title *Für ein kommentiertes Wörterbuch*. In 2018 Sergio Raimondi was a fellow of the Artists in Berlin Programme of the DAAD.

The 20th poesiefestival berlin is organised by the Haus für Poesie and is taking place from 14 to 20 June 2019 in the Akademie der Künste in Hanseatenweg. With the theme *Finally Time for Language*, the festival presents international poetry in all its many and various forms and in conjunction with art, theatre, performance, music, film and digital media.

The 2019 Berlin Poetry Lecture: Sergio Raimondi – Problems with Writing an Ode to the Pacific Ocean is made possible by the kind assistance of the German Foreign Ministry and the Artists in Berlin Programme of the DAAD.

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14 – 20 June 2019  
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Akademie der Künste  
Hanseatenweg 10  
10557 Berlin

Press photos for download:  

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20th poesiefestival berlin: Weltklang – Night of Poetry 2019
Big opening event with Monika Grütters and Klaus Lederer

Friday | 14 June 2019 | 6.30 pm
Opening event 20th poesiefestival berlin | Austellungshalle 1
Academy of Arts, Hanseatenweg 10, 10557 Berlin

The 20th poesiefestival berlin in the Academy of Arts is being formally opened this year by Prof. Monika Grütters MdB, Minister of State for Culture and the Media and the Senator for Culture and Europe in Berlin, Dr. Klaus Lederer. Kerstin Hensel, Deputy Director of the Literature Section at the Academy of Arts, and Dr. Thomas Wohlfahrt, Director of the Haus für Poesie, will also be speaking.

This is not a public event. Please make sure you get your accreditation.

Friday | 14 June 2019 | 8 pm
Opening Weltklang – Night of Poetry | Studio
Academy of Arts, Hanseatenweg 10, 10557 Berlin

At the multi-voiced opening gala Weltklang – Night of Poetry poets from all corners of the world will be reading, singing and performing in seven native languages. They demonstrate the wealth of contemporary poetry with all the diversity of its content, approaches and styles. An anthology is being exclusively published for the event with translations into German of the texts being read.

With Yugen Blakrok South Africa | Patrizia Cavalli Italy | Anja Golob Slovenia | Rainer René Mueller Germany | Eileen Myles USA | Marion Poschmann Germany | Fatemeh Shams Iran/USA | Keston Sutherland UK | Xi Chuan China | Host Maren Jäger Germany
Artists

Since the release of her debut album, but especially since Anima Mysterium (I.O.T Records 2019), Yugen Blakrok (born in 1984 in the Eastern Cape Province) has been regarded as her country’s queen of alternative rap. Her appearance on the soundtrack of the film Black Panther was a major moment for contemporary South African music.

The books and readings of Patrizia Cavalli (born in 1947 in Todi, Umbria) enjoy cult status in her homeland. Her poems are depictions of an “ever open theatre”, the stage of which is the scene of life with the taxi meter running.

Anja Golob (born in 1976 in Gradec) is the shooting star of European poetry. Her poems are full of rips, nicks and crumbs. In a language that is extremely articulate she tells of the beginning and end of love and of the “ThereYesterday and HereToday”.

The work of Rainer René Mueller (born in 1949 in Würzburg) is in the tradition of Paul Celan. In his poems, the after-rumblings of the horrors of the past century can still be felt. Mueller will be reading unpublished poems and a selection from his latest volume geschriebes. selbst mit stein (written things. self with stone) (Edition aouey 2018).

Eileen Myles (born in 1949 in Cambridge, Massachusetts) is now something like a rock star in the American poetry scene. She did her first readings in the legendary CBGB’s club in Manhattan’s East Village, where bands like the Ramones and Blondie played. She will be reading poems from her latest collection Evolution (Grove Press 2018).

The poems of Marion Poschmann (born in 1969 in Essen) are precise and quiet. Awarding the Berlin Literature Prize in 2018, the jury described her poetry as “[making] a quite different kind of deceleration happen. Following it you find whole new worlds of language opening up of Baroque opulence and expansive Romantic diversity”.

Fatemeh Shams (born in 1983 in Mashhad) was forced to leave her homeland in 2009. After several years in London, she now lives in exile in Philadelphia. Her poems have strong imagery that is harsh and elegant and, while political, are also intensely personal.

Poet and musician Keston Sutherland (born in 1976 in Bristol) is one of the most prominent exponents of contemporary experimental British poetry. Sutherland will be reading poems from his latest collection Whither Russia (Barque Press 2017), in which he montages and alienates quotes from such writers as Goethe, Heine and Hölderlin.

Xi Chuan (born in 1963 in Xuzhou) is one of the greats of contemporary poetry. Cosmopolitan and brimming with learning, he writes with laconic humour about leaking water pipes, corrupt officials with a romantic leaning and news that is written before the event.
Weltklang – Night of Poetry is kindly supported by The Mandala Hotel, the British Council, the Slovenian Culture Centre Berlin and the Italian Culture Institute Berlin.

The 20th poesiefestival berlin is a project of the Haus für Poesie in co-operation with the Academy of Arts. Sponsored by funding from the Hauptstadtkulturfonds (Capital City Cultural Fund) and the German Foreign Ministry, with the kind assistance of the Maritim proArte Hotel Berlin. Presented by taz, BÜCHERmagazin, tip Berlin, ASK HELMUT and Deutschlandfunk Kultur.

14 – 20 June 2019
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20th poesiefestival berlin
14 – 20 June 2019
ENDLICH ZEIT FÜR SPRACHE | FINALLY TIME FOR LANGUAGE
Academy of Arts | Hanseatenweg 10
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instagram.com/hausfuerpoesie
youtube.com/hausfuerpoesie

The Haus für Poesie recommends the bookshop Der Zauberberg
der-zauberberg.eu

Venue
Academy of Arts
Hanseatengweg 10
10557 Berlin-Tiergarten
S-Bahn Bellevue, U-Bahn Hansaplatz, Bus 106
The Academy of Arts in Hanseatengweg is barrier-free.

Advance ticket sales
in the Academy of Arts
Tel. 030. 200 57-1000/-2000
Daily 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
online at: haus-fuer-poesie.org

Festival pass, valid for all events: € 60/40
not including Raúl Paz: The Concert 20 June, 9.30 p.m.

If your show your Berlin Pass you can obtain tickets for all events 15 minutes before the start of the event for € 3, subject to availability of free seats.

Refugees have free admission to all events, subject to availability of free seats.

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We wish to thank our helpers who look after guests, drive and help run events: Marwa Almokbel | Belma Becirovic | Stefanie Becker | Edward Belleville | Sebastian Brose | Ljudmila Dachroth | Sophie Fessel | Dorota Filipiak | Inga Filipiak | Ilana Glizer | Kevin Grünstein | Alem Kebebew | Isabella Lehmann | Anita Melis | Sibylle Nägele | Klaus Pape | Lena Prisner | Sandra Ratkovic | Alessandro Scanu | Jordan Lee Schnee | Ursula Seeger | Kathrin Sohlbach | Sladjana Strunk | Anna Ulbricht
Finally Time for Language!

Language creates realities, words are followed by deeds. Hate, discrimination and fake facts cannot find any place in our language. Zarathustra’s rule of three – “good thoughts, good words, good deeds” – continues to hold true. Speaking and writing begin with the thought, creation, poiesis.

The art-form of language is poetry. Its claim to precision transforms understanding into language. As readers and listeners of poems, we are part of this appropriation of the world; we experience how poetry keeps open linguistic spaces for critical and free thought. Finally time for language!

The 20th poesiefestival berlin is opening with Weltklang – Night of Poetry. Poets will be giving examples in seven languages of their poetic appropriation of the world. A Forum will be discussing the toxification of discourse, loss of trust and poetic resistance. The exhibition Aubergine with Windscreen Wiper presents for the first time a comprehensive look at Oskar Pastior’s ‘Zeichengebilde’ drawings, which correspond to his poetic work. Poetry Talks provide an insight into the huge variety of poets’ workshops. The Argentinian poet Sergio Raimondi is giving the Berlin Poetry Lecture. The Cuba Evening demonstrates how poetry feeds off music and dance. The 20th poesiefestival berlin takes a look at the poetry of the USA in the VERSschmuggel / reVERSible translation workshop, with American and German poets translating each other. A Spoken Word and Performance Evening brings together international stars. Two events are dedicated to queer writing, and, to mark the 200th birthday of Walt Whitman, the most important poet for the USA, there will be a scenic stage presentation of his long poem Leaves of Grass. Lyrikline, the large online poetry archive, celebrates its 20th birthday with a Late Night Poetry Show. In the Poetry Market nearly 40 publishers and magazines present their publications flanked by readings and a programme for children, young people and young adults.

I would like to express my warmest thanks to all our partners and sponsors, especially to the Hauptstadtkulturfonds, the German Foreign Ministry and the Academy of Arts, and to my team. I wish us all an inspiring 2019 festival and the 150 artists from 25 countries a wonderful stay in Berlin.

Dr. Thomas Wohlfahrt
Director of the Haus für Poesie and the poesiefestival berlin
PRELUDE

SUN 9 June – THU 20 June
daily 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.
€ 4
Halle 3

Aubergine with Windscreen Wiper – The Drawings of Oskar Pastior
Exhibition

Opening
SAT 8 June
3 p.m.
Admission free

With Heidede Becker, author of the book Aubergine mit Scheibenwischer
(Aubergine with Windscreen Wiper)
Opening speech Herta Müller, Winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature Wie lang
dauert für immer (How long does forever last)

Oskar Pastior’s extraordinary poetic constructions and enigmatic word and language creations made him a favourite of friends of experimental poetry everywhere, and not just in Germany. As a draughtsman Oskar Pastior is practically unknown, completely overshadowed by appreciation for him as a poet who was awarded twenty literary prizes including, posthumously, the 2006 Georg Büchner Prize. This exhibition puts that right by focusing now on Oskar Pastior’s Zeichengebilde (drawing objects) and showing how they are connected with his Wortgebilde (word objects).
Pastior sketched in phases, parallel to his text projects, but also in the phases in between. His extensive graphic work appears as a voyage of discovery with an uncertain destination. His drawings entice us to daydream in our own imaginary worlds. Sense comes and goes by the back door, and meaning remains in a state of suspension.

Oskar Pastior (1927–2006) was born in Sibiu, Romania (German Hermannstadt) and was a member of the German minority there. The story of his deportation in the Soviet Union – he was sent to Donbass as a 17-year-old in 1945 for four years of forced labour – was related by Herta Müller in her novel Atemschaukel (The Hunger Angel). Pastior’s first book of poems was published in Bucharest in 1964. In 1968 he escaped to the West and lived in Berlin from 1969 as a freelance writer.

Curator: Heidede Becker

Project leader: Lutz Dittrich
PRELUDE

Poets' Corner: Poetry in the City Districts
TUE
11 June
from 6 p.m.
Admission free

Poets' Corner floods the city with poems. Over an entire evening and with the kind support of the city districts and cultural institutions, poets living in Berlin and one collective present their work, reading in libraries, galleries, museums and cultural centres – there’s room for poetry everywhere!

6 – 8 p.m. Tempelhof-Schöneberg
Schöneberg Museum | Hauptstrasse 40/42 | S Schöneberg
With Marica Bodrožić | Norbert Lange | Steffen Popp | Elisa Weinkötz
Presenter: Ines Berwing

6.30 – 9 p.m. Mitte
Instituto Cervantes | Rosenstrasse 18 | S Hackescher Markt
With Timo Berger | Izaskun Gracia Quintana | Jorge Locane | Sonia Solarte with SolArte
Presenter: Laura Haber
The event will be taking place in Spanish and German with interpreting available.

7 – 8.30 p.m. Lichtenberg
studio im hochhaus | Zingster Strasse 25 | S Hohenschönhausen
With Sandra Burkhardt | Tobias Herold | Ilia Ryvkin | Joel Scott
Presenter: Peter Holland

7 – 9 p.m. Friedrichshain-Kreuzberg
Pablo-Neruda-Bibliothek | Frankfurter Allee 14a | U Frankfurter Tor
With Alexandru Bulucz | Mariola Grzyb | Alexander Kappe | Odile Kennel | Mati Shemoelof
Presenter: Chris Möller

7 – 9 p.m. Treptow-Köpenick
NOVILLA | Hasselwerderstrasse 22 | S Berlin-Schöneweide
With Max Czollek | Julia Dorsch | Anna Hetzer | Simone Kornappel | Steve Mekoudja | Abdulkadir Musa
Music: Nikolaus Neuser, trumpet | Els Vandeweyer, vibraphone
Presenter: Vera Kurelenina
7.30 – 9.30 p.m. Pankow
Brotfabrik | Caligariplatz 1 | S Prenzlauer Allee
With Cecília Erismann | Moritz Gause | Sandra Gugić | Adelaide Ivánova | Kevin Junk | Douglas Pompeu
Presenter: Alexander Graeff

8 – 9.30 p.m. Mitte
Neue Nachbarschaft // Moabit | Beusselstrasse 26 | S Beusselstrasse
With Ruth Johanna Benrath | Bettina Hartz, Kollektiv Wiese (including Nauras Ali, Marwa Younes Almokbel, Orsolya Kalász, Rahaf Gharzaddien and Kenan Khadaj)
Presenter: Christian Filipps

from 9.30 p.m. Come Together in Neue Nachbarschaft

Project leaders: Felix Schiller | Saskia Warzecha
Weltklang – Night of Poetry
Studio
FRI
14 June
8 p.m.
€ 13/8
incl. anthology

With Yugen Blakrok (South Africa) | Patrizia Cavalli (Italy) | Anja Golob (Slovenia) | Rainer René Mueller (Germany) | Eileen Myles (USA) | Marion Poschmann (Germany) | Fatemeh Shams (Iran & USA) | Keston Sutherland (UK) | Xi Chuan (China)
Presenter: Maren Jäger (Germany) literary scholar

Weltklang – Night of Poetry is the many voiced opening of the poesiefestival berlin. Poets from all corners of the world will be reading, singing and performing in seven different mother tongues. They demonstrate the wealth of contemporary poetry with its diversity of approaches and styles. For those who can read German, an anthology is being exclusively published specially for the event with translations into German of the texts being read.

Since the release of her debut album, but especially since Anima Mysterium (I.O.T Records 2019), Yugen Blakrok (born in 1984 in the Eastern Cape Province) has been regarded as her country’s queen of alternative rap. Her texts are futuristic, virtuoso and complex and are full of dense metaphors and old knowledge. Her appearance on the soundtrack of the film Black Panther was a major moment for contemporary South African music.

The books and readings of Patrizia Cavalli (born in 1947 in Todi, Umbria) enjoy cult status in her homeland. Her poems, written from the perspective of a stroller, oscillate between epiphany and resignation. They are depictions of an “ever open theatre”, the stage of which is the scene of life with the taxi meter running.

Anja Golob (born in 1976 in Gradec) is the shooting star of European poetry. Her poems are full of rips, nicks and crumbs. In a language that is extremely articulate she tells of the beginning and end of love and of the ThereYesterday and HereToday.

The work of Rainer René Mueller (born in 1949 in Würzburg) is in the tradition of Paul Celan. His poems are structures saturated with history in which the after-rumblings of the horrors of the past century can still be felt. A noticeable feature of them is their radical linguistic concision which works with scraps of quotes and bits of sentences that are graphically isolated from the text. Mueller will be reading unpublished poems and a selection from his latest volume geschriebes. selbst mit stein (written things. self with stone) (Edition aouey 2018).
Eileen Myles (born in 1949 in Cambridge, Massachusetts) is now something like a rock star in the American poetry scene. They did their first readings in the legendary CBGB’s club in Manhattan’s East Village, where bands like the Ramones and Blondie played. They will be reading poems from their latest collection *Evolution* (Grove Press 2018).

The poems of Marion Poschmann (born in 1969 in Essen) are precise and quiet. They combine science and beauty. Awarding her the Berlin Literature Prize in 2018, the jury described her poetry as “[making] a quite different kind of deceleration happen. Following it you find whole new worlds of language opening up of Baroque opulence and expansive Romantic diversity”.

Fatemeh Shams (born in 1983 in Mashhad) was forced to leave her homeland in 2009. After several years in London, she now lives in exile in Philadelphia. Her poems have strong imagery that is harsh and elegant at the same time and, while political, are also intensely personal. They reflect the brutality of migration and war, combining mourning with recalcitrant desire.

Poet and musician Keston Sutherland (born in 1976 in Bristol) is one of the most prominent exponents of contemporary experimental British poetry. His manic performances of his aggressively high-definition texts pull out all the stops. Sutherland will be reading poems from his latest collection *Whither Russia* (Barque Press 2017).

Xi Chuan (born in 1963 in Xuzhou) is one of the greats of contemporary poetry. Cosmopolitan and brimming with learning, he writes with laconic humour about leaking water pipes, corrupt officials with a romantic leaning and news that is written before the event. “All his poems are exercises in thinking, which do not let thinking get away with even the slightest complacency”, says Xi’s translator Lea Schneider.

Project leaders: Alexander Gumz | Matthias Kniep
Poetry Talk: Eileen Myles
I’m A Poet, You Fool
Eileen Myles (USA) writer in conversation with Odile Kennel (Germany) writer and translator
Halle 1
SAT
15 June
5 p.m.
€ 6/4

Eileen Myles began their career as a poet in the New York City of the 1970s, where they were influenced by the second generation of writers of the New York School including James Schuyler and Alice Notley. They describe themselves as “an angry white lesbian wandering through the burning streets” and came to New York City to stir things up. They certainly succeeded in that in their incomparable way, with their typical short-lined, laconic style and to date 20 books of verse to their name. Eileen Myles will be talking to her translator Odile Kennel about their life and work.

English-German interpreting will be available for this event
Project leaders: Alexander Gumz | Matthias Kniep
Poetry Talk: Patrizia Cavalli
My Poems Will Not Change the World
Patrizia Cavalli (Italy) writer in conversation with Giorgio Agamben (Italy)
philosopher
Clubraum
SAT
15 June
6 p.m.
€ 6/4

Patrizia Cavalli left the Umbrian provinces for Rome in the late 1960s. Under the wing of the writer Elsa Morante she developed her own voice, which set her very much apart from the hermetic currents of the time. On a sketch map of poetry, the philosopher Giorgio Agamben, who praises Cavalli’s work as “perhaps the most fluent and consistent” poetry of the 20th Century, accords her a special position. Her poems manage the miracle of opening up a space “where the primeval reptile poetry, that has survived its own extinction, grazes without a thought”.

Italian-German interpreting will be available for this event
Project leaders: Alexander Gumz | Matthias Kniep
Poetry Talk: Keston Sutherland
This Poetry Is Fucked
Keston Sutherland (UK) writer in conversation with Katharina Schultens (Germany)
writer
Clubraum
SAT
15 June
7 p.m.
€ 6/4

Keston Sutherland is the most important member of the second generation of what is known as the Cambridge School, a Modernist movement that radically rejects a traditional understanding of poetry. Like his mentor J.H. Prynne, Sutherland is an exegete of Karl Marx. His long poem *Hot White Andy* on desire in the age of Late Capitalism has been celebrated in Jacket Magazine as the “most remarkable poem in English to have been published so far this century”. Sutherland will be talking to his translator Katharina Schultens and reading poems written specially for this event.

English-German interpreting will be available for this event.
Project leaders: Alexander Gumz | Matthias Kniep
Poetry Talk: Xi Chuan
Heading for the Han Dynasty in an Audi A6 (Im Audi A6 Richtung Han-Dynastie)
Xi Chuan (China) writer in conversation with Lea Schneider (Germany) writer and translator
Clubraum
MON
17 June
4.30 p.m.
€ 6/4

Xi Chuan is considered to be one of the greatest of contemporary Chinese poets. To date he has published nine collections, but not a single one has yet appeared in German or English. In his poetry, Xi Chuan uses “an incomparable historical knowledge to make fun of the one-dimensionality of the tradition,” as his translator Lea Schneider writes. “Every reference to history and origins in his texts is there to show how contingent the boundaries and norms of the present are”. Schneider will be talking to the much-travelled poet about his work that bursts with imagery and is at the same time witty.

English-German interpreting will be available for this event.
Project leaders: Alexander Gumz | Matthias Kniep
Poetry Talk: Fatemeh Shams
When They Kicked in the Door
Fatemeh Shams (Iran & USA) writer in conversation with Maryam Aras (Germany)
Iranian scholar and literary journalist
Clubraum
WED
19 June
5 p.m.
€ 6/4

Fatemeh Shams is a political refugee, a poet in exile. Even in the USA this prizewinning writer is politically active in the Iranian community. Shams' poems are personal artistic reflections of this situation that affects so many in the 21st Century. They tell of people for whom the homeland is only "a sad past without an end" as she writes in one of her lines. In strong imagery, Shams condenses experienced suffering into texts that point beyond it in their beauty. She will be talking to Maryam Aras about writing poetry in exile, about poetry and politics.

English-German interpreting will be available for this event.
Project leaders: Alexander Gumz | Matthias Kniep
superpowerpoetry
Spoken Word meets Slam Poetry meets Hip Hop
Kl. Parkett
SAT
15 June
8 p.m.
€ 14/10

With Yugen Blakrok (South Africa) MC | Sarah Kay (USA) poet | Francesca Beard (Malaysia & UK) poet | Julian Heun (Germany) poet
Presenter: Julian Heun

“superpowerpoetry” is the concentrated power of Spoken Word heroes from four different continents. On the way from mind to page a bit of energy often gets lost so that the letters on the paper appear powerless. That’s exactly where “superpowerpoetry” comes in, giving words back their dynamism with voices and bodies. The performers perform in the energy field between Slam Poetry, Spoken Word and Hip Hop.

Sarah Kay, the Spoken Word icon from New York, Francesca Beard, one of the most exciting emerging voices from the UK, the South African Yugen Blakrok, who enchants audiences with hip hop and trancelike sounds, and Julian Heun, three times German language Poetry Slam champion. On this evening they will be presenting their texts, rhymed or unrhymed, socially critical or intimate, full of humour or close to tears, uncompromising or tender – experiments in poetic magnetism to recharge the word batteries. Poetry: On.

The event will be taking place in German and English. The texts are available in their original language only.
Project leader: Isabel Aguirre Siemer
Curators: Isabel Aguirre Siemer | Julian Heun
Lyrikline Late Night
Poetry-Show
Studiofoyer
SAT
15 June
10 p.m.
€ 10/7

With poets Daniel Falb (Germany) | Cia Rinne (Sweden & Germany) | Tom Van de Voorde (Belgium)
Music: Maxi Pongratz (Germany)
Presented by: Marie Kaiser (Germany) radio journalist | Ryan Van Winkle (Scotland) poet

Lyrikline is 20! Since 1999 the website has been capturing the voices of poets – there are now nearly 1,400 in 90 languages.
Join us and all friends of poetry for a birthday show that’s as unpredictable as a Poetry Bingo session in Svalbard, playful and multi-lingual. There’s no show stairway, but we do offer you brilliant poets and great music!

The event will take place in English and German.
Project leaders: Juliane Otto | Heiko Strunk
Forum: Hate, Fake, Rage. On loss of trust, toxification of discourse and poetic resistance
Studio
SUN
16 June
11 a.m.
€ 10/7

Fake news, populist propaganda, rage and hate messages are increasingly characterising public discourse, expressed in language that is brutalised and full of violence and erases individuality and ambivalence. At the same time, trust is disappearing in institutions such as political parties and the media. The participants in the Forum will be discussing the causes of these developments and how they can be resisted – socially, politically and poetically.

11 a.m.
The coming language: dialect, bilingualism and poetry
Lecture by Giorgio Agamben (Italy) philosopher
Introduction by Asmus Trautsch (Germany) philosopher and poet

A lecture on the idea of a coming language in which the past is called on, and on the bilingualism that is constitutive for Italian poetry, an alliance and a conflict between the grammatically ordered written language and the dialect as the “purely oral moment of language” (Pasolini). Italian-German interpreting.

12.30 p.m.
Fake News, Bullshit, Lies: on means of manipulation and ways of enlightenment
With Patrick Gensing (Germany) journalist and head of the online portal faktenfinder| Johannes Hillje (Germany) political advisor | Philipp Hübl (Germany) philosopher
Presenter: Asmus Trautsch

The rise of populist parties and groupings is scarcely imaginable without the use of digital propaganda. Lies and a cavalier attitude to the truth are eroding the forms and norms of democratic openness. This panel discussion will be shedding light on the background to these phenomena and asking how they can be effectively countered.

1.45 p.m.
Writing poetry in and against discourse: toxification of language and poetic resistance
Reading and talk with Dagmara Kraus (Germany) poet | Márió Z. Nemes (Hungary) poet | Nilay Özer (Turkey) poet
Presenter: Tanja Dückers (Germany) poet and journalist
How does poetry deal with the brutalisation of public discourse? What is its power of resistance grounded in? A poetic exchange on language change in the public sphere and in politics in the digital age. English-German interpreting.

Italian-German and English-German interpreting will be available for the Forum.
Curator: Asmus Trautsch
Project leader: Hendrik Schnittker
Poetry Market
SUN
16 June
2 – 7 p.m.
Admission free
On Sunday, the Academy of Arts will be swarming with poetic life. In the Studio Foyer nearly 40 publishers and magazines present their products and lists, flanked by readings in the Beech Garden and a programme for children, young people and young adults in the Grass Garden.

**Book market: browsing and shopping**
Studiofoyer | forecourt
including außer.dem | backbonebooks | BELLA triste | Bücherbunker Berlin |
KLAK Verlag | KOOKbooks | Limbus Verlag | Märkischer Verlag Wilhelmshorst | mosaik | Nord Verlag | PalmArt Press | parasitenpresse | Poesie schmeckt gut |
Poetenladen Verlag | Propeller Books | Randnummer Literaturhefte | Reinecke & Voß |
roughbooks | [SIC] Literaturverlag | SINN UND FORM | Sommergras | Sujet Verlag | SUKULTUR | vauvau-verlag für interaktive Lyrik | Verlag Hans Schiler | Verlag Peter Engstler | Wallstein Verlag | zero sharp

**Readings**
Buchengarten
With poets - Maria Becker | Ines Berwing | Kyle Dacuyan | Dmitri Dragilew | Özlem Ö zgül Dündar | Christian Filip | Johannes CS Frank | Angelica Freitas | Orsolya Kalász & Peter Holland | Adrian Kasnitz | István Kemény | Thilo Krause & Guests from the JUNIVERS Meeting of International Poetry Translators | Clemens Kuhnert | Tristan Marquardt | Lee Mokobe | Márió Z. Nemes | Malte Persson & Mareen Bruns | Verena Stauffer | Christel Steigenberger | Eugeniusz Tkaczyszyn-Dycki & Michael Zgodzay | Saskia Warzech

Presenter: Aurélie Maurin, translator and editor | Alexander Filyuta, translator

Project leaders: Matthias Kniep | Felix Schiller | Alexandru Bulucz
Poetry Market for children, young people and young adults
Gräsgarten
2 – 6 p.m.

Poetry Yoga
With Shannon Sullivan*
extracts by Walt Whitman, Emily Dickinson and Audre Lorde.

Hybrid Calligraphies*
With Ella Ponizovsky Bergelson
The poetry of letters. Ink, pens, templates and fine papers. All writings are welcome.

Poetry Retreat Table*
With Patricia Helena Nash
Writing, taping, stencilling, collaging and making badges. A calm oasis amid the bustle
of the festival.

Hands up! My optimised decade
Closing reading by young poets of the writing workshops open and young poems
led by Dagmara Kraus and Birgit Kreipe
With Cheikh Anta Belle Kum | Laura Baertle | Josephine Baetz | Momo Bera |
Josephine Berkholz | Gesche Beyer | Julia Brüggemann | Anastasia Chaguidouline |
Julia Deutsch | Caomhe Donnelly | Julia Dorsch | Anja Engst | Carlotta Frei |
RiraHilna | Johanna Hühn | Melanie Irnay | Luise John | Jelena Kern | Kierán
Meinhardt | Ani Mrelashvili | Patricia Helena Nash | Victoria Popow | Dean Ruddock |
Greta Schmerberg | Hannah Schraven | Lisa Starogatzki | Sophie Stroux | Valerie
Tomasov | Anna Wimmer | Kasia Wojcik

*These events will be taking place in German and English.
Project leader: Karla Montasser
Sergio Raimondi (born in 1968 in Bahia Blanca, Argentina) has been seen as a reviver of Argentinian poetry since the publication of his first volume, Poesía civil, in 2001 (translated into German as Zivilpoesie, Reinecke & Voß 2017, by Timo Berger). The poet Arturo Carrera praised Poesía civil for its absolute contact with reality, cleansing the language of our age. Raimondi’s texts are always political, in an empathetic sense. In just a very few lines he can break down the fundamental questions of political economy to a slice of bread, all the while staying grounded in his home town of Bahia Blanca with its major export harbour. For nearly two decades Raimondi has been working on a second volume, an enormous, encyclopaedic project that is nearing completion and will be entitled For an Annotated Dictionary. A selection appeared in German translation in 2012 from Berenberg Verlag under the title Für ein kommentiertes Wörterbuch. In 2018 Sergio Raimondi was a fellow of the Artists in Berlin Programme of the DAAD.

In his Berlin Lecture, Raimondi discusses Adorno’s call for a poetry that is commensurate with capitalism. Sergio Raimondi rejects this call as being boundless, since capitalism is itself boundless, he says, by its very nature and with all its global strategies. Does the poet have to operate with maps and statistics in order to give an appropriate poetic response? Answering this question in his Lecture and turning Adorno’s call on its head, Raimondi shows clearly that the poet has an equally boundless advantage. Capitalism is never up to the level of poetry.

Problems with Writing an Ode to the Pacific Ocean is being published for the event in a bilingual Spanish-German edition (translated by Timo Berger) by Wallstein Verlag (€ 13.90).

The Lecture will be given in Spanish. The translations are available in German.

Project leader: Matthias Kniep
Middle East meets Europe.
Arabic-German translation workshop
Clubraum
SUN
16 June
9 p.m.
€ 6/4
With poets Noor Kanj (Syria & Germany) & Sandra Burkhardt (Germany)| Golan Haji (Syria & France) & Sonja vom Brocke (Germany)
Presenter: Christian Filips (Germany) poet

Translation is a journey of adventure full of wonders across the seas of languages. Four courageous poets from Syria and Germany brave the adventure. For three days during the poesiefestival berlin they will be meeting together to translate each others’ poems. The results of this Arabic-German VERSschmuggel / reVERSible will be presented in this evening’s bilingual reading.

With the assistance of language mediators Leila Chammaa | Günther Orth
Project leader: Kenan Khadaj
Queer Poets. Queer Voices – 50 Years on from Stonewall
Reading and discussion
MON
17 June
7.30 p.m.
Kl. Parkett
€ 10/7
€ 13/8 Combiticket incl. Poetry Talk
With the writers Angélica Freitas (Brazil) | Lee Mokobe (South Africa) | Urayoán Noel (Puerto Rico & USA) | Eugeniusz Tkaczyszyn-Dycki (Poland)
Presenter: Matthias Frings (Germany) journalist and author

50 years ago, on the night of 27 June 1969, they’d had enough. The denizens of the scene bar the Stonewall Inn in New York’s Christopher Street put up a fight against the arbitrary raids of the police. The subsequent two days of rioting marked the beginning of the gay rights movement and has since been celebrated every year in Christopher Street Day parades far beyond the borders of the USA. But equal rights and social acceptance of lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgender people (LGBT) is not a matter of course everywhere. Discrimination, exclusion and anti-gay violence are on the rise again.

How do poets in various countries experience the situation of the LGBT community? How does their poetry reflect the changes and deal with love, sexuality and identity?

The young South African Slam Poetry Star Lee Mokobe reflects in heart-rending performances on finding his identity as a transgender person. Angélica Freitas has experienced how homophobia has become raison d’état in Brazil under President Jair Bolsonaro.

As the child of Puerto Rican immigrants, queer identity also means for Urayoán Noel the possibility of moving freely between languages as a writer. And Eugeniusz Tkaczyszyn-Dycki, one of the great unmistakable voices of European poetry, calls up in his poetry the memory of lovers and dead friends and the traumas of being an outsider in so many ways.

English-German interpreting will be available for the event. The texts are available in German translation.
Project leaders: Matthias Kniep | Axel Schock
Stonewall was a riot!
Panel discussion for the 50th anniversary of the New York gay uprising
MON
17 June
5.30 p.m.
Clubraum
€ 6/4
€ 13/8 Combiticket incl. reading
With the writers Edmund White (USA) | Eileen Myles (USA) | Jericho Brown (USA)
Presenter: Peter Rehberg (Germany) cultural and media scholar

“We are part of a mighty rebellion by all oppressed people” – this is how Edmund White felt about the events in Christopher Street, which he was part of and which played a major role in shaping his writing. What was the meaning of Stonewall for him and for the LGBT writers of subsequent generations? What remains of the spirit of that revolt?

English-German interpreting will be available for the event.
Project leaders: Matthias Kniep | Axel Schock
Haus für Poesie

Poets’ Evening #6:
Freilg ausgefranst. Translingual Poetics
Performance
Studiofoyer
MON
17 June
9.30 p.m.
€ 10/7
With the writers Don Mee Choi (South Korea & USA) | LaTasha N. Nevada Diggs (USA) | Johannes Göransson (Sweden & USA) | Sawako Nakayasu (Japan & USA) | Urayoán Noel (Puerto Rico & USA)
Concept and presenters: Christian Hawkey (USA) poet and Uljana Wolf (Germany) poet

What does translingual writing do to our perception and our understanding? What spaces does it open up for non-understanding and what happens there? Can it be translated at all? Uljana Wolf and Christian Hawkey have invited five writers who have for years been inspiring their own writing and translation co-praxis, and now they will be presenting their texts as sound installation, performance, reading or collage. The common points of reference for the five poets are the USA and the hegemony of the English language. All five interrogate and perforate its dominance systems with the radiant power of freefraying vectors from the whole world – until English opens its Babylonian reservoirs and gives access to Spanish, Swedish, Korean, Japanese, Maori, Hindi and Swahili. This way the individual languages do not stand as uncritical “Globabel”, firmly entrenched and walled in next to each other, but cut through each other in the field of tension of multiple unbelongings and transgressions. Translinguality is a political gesture of resistance, as an eavesdropped mix of languages, as a constantly repeatable translation process, as a language archipelago, as a media opening and as text events which produce “unstatements”. What happens in the room when everybody does not understand something? This is the evening for finding out.

The event will be taking place in German and English and interpreting will not be available.

A chapbook will be published for the event by hochroth, including statements, texts and translations and will be on sale on the evening for € 8.

Project leader: Felix Schiller
Poetry Talk: Freily ausgefranst. Translingual Poetics
Clubraum
TUE
18 June
4.30 p.m.
€ 6/4
With writers Don Mee Choi (South Korea & USA) | LaTasha N. Nevada Diggs (USA) | Johannes Göransson (Sweden & USA) | Sawako Nakayasu (Japan & USA) | Urayoán Noel (Puerto Rico & USA)
Concept and presenters: Christian Hawkey (USA) poet and Uljana Wolf (Germany) poet

On multilingual speaking! Five authors discuss the theory and practice of translingual poetry with Uljana Wolf and Christian Hawkey. How do many languages become multilingualism, and what various poetics emerge from working with transitions and mergings? There’s certain to be a lot of speaking in many tongues!

English-German interpreting will be available for the event.
Project leader: Felix Schiller
VERSschmuggel – USA – Germany – reVERSible
Kl. Parkett
TUE
18 June
7.30 p.m.
€ 10/7
€ 13/8 Combiticket incl. Poetry Talk
With poets Jericho Brown (USA) & Georg Leß (Germany) | Mario Chard (USA) & Ronya Othmann (Germany) | Linda Gregerson (USA) & Ulrich Koch (Germany) | Ilya Kaminsky (USA) & Dagmara Kraus (Germany) | Sandra Meek (USA) & Yevgeniy Breyger (Germany) | Brenda Shaughnessy (USA) & Anja Kampmann (Germany)

Presenter: Karolina Golimowska (Germany) literary scholar and translator

Over three days six American poets and six German poets will be getting together in pairs to “smuggle” poems across linguistic and cultural borders. With the aid of gloss translations and language mediators, they will each translate their partners’ poems.

The results of this intensive poetic exchange will be presented this evening in a bilingual reading and in an anthology due for publication by Das Wunderhorn Verlag in Spring 2020.

Along with the lines of verse, a wealth of cultural tradition will also be “smuggled”, allowing insights into the current social and political mood on both sides of the Atlantic. The translations and versions created here are an empathetic mediation between the two shores where sensitivity in public debate is becoming ever more scarce. Poetry acts as a seismograph picking up major social signals quickly and directly, and thus contributing to mutual understanding beyond big politics.

With the assistance of language mediators Irina Bondas (Germany) | Catherine Hales (UK & Germany) | Magdalena Kotzurek (Germany) | Anneke Lubkowitz (Germany) | Lilian Maria Pithan (Germany) | Joel Scott (Australia)

Curators: Jericho Brown | Karolina Golimowska | Alexander Gumz | Ilya Kaminsky
Project leaders: Karolina Golimowska | Alma Magdalene Knispel (assistant)
Poetry Talk: A Peaceful Country
Clubraum
TUE
18 June
6 p.m.
€ 6/4
€ 13/8 Combiticket incl. VERSchmuggel / reVERSible
With poets Linda Gregerson (USA) | Ílya Kaminsky (USA) | Ulrich Koch (Germany) | Ronya Othmann (Germany)
Presenter: Karolina Golimowska (Germany) literary scholar and translator

How can poetry record the current political turmoil in the USA? In an age of states of emergency poets, too, take clear positions. Poets from this year’s VERSchmuggel / reVERSible will be talking about how translating poetry builds a transatlantic bridge across which the mood of society and mutual sensitivities can be transported.

English-German interpreting will be available for the event.
Project leaders: Karolina Golimowska | Alma Magdalene Knispel (assistant)
datenschemen & zeichensprachen (data schemes and sign languages) – An Evening with Digital Poetry
Reading and performance
Clubraum
TUE
18 June
9.30 p.m.
€ 10/7
With Heike Fiedler (Switzerland) image and sound poet | Sabine Maier (Austria) (MACHFELD) photo and media artist | Jörg Piringer (Austria) poet | Hanne Römer (Austria) (.aufzeichnensysteme) poet and intermedia artist

In three acts, these writers and artists will be exploring language as a technique of dominance in the information age, linguistic diversity as a strategy of mind resistance and fundamental doubt as appropriation of the shattering of constructions of reality. With the aid of artificial intelligence, apparently obsolete media devices and audiovisual poetry, power structures are called into question and language becomes a new experience.

Curator: Jörg Piringer
Project leader: Hendrik Schnittker
Walt Whitman: Leaves of Grass – A Staging
Studio
WEDS
19 June
7.30 p.m.
€ 13/8 incl. Poetry Talk
Director: Leopold von Verschuer
Actors: Claudia Burckhardt | Tony De Maeyer | Matthias Rheinheimer | Leopold von Verschuer
Translation: Jürgen Brôcan
Voice: Sarah van der Kemp
Piano: Adrian Heger
Music: George Crumb | Paul Hindemith | Franz Schreker | Kurt Weill

In front of a trailer in an American trailer park a mixed crowd gathers. Young and old, speaking and singing, they take out of a paper bag one by one the leaves of an exuberant fabric of verse. In a kaleidoscopic panorama they unfold Walt Whitman’s powerful poetry as a journey in words through the landscapes of the United States. With them, we experience the “Leaves of Grass” as the awakening and constant transgression of boundaries that they symbolize for modern American poetry.

“He is America“, said Ezra Pound of the poet Walt Whitman (1819-1892), the founder of modern American poetry. In Leaves of Grass he sings of the awakening of the USA after the Civil War. In his poetry he unites ideas drawn from culture, society, politics, science and mysticism of his age. His cantos are a reflection and vision of a modern nation of “United States“ which overcome divisions and are supposed to bring freedom and democracy to all.

The musical settings of Whitman by Paul Hindemith, Franz Schreker, George Crumb and Kurt Weill allow us to hear the multifaceted effect this poetry still has.

Following Fredy Neptune by Australian poet Les Murray (2009), Dunckler Enthusiasmo by the Italian poet Pier Paolo Pasolini (2011) and the long poem Prosa meiner Heimatstraße (Prose from my Home Street) by Büchner Prize winner Wolfgang Hilbig (2013), the director, translator and actor Leopold von Verschuer has this year made a stage version of this central work of American literature.

He is accompanied by such excellent actors as Jutta Wachowiak, Matthias Rheinheimer, mezzo-soprano Sarah van der Kemp and the Flemish actor Tony de Maeyer. Musical director and accompanist is the pianist, conductor and New Music specialist Adrian Heger.

Project leader: Andreas Conrad
Poetry Talk: Walt Whitman – Leaves of Grass
Clubraum
WED
19 June
6 p.m.
€ 6/4
€ 13/8 incl. staging
Kyle Dacuyan (USA) The Poetry Project New York | Leopold von Verschuer (Germany) director in conversation with Ulla Haselstein (Germany) John F. Kennedy Institute of the Freie Universität Berlin

This year marks the 200th birthday of Walt Whitman, and he is essential if we want to understand the mentality and poetry of the USA. Leaves of Grass is his major work, “America’s treasure chest”. Thanks to the translation by poet Jürgen Brôcan it is available in full in German (as Grasblätter) and can be experienced on stage at the poesiefestival berlin. This Poetry Talk will be attempting to get to the bottom of how Whitman and his Leaves of Grass interrogate present-day USA and Europe.

English-German interpreting will be available for the event.
Project leader: Hendrik Schnittker
ZEBRA-Poetry Film Club: Power of Language
Studio
WED
19 June
9.30 p.m.
€ 6/4

Presenters: Alexander Gumz (Berlin) poet | Thomas Zandegiacomo Del Bel (Berlin)
Artistic Director of the ZEBRA Poetry Film Festival

The topics for this Poetry Film Club are the power of language, manipulation and discrimination. The selected poetry films take opposing positions and pose critical questions. Featuring poems by Anida Yoeu Ali, Yehuda Amichai, W. H. Auden, Paul Bogaert, Natalie Diaz, Neil Gaiman, Nora Gomringer, Louis MacNeice and Danez Smith. The ZEBRA Poetry Film Festival was founded in 2002 by the Haus für Poesie. It is to date the largest international platform for short films based on poems – poetry films. The next ZEBRA Poetry Film Festival will be taking place in Berlin from 5 to 8 December 2019.

Project leader: Thomas Zandegiacomo Del Bel
Prizegiving: Nationwide lyrix Competition
wenn es raus muss – with a rhythm
Clubraum
THU
20 June
2 p.m. followed by a reception
Admission free
Presenter: Josefine Berkholz (USA / Germany) author

lyrix is celebrating! As part of the 20th poesiefestival berlin the poetry competition for young people between 10 and 20 will be awarding prizes to this year’s twelve prize-winners in this, the eleventh round of the competition. Readings of the winning poems by their authors will provide a wealth of young poetry. bundeswettbewerb-lyrix.de
Cuba: The Poetry of Rumba
Reading and Performance
Studiofolly
THU
20 June
7.30 p.m.
€ 10/7
With Luz de Cuba (Cuba) author and performer | Omar Pérez López (Cuba) poet | Lego Rodríguez Iglesias (Cuba & USA) poet | Víctor Rodríguez Nuñez (Cuba & USA) poet
Presenters: Isabel Aguirre Siemer (Germany) literary scholar | Víctor Rodríguez Nuñez (USA) Kenyon College

Singing, speaking, rapping or humming – the poetry of Cuba is more critical, more diverse and more attractive than ever. It has developed forms of expression that combine colloquial language and hermetics, ethics and aesthetics, beauty and violence. It is typical of the poetry of the Caribbean that it traditionally and in the present enfolds all other art forms within itself.
The four writers Lego Rodríguez, Víctor Rodríguez, Omar Pérez López and Luz de Cuba play with words, rhythms and music.
Lego Rodríguez belongs to “Generation Zero”. In her poems she describes daily life in clear, direct and melodic language. Her work is characterised by absurd humour and playful, sexualised observations of daily life in Cuba and Miami.
Víctor Rodríguez currently teaches at Kenyon College in Ohio. He is one of Cuba’s best-known poets and has published more than 30 collections in Latin America and Europe for which he has won many prestigious prizes. He finds intimacy in distance and habit in constant unavoidable forgetting.
Omar Pérez López confronts all manner of curious things in his poems. He lets the word merge with the melodies and rhythms of rumba. A constant theme in his verse is the myth surrounding the memorialisation of his father, Ché Guevara.
Luz de Cuba aligns her words with electronic music. She herself calls it ‘PoeDance’ – the poetry of multilingualism between Spanish, English and Yoruba, words, rhythms, beats and percussion, always in harmony with the spiritual Afro-Caribbean identity of a sophisticated woman.

The texts for this event are available in German translation.

Project leader: Isabel Aguirre Siemer
Raúl Paz: The Concert
Studio
THU
20 June
9.30 p.m.
€ 28 incl. Poetry Talk

Raúl Paz is one of Cuba’s most important singer-songwriters. His style has gained him a reputation as a 21st Century musical revolutionary, and he is an exponent of what is known as New Cuban Music, which he has blended with elements of hip hop, dub and rock to form a fusion of salsa, jazz and electro-pop. His album Mulata brought him his international breakthrough in 2003. His work is diverse and creative. He has written songs for Viktor Lazlo, stage music for dance and theatre, TV soundtracks and much more. In the mid-90s Paz was one of the protagonists of the New Cuban Wave and co-founded the internationally successful Cuban band Orishas and has shared the stage with Celia Cruz, Marc Anthony and Rubén Blades. His lyrics sparkle with irony and fine wit, stories telling of life’s experiences full of love, separation, revolutionary drive and banality.

His current album, Vidas (2018) is a reflection on time, moods, distance, friendship and the transience of life and love. The album forms the soundtrack to the telenovela Vidas. For this concert he will be playing current songs and a Best Of selection from his entire work.

Project leaders: Isabel Aguirre Siemer | Daniel Allen Oberto
Poetry Talk: Raúl Paz
A Piece of You
Raúl Paz (Cuba) singer in conversation with Alejandra López (journalist, Radio Cosmo, Berlin)
Clubraum
THU
20 June
6 p.m.
€ 6/4
€ 28 incl. Concert

Cuban identity, the music of the telenovela, the telenovela as a mirror of Cuban day-to-day life and the conviction of living every day as though it were the last – this is what the Cuban singer-songwriter Raúl Paz will be talking about with Alejandra López. Raúl Paz is a major player in what is known as “new Cuban music”. Since his musical breakthrough with his album *Mulata* in 2003 he has brought out nine more albums. Between 1996 and 2008 he lived in France – now he is back in Cuba.

Spanish-German interpreting will be available for this event.

Project leader: Isabel Aguirre Siemer
20th poesiefestival berlin for Children, Young People, Young Adults and Teachers

Workshops for children, young people and young adults from 4-28 *
THU 6 June to THU 19 June
8 a.m.-12 p.m.
various venues
€ 3 per person, accompanying persons free
With Francesca Beard, Spoken Word Artist | Udo Betz, double bassist | Dorothée Billard, graphic artist | Jan Böttcher, writer and songwriter | Tanja Dückers, poet | Julia Kapelle, film maker | Franziska Khan, childrens’ philosopher | Sylvia Krupicka, literature disseminator | Kevin Nagel, sound and rap | Tobias Ribitzki, director | Lisa Werhahn, music disseminator and violinist

The poesiefestival berlin invites you to join in! Thinking about, filming, sampling, dancing or drawing poems? Poetry and inspiration for daycare centre groups and school classes, from alphabet poem to Poetry Yoga.

Further training for teachers and poetry disseminators:
Bisschen tuscheln/lass mich wuscheln (bit of whispering / let me tousle) – on monsters, kiosk mums and garden robots petting each other by and with Martina Hefter*
THU 6 June
9.30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Haus für Poesie, Knaackstr. 97 (Kulturbrauerei)
€ 18 participation fee (incl. materials)
With Martina Hefter, poet and performer | Claudia Maaß, educationalist and teacher | Christoph Ulleweit teacher and film maker

Encourage excitement about poetry? But how? This further training seminar offers poetry disseminators and teachers (of years 8-12) the opportunity to familiarise themselves actively with current processes for analysing and teaching contemporary poetry. The first part will be looking at the work of Martina Hefter. In the second part the analysis and production of poetic texts will be tried out. There will be a choice between the application-oriented workshop Contemporary Poetry Between Text and Room and a workshop on media transformation with film or photography.
No previous knowledge required

SelbstVERSuche goes festival: Between Post-Truth Apocalypse and Confabulation*
MON
17 June
4-7 p.m.
Academy of Arts in Hanseatengweg
Halle 1
With Francesca Beard

In this workshop, the British “Queen of performance poetry” (London Metro) Francesca Beard provides an introduction to the festival theme and offers the opportunity to find your own expression for the language art of the clubs. **The workshop will be taking place in English.**

*For more information on the workshops and further training seminars please go to: haus-fuer-poesie.org
Registration at: mitmachen@haus-fuer-poesie.org

Project leader: Karla Montasser
Non-public events

International Partner Meeting – Lyrikline
Clubraum
FRI
14 June
12 p.m.

In 1999 the Haus für Poesie initiated Lyrikline, the online portal for contemporary poetry. It now includes nearly 1,400 poets recorded reading in 84 original languages. More than 12,000 poems can be listened to, read and, with 18,000 translations into 80 languages, understood as well. Many international partner organisations have contributed to this, and in this anniversary year they will again be coming together for the annual working meeting of the network at the poesiefestival berlin. Then at 9.30 p.m. on 15 June we will be celebrating the 20th birthday of the project together in Lyrikline Late Night.

Project leaders: Juliane Otto | Heiko Strunk

Festival Organisers’ Meeting
Clubraum
SAT
15 June
11 a.m.

Organisers of poetry festivals around the world will be meeting again this year to exchange ideas about topical issues. The meeting serves as a platform for discussing successful formats, structures and funding possibilities for projects relating to poetic education and to investigate regional differences and common features.

Project leader: Hendrik Schnittker
OUR PARTNERS AND SPONSORS
The 20th poesiefestival berlin is a project of the Haus für Poesie in co-operation with the Academy of Arts. Sponsored by funding from the Hauptstadtkulturfonds (Capital City Cultural Fund) and the German Foreign Ministry, with the kind assistance of the Maritim proArte Hotel Berlin. Presented by taz, BÜCHERmagazin, tip Berlin, ASK HELMUT and Deutschlandfunk Kultur.

The exhibition AUBERGINE WITH WINDSCREEN WIPER – THE DRAWINGS OF OSKAR PASTIOR is presented with the kind support of the Oskar Pastior Foundation, the German Literature Archive Marbach and the Embassy of Romania in the Federal Republic of Germany.

POETS’ CORNER: POETRY IN THE CITY DISTRICTS is presented with the kind support of the Bezirksamt Treptow-Köpenick, Fachbereich Kultur und Museum, movingpoets Berlin gGmbH. Internationales Zentrum für Kunst, Kreativität und Begegnung, the Bezirksamt Friedrichshain-Kreuzberg, the Bezirkszentralbibliothek Pablo Neruda, the Instituto Cervantes Berlin, the Bezirksamt Tempelhof-Schöneberg, Amt für Weiterbildung und Kultur, Fachbereich Kunst, Kultur, Museen, Museen Tempelhof-Schöneberg, the Bezirksamt Lichtenberg, Amt für Weiterbildung und Kultur, Fachbereich Kunst und Kultur, the studio im HOCHHAUS, the Bezirksamt Pankow, Amt für Weiterbildung und Kultur, Fachbereich Kunst und Kultur, the Brotfabrik Berlin, the Brazilian Embassy in Berlin, the Bezirksamt Mitte, Amt für Weiterbildung und Kultur, Fachbereich Kunst und Kultur and Neue Nachbarschaft // Moabit.

WELTKLANG – NIGHT OF POETRY is presented with the kind support of the German Foreign Ministry, The Mandala Hotel, the British Council, the Slovenian Culture Centre Berlin and the Italian Culture Institute Berlin.

THE POETRY TALK: EILEEN MYLES – I’M A POET, YOU FOOL is presented with the kind support of the German Foreign Ministry and ECHO Konferenzdolmetschen.

Das Poetry Talk: Patrizia Cavalli – My Poems Will Not Change the World is presented with the kind support of the German Foreign Ministry, the Italian Culture Institute Berlin and ECHO Konferenzdolmetschen.

The Poetry Talk: Keston Sutherland – This Poetry Is Fucked is presented with the kind support of the German Foreign Ministry, the British Council and ECHO Konferenzdolmetschen.

The Poetry Talk: Xi Chuan – Heading for the Han Dynasty in an Audi A6 (Im Audi A6 Richtung Han-Dynastie) is presented with the kind support of the German Foreign Ministry and ECHO Konferenzdolmetschen.
The Poetry Talk: Fatemeh Shams– When they kicked in the door is presented with the kind support of the German Foreign Ministry and ECHO Konferenzdolmetschen.

The event superpowerpoetry is presented with the kind support of the German Foreign Ministry.

The Poetry Show Lyrikline Late Night is presented with the kind support of the German Foreign Ministry, the British Council and Flanders Literature.

The Forum: Hate, Fake, Rage. On Loss of Trust, Toxification of Discourse and Poetic Resistance is presented with the kind support of the Central Federal Office for Political Education, the Italian Culture Institute Berlin, the Collegium Hungaricum Berlin and ECHO Konferenzdolmetschen.

The readings in the Beech Garden by Thilo Krause and István Kemény as part of the Poetry Market are presented with the kind assistance of the Collegium Hungaricum Berlin and the Swiss culture foundation Pro Helvetia.

The 2019 Berlin Poetry Lecture: Sergio Raimondi– Problems with Writing an Ode to the Pacific Ocean is presented with the kind support of the German Foreign Ministry and the DAAD Artists in Berlin programme.

The Translation Workshop: Arabic-German– Middle East Meets Europe is organised in co-operation with Literature Across Frontiers and Literary Europe Live and is presented with the kind support of the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union, the Moabit Mountain College, Amal Berlin and ECHO Konferenzdolmetschen.

The event Queer Poets. Queer Voices– 50 Years on from Stonewall is presented by SIEGESSÄULE with the kind support of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation and ECHO Konferenzdolmetschen.

The panel discussion Stonewall was a riot! is presented by SIEGESSÄULE with the kind support of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, ECHO Konferenzdolmetschen and Studio Я of the Maxim Gorki Theatre.

The Poets’ Evening # 6: Freily ausgefranst. Translingual Poetics is presented with the kind support of the Villa Aurora, the DAAD Artists in Berlin programme and the Swedish Embassy Berlin.

The Poetry Talk: Freily ausgefranst. Translingual Poetics is presented with the kind support of the Villa Aurora & Thomas Mann House e. V., the DAAD Artists in Berlin programme, the Swedish Embassy Berlin and ECHO Konferenzdolmetschen.
VERSschmuggel – USA – Germany – reVERSible is presented with the kind support of the Foundation Haus der Geschichte/Museum in der Kulturbrauerei, Emory University, the Georgia Institute of Technology, Berry College and The Westminster Schools.

The Poetry Talk: A Peaceful Country is presented with the kind support of Emory University, the Georgia Institute of Technology, Berry College, The Westminster Schools and ECHOO Konferenzdolmetschen.

The reading and performance datenschemen & zeichensprachen – An Evening with Digital Poetry is presented with the kind support of the Swiss culture foundation Pro Helvetia and the Austran Culture Forum Berlin.

Walt Whitman: Leaves of Grass – A Staging is presented with the kind support of the Carl Hanser Verlag.

The Poetry Talk: Walt Whitman – Leaves of Grass is presented with the kind support of ECHOO Konferenzdolmetschen.

Partners for the prizegiving for the Bundeswettbewerb lyrix: wenn es raus muss – with a rhythm are Deutschlandfunk, the Deutsche Philologenverband and the Deutsche Museumsbund. lyrix is sponsored by the Federal Ministry for Education and Research. The event is taking place in co-operation with the Haus für Poesie.

The reading and performance Cuba: The Poetry of Rumba is presented with the kind support of the German Foreign Ministry and Instituto Cervantes Berlin.

Raúl Paz: The Concert is presented with the kind support of the German Foreign Ministry and the Instituto Cervantes Berlin.

The Poetry Talk: Raúl Paz- A Piece of You is presented with the kind support of the German Foreign Ministry, the Instituto Cervantes Berlin and ECHOO Konferenzdolmetschen.

The 20th poesiefestival berlin – for Children, Young People, Young Adults and Teachers is presented with the kind support of RITTER SPORT, Bad Liebenwerda Mineralquellen and the KNM Quartett. The project #karuta - Mein Tag als Haiku (#karuta – My Day as a Haiku) has been made possible by the Allegro-Grundschule, Töne machen Leute e.V., the Deutscher Literaturfonds and by the Projektfonds Kulturelle Bildung. The latter has also sponsored the workshop ebbeundflut - Klangust lernt dichten! (ebb and tide – sound lobster learns to make poetry!).

The Festival Organisers’ Meeting is organised in co-operation with Literature Across Frontiers and Literary Europe Live is presented with the kind support of the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union and ECHOO Konferenzdolmetschen.