Pressemitteilung der Haus für Poesie

Preview of the 21st poesiefestival berlin
The online programme for Planet P is coming along nicely

Preparations for the poesiefestival berlin (5–11 June) are in full swing. For the first time in its 21-year history, it is taking place as a purely online festival. The festival site will be going live from the end of May.

The festival is presenting around 150 writers from 29 countries, who will be appearing in more than 100 online events including talks, readings, slams, interviews and workshops. A huge challenge! But we will definitely be keeping some familiar formats such as Weltklang – Night of Poetry (with readings by nine poets from nine countries) and the translation workshop VERSschmuggel/reVERSible. These are currently being put together all over the world in Zoom conferences, videos, audio recordings, etc., with post-production in Berlin to make them Internet-compatible. They will be joined by live formats during the festival itself.

The Poetry Talks featuring poets from the Weltklang programme will be uploaded as text interviews. Poets’ Corner is even getting a change of name: the annual series that kicks off the festival cannot go out into the streets of the Berlin neighbourhoods this year, so instead it will be coming from the homes of Berlin poets, and Poets’ Home (Corners) will feature readings and home stories reflecting the “corontine“. Even the Poetry Market that takes place on the Sunday during the festival will be available online, with publishers and magazines presenting their current poetry output in blogs and vlogs. Poetic Education offers further training for poetry disseminators and workshops on sound poetry and Poetry Yoga, with closing readings in which the next generation of poets present their work.
Preview of the online programme #planetpgoeson

PRELUDE
FRI 29 May–THU 4 June | Videos | Premières daily at 6 pm
Poets’ Home (Corners)

Poets’ Home (Corners) covers the city with poems. 33 Berlin poets and performers feature in short videos from the Poets’ Home.

FRI 5 June | Video | Première 7.30 pm
WELTKLANG – NIGHT OF POETRY

With: Mircea Cărtărescu (ROU), Michael Donhauser (AUT), Athena Farrokhzad (IRN/SWE) with musician Christian Kesten (DEU), Yanko González (CHL), Luljeta Lleshanaku (ALB), Koleka Putuma (ZAF) with musician Tracy September (ZAF/CHE), Ariana Reines (USA), Katharina Schultens (DEU), Yi Won (KOR)

Presenter: Insa Wilke, literary critic

Before and during the festival | available for reading in the media library
POETRY TALKS

• ATHENA FARROKHZAD / KOLEKA PUTUMA
  The heart can’t be freely bent like the knee
  Interview with Daniela Seel, writer and publisher

• MIRCEA CĂRTĂRESCU
  I can see more colours than other people
  Interview with his translator Ernest Wichner

• ARIANA REINES
  What. Now What?
  Interview with Léonce W. Lupette, writer and translator

• LULJETA LLESHANAKU
  Small zig-zags and the feel for completeness
  Interview with her translator Andrea Grill

• YANKO GONZÁLEZ
  With an image of me in mind
  Interview with Rike Bolte, literary scholar and translator
• **YI WON**  
  I click constantly on the world  
  Interview with her translator Simone Kornappel

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**SAT 6 June | pre-produced video reading & live chat | Première 5.30 pm**  
**GRENZE by ICORN (INTERNATIONAL CITIES OF REFUGE NETWORK)**

With Manal Al Sheikh (IRQ, currently in Stavanger), Nada Al-Khawwam, (IRQ, currently in Berlin) and Faraj Bayakdar (SYR, currently in Stockholm)

Presenters: Christian Filipps / Kenan Khadaj

ICORN, the International Cities of Refuge, had planned a General Assembly of artists, writers and journalists in Berlin in June 2020. Unfortunately, because of the current restrictions on freedom of assembly, this meeting will not now be taking place. But the poesiefestival berlin will be seeing to it that the borders of language as well as of thought are kept open regardless and is bringing together three of the participants in an online format.

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**SAT 6 June | Video readings | Première 7.30 pm**  
**CANADIAN POETRY / POÉSIE DU QUÉBEC / DICHTUNG AUS DEUTSCHLAND**  
**VERSschmuggel / reversible**

With poets Martine Audet (CAN), Monique Deland (CAN), Adam Dickinson (CAN), Daniel Falb (DEU), François Guerrette (CAN), Nancy Hüniger (DEU), Aisha Sasha John (CAN), Maren Kames (DEU), Natasha Kanapé Fontaine (CAN), Canisia Lubrin (CAN), Tristan Malavoy (CAN), Pierre Nepveu (CAN), Kerstin Preiwuß (DEU), Sandra Ridley (CAN), Lisa Robertson (CAN), Armand Garnet Ruffo (CAN), Levin Westermann (DEU), Ron Winkler (DEU)

Presenter: Karolina Golimowska, literary scholar and translator

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**FORUM**  
**SUN 7 June | Online discussion | Première 5.30 pm**  
**Digital Revolution and Cultural Memory**

Aleida Assmann, English literature scholar, literary and cultural scholar (DEU); Mercedes Bunz, media scholar (DEU/UK)

Presenter: Asmus Trautsch, philosopher and poet
BERLIN POETRY LECTURE  
SUN 7 June | Première 7.30 pm  
Anne Carson – Dreizehn Blickwinkel auf einige Worte  
Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Short Talk  

The Lecture will be given in English, with German translations available.  
Deutschlandfunk Kultur will be broadcasting the Lecture on 14 June at 10.03 pm.  

Before and during the festival | available for reading in the media library  
POETRY TALK  

- ANNE CARSON  
  Undo The Latches of Ordinary Understanding  
  Interview with Hans Jürgen Balmes, Programme Director International Literature,  
  S. Fischer Verlag  

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MON 8 June | Video readings/performances | Première 7.30 pm  
UNHEARD POETRY  
Europe’s Black Diaspora  

With poets: Simone Atangana Bekono (NLD), Kayo Chingonyi (UK/ZMB), Farhiya Feysal (SWE/SOM), Steve Mekoudja (DEU/CMR), Fiston Mwanza Mujila (AUT/COD)  

Music by: Patrick Dunst and Christian Pollheimer (AUT), Steve Mekoudja (DEU/CMR)  
Curated and presented by: Fiston Mwanza Mujila, writer (AUT/COD)  

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MON 8 June | Short film | Première 9.30 pm  
PERSEUS IN VERSE  

By and with Daniel Bayerstorfer (DEU) translator/writer, Victoria Lorini (ITA) translator/writer, Theresa Prammer (DEU) translator/writer, Moritz Rauchhaus (DEU) translator/writer, Tobias Roth (DEU) translator/writer, Andrea Schmidt (DEU) typographer, Asmus Trautsch (DEU) translator/writer  

When the statue of Perseus by Benvenuto Cellini was unveiled in Florence in 1554, a number of poets affixed sonnets in praise of the artist to its pedestal. Six translators have now for the first time translated these texts into German. The film tells of Cellini and the statue of Perseus and provides an insight into the translation workshop. The statue and the sonnets are given visual presentation by the typographer Andrea Schmidt.  

The Poets’ Evening on the film is planned for the Autumn.
DIGITAL POETRY
TUES 9 June | Demo, reading, video | Première 6.30 pm
Politically programmed

With Nick Thurston (UK) writer/artist, Kathrin Passig (DEU) writer/essayist/translator, Álvaro Seiça (PRT/NOR) writer/literary scholar

Presenter: Hannes Bajohr, writer and literary scholar

The works being presented this evening are born-digital. Nick Thurston presents poems that have been crowd-sourced and outsourced using “artificial intelligence” and machine translation. Kathrin Passig generates an unpolitical politics cut from plenary minutes of the German Bundestag and Álvaro Seiça lets news streams from social media meet present-day refugee streams.

Languages: English, Portuguese, German with subtitles

TUES 9 June | Performance | Première 8.30 pm
CAROLINE BERGVALL: SONIC ATLAS

With Caroline Bergvall (UK) writer and Jamie Hamilton (UK) composer

Caroline Bergvall (born in Hamburg in 1962) is a politically thinking and acting poet in the emphatic sense. This is demonstrated in her new multi-lingual work Sonic Atlas, which reacts to the refugee crisis and modern extremism. Sonic Atlas has been created in collaboration with the well-known British composer Gavin Bryars and seven UK poets who joined Caroline Bergvall in writing poems on the subject of ‘Refuge’. An adapted version of Sonic Atlas for two performers is being specially presented for this evening.

WED 10 June | Video presentations and mail discussion | Première 6.30 pm
OBJECTIONS: POETRY AS POLITICAL ACTIVISM

With Antoine Cassar (MLT) writer and activist, Kadhem Khanyar (IRQ) writer and performer, Bernadette La Hengst (DEU) musician and theatre artist, Franck Leibovici (FRA) writer and fine artist, Maud Vanhauwaert (BEL), writer and performer, Sandra Hetzl (DEU) translator

More and more poets are intervening in processes of political negotiation. Franck Leibovici has advised the International Criminal Court (ICC) in Den Haag, to line up legal materials with poetic strategies. Kadhem Khanyar was a co-founder in Iraq of the Culture Militia collective which does poetry performances at sites of violence and terror. Antoine Cassar has since 2009 been distributing the long poem ‘Passaport’, which is
intended to serve as an anti-passport and replacement passport. Maud Vanhauwaert built a “Toren van Babel” in Antwerp as an open meeting place for multi-lingual poetry and discussion.

SUPERPOWERPOETRY
WED 10 June | Video | Première 8.30 pm
SPOKEN WORD meets SLAM POETRY meets HIP-HOP

With Deborah Emmanuel (SGP) poet and singer, Yunus (DEU) rapper with viola, Dean Bowen (NDL) Spoken Word artist, Julian Heun (DEU) slam poet

Presenter: Julian Heun

THU 11 June | Video | Première 6.30 pm
POETRY & ACTIVISM
“All political poetry is bad – all poetry is political”

With poets Dean Bowen (NDL), Frank Keizer (NDL), Lea Schneider (DEU), John Kinsella (AUS) and curator Bas Kwakman (NDL)

Images by Michael Tedja (NDL), Jonas Staal (NDL) and Peter Koole (NDL), Cecilia Vicuña (CHL)

After decades in which poets have turned away from political reality, a new energy has built up in the present – young poets take positions, using poetry to inspire, motivate and even mobilise people. What gives poetry its social power?

Languages: English with German subtitles, German

THU 11 June | Video reading / concert | Première 8.30 pm
LYRICS, SOUNDS & GROOVES – JAZZ & POETRY

With Artur Becker (DEU) poet and author, Ulrich Beckerhoff (DEU) jazz musician, Maria Pia de Vito (ITA) singer and pianist, Tord Gustavsen (NOR) jazz pianist, Krysztof “Dżawor” Jaworski (POL) Blues-Rock guitarist, Michele Rabbia (ITA) percussionist and drummer, Simin Tander (DEU) singer

Presenter: Matthias Wegner, Deutschlandradio
Curator: Ulrich Beckerhoff

In their videos produced specially for the poesiefestival the artists set to music and recite texts of their own and by others as various as their music, from Plath to Rilke,
from Rumi to Norwegian Christian hymns transforming themselves into melodious Sufi texts, to jazzy Polish-German Blues-Rock poetry to settings to music of Italian poems by Sara Ventroni and Gabriele Frasca.

The texts are read and recited in English, German, Pashtu/Afghaani and Italian. German translations are available.

POETIC EDUCATION

FURTHER TRAINING for teachers and poetry disseminators
FRI 5 June | Webinar | 9.30 am
“look, here comes the poison queen! her children carry/swarms of gnats in their hearts, how does she do it? that’s art!”

With Birgit Kreipe (DEU) author, Claudia Maas (DEU) educationalist and teacher, Dorothée Billard (DEU) graphic artist

Generate enthusiasm for poetry! But how? This further training webinar offers poetry disseminators and teachers of pupils in years 8–12 the opportunity actively to familiarise themselves with the analysis and dissemination of contemporary poetry with skilled support using current processes. The focus this year is on the work of poet Birgit Kreipe.

Registration at mitmachen@haus-fuer-poesie.org

SUN 7 June | Video tutorial for ages 18–99 | Première 2 pm
SOUND POETRY with Josepha Conrad

Setting poems to music with sounds. Tutorial for music and poetry, taught by musician and songwriter Josepha Conrad.
Duration: 15 min.

SUN 7 June | CLOSING PRESENTATIONS

Anthology on poesiefestival.org
YOUNG POEMS AND BRITISH COUNCIL SCHOOLSCHILDREN’S WRITING COMPETITION
With Josephine Baetz, Isabelle Decher, Benedikt Gotzens, Edna Grewers, Anna Hattler, Carmine Jako, Kristina Janackova, Cheikh Anta Belle Kum, Kierán Meinhardt, Lisa Starogadzki, Friedrich Schulze, Alice Veil
Video readings | Première 3.30 pm
OPEN POEMS
With Leander Beil, Sarah Borowik-Frank, Katia Sophia Ditzler, Anna Fedorova, Clara Heinrich, Johanna Hühn, Lisa James, Elena Kaufmann, Laura Kunz, Patty Nash, Şafak Sarıççek, Ole Schmitter, Mae Schwinghammer, Carlo Spiller, Sophie Stroux, Ulith Tiefenbacher, Lea Wahode

SUN 7 June | Video tutorial for ages 18–99 | Première 5 pm
PHYSICAL POETRY with Shannon Sullivan

Duration: 15 min.

TUE 9 June | Video workshop for ages 18–99 | Première 6 pm
Master Class on Queer Poetry with Crauss

e-teaching with video workshop, taught by poet and poetry teacher Crauss
Duration: 2 hrs.

WED 10 June | Video workshop for primary school children | time tba
Colours in the Poem with Tanja Dückers

e-teaching with video workshop, taught by poet and poetry teacher Tanja Dückers

The poesiefestival berlin has been taking place since 2000 and is the biggest of its kind in Europe. As well as the book, poetry has long sought other forms of presentation and experiments with theatre, performance, music, dance, film and digital media. The festival enables poetry to be experienced in all its diversity of forms and welcomes up to 13,000 visitors each year.

The 21st poesiefestival berlin is a project by the Haus für Poesie. Funded by the Capital Cultural Fund and with the kind support of the Federal Foreign Office, the Government of Canada, the Embassy of Canada to Germany, the Ministère des Relations internationales et de la Francophonie du Québec, the Québec Government Office in Germany, as well as Federal Agency for Civic Education. Presented by Der Freitag, taz, BÜCHERmagazin, tip Berlin, rbbKultur, ASK HELMUT, iHeartBerlin, EXBERLINER and Deutschlandfunk Kultur.
FRI 5 – THU 11 June 2020
21st poesiefestival berlin: Planet P
Online Edition #planetpgoeson

Social Media
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poesiefestival.org

Press images

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