

PROGRAM NEW COLOURS FESTIVAL 2025

HEAR NEW THINGS. NEW PERSPECTIVES

Criss-cross the city with the New Colors Festival, because it is more than just a music event. It provides creative impetus and changes the view of the city and its potential. In this way,

“Gelsenkirchen (...) can refute its reputation as a city with a faded industrial culture and obsession with soccer,” says UKJazzNews London. An open-minded audience experiences how music becomes the starting point for new ways of listening and thinking.

“A warming, inspiring cosmos, an island of sophistication”, writes the jazz portal nrwjazz.net about the festival, summing up the special atmosphere.

For four days, Gelsenkirchen becomes a cultural meeting place: extraordinary concerts in special locations create space for exchange and inspiration. The program is aimed at a broad audience - regardless of previous musical knowledge or genre boundaries.

In 2025, the festival presents itself as a multi-layered synthesis of the arts. Different varieties of jazz are combined with original locations to create a special experience. Several internationally renowned headliners and new voices on the scene will provide musical highlights.

Musicians from eight nations present current projects. From modern jazz to avant-garde and electronic to funk. Their common strength: artistic expressiveness that touches and captivates.

► **SEP 18th** | Start 8 pm | Doors 7 pm | **Kaue**

Opening: JAZZ BIGBAND GRAZ Smål (A,AZ,D)



Horst Michael Schaffer Trumpet Vocals | Heinrich von Kalnein Saxophone Flute | Karen Asatryan Piano | Arto Tunçboyacıyan Electronics Percussion | Thomas Wilding Bass | Tom Stabler Drums | Hanno Busch Guitar

JBBG Smål rethinks big band. Reduced in line-up, maximum in effect. The exceptional ensemble broke the boundaries of the big band sound over 20 years ago as Jazz Bigband Graz. First-class jazz meets rock and world music with virtuosity and emotional expressiveness. Surprising, unconventional and always rousing.

► **SEP 19th** | Start 6 pm | Doors 5 pm | **Nordsternurm** Gelsenkirchen |

THE LITANY OF THE PEAKS (F)



Clément Janinet Violine | Elodie Pasquier Clarinet Bass Clarinet | Bruno Ducret Cello

Dialogue is what characterizes this trio. In an unusual line-up for jazz, the trio spins musical arcs and explores harmonic contemplations. Influences from new music are interwoven with French folklore in particular. The instruments constantly change roles. Improvisations follow grooves and again and again the recurring melody brings everything together into a harmonious whole. An explosion, a confusion that meets clarity. Powerful, lively statements meet melodic delicacy.

► **Double concert** | **SEP 19th** | Start 8 pm | Doors 7.30 pm | **Schloss Horst** Gelsenkirchen

LASH & GREY (SK)



Kristína Mihaľová Vocals | Jakub Šedivý Guitar

With their passionate performance and unmistakable sound, they are among the most exciting newcomers in European vocal jazz.

The charismatic singer and the virtuoso guitarist are conquering international stages as Lash & Grey with their special blend of jazz, soul and pop. Their music is reminiscent of Norah Jones, Etta James or Billie Holiday and captivates with its velvety sounds. Despite their young career, they have already played on renowned stages such as Carnegie Hall. In 2022, they were the only Europeans to reach the final of the prestigious Sarah Vaughan Jazz Vocal Competition in New Jersey.

VINCENT PEIRANI „JOKERS“ (F,I,ISR) | Schloss Horst Gelsenkirchen



Vincent Peirani Accordion | Federico Casagrande Guitar | Ziv Ravitz Drums

When French accordionist Vincent Peirani takes to the stage, you never know exactly what will happen. One thing is certain: it will be surprising, explosive and full of magic! With “Jokers”, the world-famous virtuoso has created a trio that ignores musical boundaries with relish. Sometimes it sounds like the soundtrack to a Tarantino film, then like a road trip through a big city at night. Together with Federico Casagrande and Ziv Ravitz, he ignites a musical firework display of rock, electro, jazz and cinematic atmosphere. “Jokers” is a trip, a frenzy, a game with musical freedom. Unpredictable. Wild. And absolutely captivating.

► **SEP 20th** | Start 4 pm | Doors 3.30 pm | **Bleckkirche**

HONEY BIZARRE feat. FETHI AK (D)



Gilda Razani Theremin Electronics | Hanzō Wanning Keyboards Synthesizer FX | Fethi Ak Percussion

Gilda Razani is one of the most creative theremin players of our time. She uses the world's oldest electronic instrument to create special soundscapes - which can also be heard on the Grammy-nominated album “Fifty” by The Manhattan Transfer. At her side: the multi-instrumentalist and sound inventor Hanzō Wanning, whose musical spectrum ranges from jazz to electronics to modern compositions. They are joined by percussionist Fethi Ak from Gelsenkirchen. His rousing rhythms lend the music a further, energetic dimension. A concert in which sound and sacred space become an experience.

► Double concert | SEP 20th | Start 7.30 pm | Doors 7 pm | Stadt.bau.raum

NOAH REIS RAMMA „Inner Contemplation“ (D)



Noah Reis Ramma Piano Keyboards Vocals | Jannis Sicker Guitar | Martin Furmann Bass | Alex Parzhuber Drums Percussion

Noah Reis-Ramma, a pianist with Brazilian roots who was born and raised in Gelsenkirchen, presents his new project in his home town. His compositions and piano playing are rooted in Afro-Brazilian melodies and rhythms and are strongly influenced by the open sound language of modern European jazz. The use of electronic elements with the voice as a melodic instrument is reminiscent of the music of Pat Metheny. With this project, the exceptional young musician presents himself as a new, exciting voice in jazz.

BOBBY RAUSCH (D)



Lutz Streun Bass Clarinet | Oleg Hollmann Bariton-Saxophone | Nico Stallmann Drums

Bobby Rausch inspires with a powerful, straightforward and deep sound. Inspired by the intersections between jazz and hip-hop, digital and analog, the Berliners play music in the field of tension between control and improvisation. In their concerts, they lead their audience through the darkest bass valleys and pulsating grooves. They conjure up the urban night, brimming with electro beats and rock vinyls, and will not spare energy for all those who have had enough of compromise. Handmade in Berlin!

► **SEP 20th** | Start 8 pm | Doors: 7.30 pm | Werkstatt Buer

STEPHAN MATTNER ZOOM (D)



Stephan Mattner Tenor-Saxophone | Philipp van Endert Guitar | Sebastian Räther Bass | Jo Beyer Drums

Openness and form - this is how you could describe the music of tenor saxophonist and improviser Stephan Mattner. His characteristic compositions open up many musical paths, which are unfolded with melodic sense, rhythmic variability and the necessary composure. In the warm, unmistakable sound of his tenor saxophone, some musical realms of the 70s and 80s appear in a new light. The result is music that is independent and yet rooted in the great jazz tradition.

► **SEP 21st** | Start 11.30 am | Doors 11 am | Kunstraum Norten

MATINEE mit JULIAN & ROMAN WASSERFUHR TRIO (D)



Julian Wasserfuhr Trumpet | Roman Wasserfuhr Piano | Jörg Brinkmann Cello Electronics

Julian and Roman Wasserfuhr have been among the elite of the German jazz scene for years. With their new album "Safe Place", they prove their unerring instinct for embracing their audience musically with fine melodies. The reduced, chamber music-like instrumentation of cello, trumpet/flugelhorn and piano repeatedly creates a musical space that is a refuge for reflection and concentration amidst the noise of chaotic times. The warm sound world celebrates genuine connection, as well as friendships, authenticity and the power of music.

► **SEP 21st** | Start 4 pm | Doors 3.30 pm | **Matthäuskirche**

RENAUD GARCIA-FONS (F)



Renaud Garcia-Fons Kontrabass Electronics

When Renaud Garcia-Fons picks up the double bass, a world is created that you wouldn't think possible. He is a virtuoso, a sound magician, a border crosser. Thanks to the high fifth string, his melodic flights of fancy are almost reminiscent of a viola. Rhythmic finesse, paired with influences from flamenco and world music and the use of loops, make for rousing grooves. Sometimes thunderous and earthy, sometimes delicate - his music is moving. Every note is handmade. His incredible joy of playing always shines through. A solo concert with Renaud Garcia-Fons is pure magic and shows what music can be when a master makes his instrument sing.

► **SEP 21st** | Start 7 pm | Doors 6 pm | **Heilig Kreuz Kirche**

ANIKA NILLES (D)



Anika Nilles, the German drumming sensation, takes the musical experience to a new level with her band Nevell. With her energetic and precise rhythms, she has taken the drum world by storm. She has already shared the stage with guitar legends such as Jeff Beck, Eric Clapton and Ron Woods.

With Nevell, she creates her own explosive mixture of urban jazz and funk and takes the audience on an instrumental rollercoaster ride full of surprising twists and turns. A firework of virtuosity and catchy melodies that culminate in passionate live performances. The band is a master at breaking musical boundaries.



New Colours Festival 2025 - music that moves!

**Four days full of jazz, electronic, funk and avant-garde - at special venues in Gelsenkirchen.
International artists, unique concerts and an audience that loves new sounds.
Experience a festival that breaks boundaries and creates encounters.**

2025 - New Colors. New listening. New perspectives.