

2010

## **Dortmund U and more than 400 events: Dortmund has a full program for RUHR.2010 as a European Capital of Culture**

With more than 400 individual events in over 80 projects, Dortmund is well prepared for the year as European Capital of Culture with RUHR.2010. For every day in 2010, there's at least one capital of culture event in Dortmund. With each day, the transition from a former industrial city to a city of culture can be experienced first-hand. The symbol of this transformation, an imposing landmark in the centre of the city and the "flagship" of the cultural capital is the Dortmund U.

### **The Dortmund U - Centre for Art and Creativity**

Protected as a historic building, this 1928 structure from the former Union brewery is evolving into a "Centre for Art and Creativity". Art from the 20th and 21st centuries, research, education, and media art will dwell in this space. Permanent use by the Museum Ostwall and the fact that it will house the Dortmunder Kreativwirtschaft am U-Turm will guarantee sustainable development impetus for all of Dortmund – even beyond 2010. The cultural capital's motto "Culture through Change – Change through Culture" can be experienced here in every respect. This new approach, combining science, art, education, and business, will make the Dortmund U an oasis of creative industry and a unique innovation centre in Europe.

The first public opening of the Dortmund U is planned for the 9th of May for the commencement of the "Local Hero" week as part of the Capital of Culture programme. Beginning at the end of May one can see Adolf Winkelmann's "Bewegte Bilder" [Images in Motion] on the exterior facade as well as two further exhibits by this renowned Dortmund film artist in the U tower's foyer and

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interior walls, the so-called “Kunstvertikale” [art vertical]. The first exhibits will be displayed on floors 1-3 of the tower. Among others, one can see the media art show “Agents & Provocateurs”, organised by the Hartware Medienkunst Verein as part of the North Rhine Westphalian festival “scene: ungarn in nrw – 40. Internationale Kulturtage der Stadt Dortmund” [scene: Hungary in NRW – 40<sup>th</sup> International Days of Culture of the City of Dortmund]. Beginning in May, numerous events will take place – including some at the newly-designed squares around the U tower during the summer. Among these is the “RuhrHochDeutsch” festival: from July through September the crème de la crème of the local cabaret scene will prove their abilities in a historic spiegel tent in front of the U.

Step by step, additional floors in the U tower will be opened: in August the cathedral on the 7<sup>th</sup> floor will be opened with restaurants and eateries. From the end of September, the Museum Ostwall will invite the public to tour the new display of its fine collection of 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century art on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> floors under the central theme “the museum as a power house”. The 6<sup>th</sup> floor, which is reserved for temporary exhibitions, will officially open at the beginning of October with the show “Die Bewegung der Bilder. Kunst und Film von 1950 bis heute“, [The Movement of Images. Art and Film from 1950 through Today], a joint venture between the Museum Ostwall and the Centre Pompidou in Paris.

### **From “Audiodigitale” to “Zeitinsel”, from Concert House to District Festivals**

From “Audiodigitale”, a festival for electronic music fans and digital pop culture (28-30 October) to “Zeitinseln” [Islands in Time], dedicated to the Turkish composer and pianist Fazil Say (10-13 March) and the Italian mezzo-soprano Cecilia Bartoli (19, 29 June, 1 July); from offerings at the Concert House to festivals in the city’s many districts, from music and theatre to exhibits and festivals to projects for children and youths as well as long nights: the jam-packed calendar of events offers an amazing variety for all residents of Dortmund as well as guests from both near and far. Here are a few examples:

One of the programme emphases in Dortmund is music. All forms of vocal expression – from classical and jazz to world and pop music – can be heard at the “Klangvokal” festival from 11 May – 10 June. From 12-16 May, Dortmund will be the choir capital of Germany: at this time, the best German choirs will compete in a vocal competition. “Juicy Beats”, the festival for electronic and independent music, will transform the Westfalenpark into a party zone on 31 July.

There's also a huge programme for children and youths: around 60 crews will compete against each other at the German Championship for HipHop Street Dance on 13 March to enter the finals. Youths can develop their vision of the future with artistic means at the theatre project “pottfiction”. At the "Night of Youth Culture” (3-4 July), a Ruhrgebiet-wide highlight, youths themselves will determine what happens.

More than 30 locations at former coal mines in Dortmund will fly high with the art project "Schacht-Zeichen" with large helium balloons from 22-30 May. They will be flanked by several city district festivals, at which residents and visitors can celebrate together. Many thrills can also be found at “Still-Leben”, the major festival of daily culture on 18 July. From Duisburg to Dortmund, the B1/A40 motorway will become the largest table in the world at 60 kilometres: over 4,700 tables in the Dortmund city limits alone will welcome guests to sit a spell.

Detailed information about the events programme can be found online at [www.ruhr2010.dortmund.de](http://www.ruhr2010.dortmund.de) and will be available in English beginning in the spring.

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