



Photo: Megan Courtis

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DEAR MEDIA PARTNERS, DEAR COLLEAGUES,

After two years in downscaled mode, the Reeperbahn Festival Opening is back to full glory this year!

On Wednesday, 21 September, Stage Operettenhaus will host the opening of the 17th Reeperbahn Festival. In the company of moderator Hadnet Tesfai, we're looking forward to the opening address from Hamburg's First Mayor **Dr. Peter Tschentscher** and to keynotes from US Ambassador **Amy Gutmann** and Ukrainian singer **Natalia Klitschko**. Appearing live are **alyona alyona**, **Zoe Wees**, **Jan Delay** and the cast of the multi-award winning US musical **HAMILTON**. Another live act in the form of an internationally successful artist will be announced shortly.

The official opening concert of Reeperbahn Festival comes courtesy of British rapper **Loyle Carner**. The **ANCHOR Jury** comprising **Bill Kaulitz**, **Joy Denalane**, **Pablo Vittar**, **Pelle Almqvist**, **Tayla Parx** and **Tony Visconti** will present the six nominees for this year's award before the focus switches for the following days to live music performances. This includes two Ukraine Showcases this year, which especially in light of the current situation are aimed at highlighting and promoting the country's culture. The acts performing here are among the 69 new names just added to this year's live programme – including **Alice Merton**, **KLAN** and **Verifiziert**.

Frehn Hawel

AMY GUTMANN, ALYONA ALYONA, NATALIA KLITSCHKO, ZOE WEES, JAN DELAY, DR. PETER TSCHENTSCHER & AN INTERNATIONAL CELEBRITY GUEST OPEN THE 17TH REEPERBAHN FESTIVAL

The Reeperbahn Festival Opening is so much more than just the official opening event of the festival: combining mind-blowing live music with an international flavour and socio-political issues, it presents the quintessence of Reeperbahn Festival in a rousing 70-minute show. As in previous years, the host for the evening will be **Hadnet Tesfai**. Around 1,200 invited guests from the world of politics and the international music, creative and cultural industries are due to attend. Festival visitors will also have the opportunity to take part in the Reeperbahn Festival Opening again this year.

Hamburg's First Mayor **Dr. Peter Tschentscher** will welcome everyone before the celebrity guest performs the first of two songs at the Reeperbahn Festival Opening. We will announce the name shortly.

The **ANCHOR 2022 Jury**, comprising **Bill Kaulitz** (DEU), **Joy Denalane** (DEU), **Pablo Vittar** (BRA), **Pelle Almqvist** (SWE), **Tayla Parx** (USA) and **Tony Visconti** (USA) present this year's nominees for the award. Performing live on stage straight afterwards will be Ukrainian rapper and ANCHOR 2019 winner **alyona alyona**.

Singer songwriter and activist **Natalia Klitschko** will make a keynote speech on the impact of the war in Ukraine on artists and culture professionals, focussing particular on artistic creativity in exile.

The current most high-profile export to the international music market is **Zoe Wees** (DEU), who will present her new single "Daddy's Eyes" at the opening.

Amy Gutmann, United States Ambassador to Germany, represents this year's partner country, the USA. Her keynote speech on the power of social transformation will focus on the creation of cultural and living environments that are free of prejudice and discrimination. This passionate commitment will be underlined by a powerful live performance by the **HAMILTON** cast, who will also exclusively preview the upcoming German première of the multi-award winning Broadway musical.

The music performances of Hamburg's chief styler No.1 **Jan Delay** (DEU) and the performance of the second song of the international guest will conclude the Reeperbahn Festival Opening. And they lead on to what the next four days are all about: music, finally able to play live to real audiences in full houses once again!

The **opening concert** of the Reeperbahn Festival 2022 features British rapper **Loyle Carner** (GBR), whose two albums "Yesterday's Gone" and "Not Waving, But Drowning" have scooped major attention not only in his home country but also in Germany.

Recordings of the Reeperbahn Festival Opening are available on the [Press site](#) of Reeperbahn Festival website.

UKRAINE SHOWCASE

Reeperbahn Festival regards itself as an international cultural ambassador and is committed to an open society and justice both on and off stage. This will be highlighted at this year's Reeperbahn Festival in light of the ongoing war in Ukraine. One of two showcases in cooperation with [willkommensKULTUR Berlin](#) and the Ukrainian protest movement [Vitsche Culture](#) takes place on Wednesday straight after the festival opening at headCRASH. Followed by another showcase on Friday starting at 05:00 pm at Thomas Read Disco, in cooperation with [Music Export Ukraine](#). The two showcases featuring Ukrainian acts are taking place to foster and maintain contact and exchange with the local music scene. Precise details of the programme and all participating acts for each showcase are listed [here](#).

ALICE MERTON, KLAN AND 67 NEW ACTS CONFIRMED

Reeperbahn Festival has added 69 new acts to its live music line-up, including **Alice Merton** (GBR / DEU), presenting her recently released new album "S.I.D.E.S" and hit the top ten across almost all of Europe with her debut album "Mint" featuring the huge hits "No Roots" and "Why So Serious". The fraternal duo **KLAN** (DEU) gives German-language pop a very welcome update with songs from their debut "Zwei Seiten" (Two Sides) spanning pop, electro and indie rock, while **Verifiziert** (AUT) combine contemporary r'n'b, cloud rap and beats ranging from reggaeton to lo-fi house with the cloud pop of their highly acclaimed debut "40100", blending a sultry feel-good vibe with melancholy.

In addition to the almost fully booked concert by **MINE** on 23 September at the Elbphilharmonie, there will be two more world premieres with programmes created especially for Reeperbahn Festival: **Betterov & Friends** will play a Reeperbahn Festival session on Friday, 23 September, at St Michaelis Church, with Olli Schulz, Fil Bo Riva, Paula Hartmann and Novaa announced to join them.

Anna Calvi will perform with a string quartet for the first time as part of her show at the Elbphilharmonie on Saturday, 24 September!

OTHER CONFIRMED ACTS ARE:

[futurebae](#) (DEU) | [BILBAO](#) (DEU) | [Thomas Headon](#) (GBR / AUS) | [YellowStraps](#) (BEL) | [Leepa](#) (DEU) | [Kingswood](#) (AUS) | [SALÔ](#) (AUT) | [SONS](#) (BEL) | [Merci_Mercy](#) (AUT) | [Oskar Haag](#) (AUT) | [Panic Shack](#) (GBR) | [Ebow](#) (DEU) | [BABYJOY](#) (DEU/ FRA) | [Sofia Portanet](#) (DEU) | [Ravi Kuma](#) (DNK) | [Marie Bothmer](#) (DEU) | [Chocolate Remix](#) (ARG) | [Victoria Canal](#) (EST/ USA) | [Imen Sjar](#) (GBR/ ITA) | [Low Hummer](#) (GBR) | [BEĀTFÓÓT](#) (ISR) | [Rosa Anschutz](#) (DEU) | [Tom A. Smith](#) (GBR) | [Phoxjaw](#) (GBR) | [KOKO](#) (ITA) | [Nalan](#) (DEU) | [Ithaca](#) (GBR) | [PENDANT](#) (USA) | [2CB](#) (DEU) | [King LX](#) (DEU) | [Moyo Bay](#) (DEU) | [Annie Chops](#) (DEU/ GBR/ USA) | [Tanika Charles](#) (CAN) | [Her Skin](#) (ITA) | [The Scratch](#) (IRL) | [Ian Fisher](#) (AUT/ USA/ ISL/ ZAF) | [Kratzen](#) (DEU) | [Paula Carolina](#) (DEU) | [Alice](#) (DEU) | [KERFOR](#) (DEU/ USA) | [K not K](#) (DEU/ ROU) | [Kill Strings](#) (DEU) | [LaHasna](#) (DEU/ ITA) | [Love'n'Joy](#) (UKR) | [YATWA](#) (AUT) | [Perrin](#) (HUN) | [Тонка \(Tonka\)](#) (UKR) | [Signe Marie Rustad](#) (NOR/ USA) | [KEBU & Saymorey](#) (UKR) | [Manana](#) (ZAF) | [Pillow Fire](#) (CAN) | [Krapka:Koma](#) (UKR) | [Olowski](#) (GBR/ USA/ ITA) | [Hyphen Dash](#) (UKR) | [Maryana Klochko](#) (UKR) | [DAS NEU](#) (DEU) | [Dark Tropics](#) (GBR) | [Hoofa](#) (GBR) | [Junket](#) (UKR) | [Lucas Bird](#) (UKR) | [Future Humans](#) (GBR) | [The Brandy Alexanders](#) (CAN) | [Diaphanie](#) (CAN) | [WAYNE SNOW](#) (GBR) | [Juice Menace](#) (GBR) | [SOFY](#) (GBR)

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