

Press Release

#WEBOOKBERLIN

Berliner Bücherfest (Berlin book festival) is back! On June 17th and 18th, Bebelplatz in Berlin will be transformed into an open-air bookshop with readings, talks, a children's programme and much more.

On June 17th and 18th, 2023, Berlin's diverse book scene will present itself on Bebelplatz. Berliner Bücherfest will host 89 publishers and 26 bookshops. In addition, Bebelplatz will be the venue for more than 40 events over the weekend. Book-signing sessions, workshops and discussions with the literary community will take place at a total of 104 stands.

High-profile authors such as Christian Berkel, Kat Menschik, Alexander Osang, Andrea Maria Schenkel and Nell Zink will present their books on different stages and in various formats. In conversation with Dr. Susanne Schüssler, Horst Bredekamp will present his new non-fiction book "Berlin am Mittelmeer" ("Berlin on the Mediterranean Sea"), published by Wagenbach Verlag, in which he takes us on an architectural journey through the district, Berlin-Mitte. At another event, French political scientist and activist Emilia Roig will discuss gender roles, normative relationships and the institution of marriage in her new book, „Das Ende der Ehe“, ("The End of Marriage"), published by Ullstein Verlag.

The children's and youth programme includes creative and writing workshops for children and young people as well as a variety of children's book readings - not just in German. There will also be readings in English and a reading in sign language with Gero Scholz.

Authors from various publishing houses will discuss social topics including flight and exile, home in the city and life in the countryside, nature conservation and sustainable building.

Another focus of the festival is commemorating the book burnings on Bebelplatz 90 years ago. Events include a matinee event with Volker Weidermann, an exhibition by Verbrannte Orte e.V. and short readings from "burned books".

A special highlight of the festival is the launch of the city-wide campaign, BERLIN LIEST EIN BUCH (BERLIN READS A BOOK), which this year focuses on the novel "Der Hausmann" ("The Househusband") by Wlada Kolosowa, published by Leykam Verlag. It explores the theme of local community in Berlin's neighbourhoods. The campaign will be launched during the radio program "Die Literatur-Agenten" by radioeins (RBB), which will be broadcast live from Bebelplatz on Sunday evening.

The whole spectrum of Berlin's diverse book scene will gather on Bebelplatz. In addition to well-known Berlin publishers such as Aufbau Verlag, Ullstein Verlag and Galiani, children's book publishers such as Kindermann Verlag and Ueberreuter Verlag will also be present. Audiobook publishers such as Argon Verlag will be participating, as well as independent publishers such as Kanon Verlag, Matthes & Seitz, Voland & Quist, Transit and AvivA. This diversity is also reflected in the participating bookshops: specialist bookshops such as Le Grenier à Bulles (comics in French), Buchhandlung Khan Aljanub (Arabic literature), Kunst-Buch Kollwitzplatz, Regenbogen Buchhandlung (Turkish literature) and Schropp Land &

Karte Bücher will be represented, as will many independent bookshops presenting publishing programmes from all over the German-speaking world.

For more information and a complete list of participating publishers and bookshops, visit: berliner-buecherfest.de

Berliner Bücherfest is organized by Börsenverein des Deutschen Buchhandels Landesverband Berlin-Brandenburg e.V. It takes place with the kind support of the Senate Department for Economics, Energy and Business (Senatsverwaltung für Wirtschaft, Energie und Betriebe). Other sponsors include Berliner Sparkasse, Handelsverband Berlin-Brandenburg HBB, Stiftung Erinnerung Verantwortung Zukunft EVZ and Moses Mendelssohn Stiftung. Media partners include radioeins from Rundfunk Berlin-Brandenburg as well as Tagesspiegel, Berliner Abendblatt and Himbeer Magazin. Support in sustainability issues is from GutCert.

If you are interested, we are happy to arrange interviews with the organizers and partners. We would of course be delighted if you wish to report on the event. For all inquiries, please contact Nathalie Weber at 030 531407021 or weber@literaturtest.de.