

DAS MINSK

KUNSTHAUS IN POTSDAM

PRESS RELEASE

Potsdam, August 12, 2026

DAS MINSK is celebrating its first summer festival, MINSK LIVE, with three days of performances, music, film, workshops, and culinary experiences.

Fri, August 28, 2026, 6 PM–10 PM

Sat, August 29, 2026, 2 PM–10 PM

Sun, August 30, 2026, 2 PM–7 PM

Admission is free.

Registration is required for certain events of the program.

With James Gregory Atkinson and The String Archestra, Idil Baydar, Gabriel Chaile, Gesine Danckwart, Sarah Ama Duah, Katrin Hentschel, Sabine Herrmann, JAJAJA, Schorsch Kamerun, Harald Kisiedu, Wilfriede Maaß, Magdalena Mitterhofer, Katharina Oguntoye, Masha Qrella, Grit Seymour, Eric Otieno Sumba, V.E.R.Z. Chor and many more.

MINSK LIVE Summer Festival

From August 28 to 30, DAS MINSK Kunsthaus in Potsdam will celebrate its first summer festival, MINSK LIVE—a weekend dedicated to exchange, encounters, and shared experiences. Over the course of three days, live formats such as performances, music, film, culinary experiences, workshops, and talks will take over both the indoor and outdoor spaces of DAS MINSK.

The festival kicks off on Friday, August 28, with the opening of the exhibition *The Ceramics Workshop of Wilfriede Maaß*.

Preview of the Exhibition *The Ceramics Workshop of Wilfriede Maaß*

The exhibition in the cabinet space of DAS MINSK—running from September 5, 2026, alongside the retrospective *Annemirl Bauer: A Rupture in the World*—traces the history of Wilfriede Maaß's studio in East Berlin. In the 1980s, the ceramics studio located at Schönfließer Straße 21—which would later double as a gallery—served as an important space for art that did not conform to the rules of the GDR. On view are tableware sets, plates, vases, and experimental ceramic sculptures shaped by Wilfriede Maaß and painted by various artists. These works from the personal collection of Wilfriede Maaß enter in a dialogue with paintings

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from the 1980s and 1990s from the Hasso Plattner Collection, as well as with works on loan from key figures associated with the workshop.

On Friday, August 28, at 7 PM, the summer festival opens with an artists' talk by Wilfriede Maaß and Sabine Herrmann, moderated by the exhibition's curator, Daniel Milnes.

The opening will be accompanied by an open-air film program, where author, curator, and film historian Claus Löser will present four short films by Gino Hahnemann, Helge Leiberg, Christine Schlegel, and Cornelia Schleime from the first half of the 1980s that emerged within the milieu of GDR subculture and correspond, directly or indirectly, with the workshop.

Alongside the exhibition program, Cafébar HEDWIG, in collaboration with *OSC Berlin*, will host an evening of sake and a DJ set, reminiscent of the Sake Bar Sake Bar conceived by Mikael Eriksson in 1996 as a temporary intervention at Wilfriede Maaß's gallery.

Program Highlights on Saturday and Sunday

Ost-West-Kantine

The Ost-West-Kantine [East West Canteen] is an artistic and discursive format developed by artists Gesine Danckwart, Katrin Hentschel, and Masha Qrella. It facilitates encounters, explores questions of East and West, and weaves together art, music, personal stories, and discourse. The canteen's arrangement brings everyone—audience and guests alike—together at one table, where they can chop, play, sew, craft, sing, celebrate, and talk. With guests and collaborators including Idil Baydar, Schorsch Kamerun, Stefanie Plattner, Grit Seymour, and the V.E.R.Z. Chor des Rechenzentrums, the audience can look forward to a variety of stories and perspectives.

Artistic Interventions

James Gregory Atkinson, W. A. Mozart, arranged for symphony orchestra by Sabac el Cher

Sat, Aug. 29, 2 PM; Sun, Aug. 30, 5 PM

Under the initiative of James Gregory Atkinson and the direction of Daniele G. Daude,

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the Berlin String Orchestra and guest musicians will present new interpretations of two pieces by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart arranged by the Prussian court conductor *Gustav Sabac el Cher (1868–1934): the overtures to the drama giocoso La Finta Giardiniera* and the opera *giocosa La Villanella rapita*. The performance will be accompanied by a presentation of Atkinson's album *3 Lieder für Marie Nejar* on Saturday, August 29, while a conversation between artist, writer, and activist Katharina Oguntoye and musicologist and saxophonist Harald Kisiedu will take place on Sunday, August 30. Both events will be moderated by writer and editor Eric Otieno Sumba.

Sarah Ama Duah, *to build, to bury, to remember*
Sat, Aug. 29, 5 PM; Sun, Aug. 30, 3 PM

In *to build, to bury, to remember*, artist Sarah Ama Duah creates a performative installation that bridges the gap between sculpture and the body. At DAS MINSK, she collaborates with four other performers to construct living latex monuments informed by her exploration of historical monuments and their contemporary potential.

Magdalena Mitterhofer, *Manette*
Sun, Aug. 30, 4:30 PM

In the site-specific performance *Manette*, scenes staged on the grounds of DAS MINSK appear as if taken from a video game. Drawing on historical references while alluding to a fragmented present, the artist uses the museum's architecture to encourage reflection on urban planning as a setting for social change.

Film Program

As part of the summer festival, DAS MINSK—in collaboration with the Konrad Wolf Film University of Babelsberg and the FILM WITHOUT BORDERS Festival—presents a diverse film program featuring award-winning productions, classic films, and contemporary works. Fiction, documentary, and animated films alike offer personal and social perspectives, showcasing the full diversity of cinematic storytelling.

Showing times:
Saturday: 2–10 PM
Sunday: 2–4 PM

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Workshops

In an outdoor workshop inspired by Robin Rhode's wall installation *The Botanical Garden*, located opposite DAS MINSK, visitors can create their own artworks using the cyanotype photographic process. In other workshops, visitors can join artist Melina Matzanke to ferment sauerkraut, or work with Julie, the alchemist from Edible Alchemy, to make sourdough in the oven sculpture *Brenda*.

Culinary Experiences

During the summer festival, Cafébar HEDWIG will serve homemade cakes, ice cream, hearty sandwiches and BBQ, as well as cold drinks, wine, aperitifs, and specialty coffee. Fresh pizza will be served from *Brenda*, the oven sculpture by Gabriel Chaile, with the artist in attendance. On all three days, the Cafébar will team up with msg. noodle for a temporary noodle pop-up.

Guided Tours

The collective JAJAJA has developed a site-specific live audio walk for the summer festival. Together with performance duo Iris Minich and Arvild Baud, participants explore the delicate relationship between the Kunsthaus and its immediate surroundings on the Brauhausberg through sound, conversation, and movement. Other themed guided tours focus on the history and architecture of DAS MINSK—a former GDR-era terrace restaurant—as well as the works by female artists on display in and around the museum.

A detailed program overview of the festival can be found [here](#).

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PRESS CONTACT

Head of Communications
Laura Groschopp
presse@dasminsk.de

We would be happy to assist you if you need further information or images.

FURTHER INFORMATION

DAS MINSK Kunsthaus in Potsdam
Max-Planck-Straße 17
14473 Potsdam
info@dasminsk.de

www.dasminsk.de
Instagram: @dasminsk

DAS MINSK Kunsthaus in Potsdam is a project of the Hasso Plattner Foundation. The Foundation's mission is to educate and inspire generations. Through its projects, the Foundation aims to strengthen Europe's digital sovereignty, enable access to art and culture, and preserve our planet for future generations.

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