



# PRESS KIT

**Kultursymposium Weimar  
Generations**

**16 and 17 June 2021, Digital Edition**

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## PRESS RELEASE

# “GENERATIONS”: THE PROGRAMME OF THE KULTURSYMPOSIUM WEIMAR 2021

The programme of this year's Kultursymposium Weimar is set: On 16 and 17 June, the communication expert Maryam Laushi (Nigeria) and the happiness researcher Robert Waldinger (USA) will discuss differences between the generations, Hosea-Che Dutschke will present an intergenerational contract from Denmark and the behavioural scientist Jane Goodall (UK) will talk about generational conflicts. Designer Julia Watson (Australia) and historian Rutger Bregman (Netherlands) venture a look into the year 2099. And the way that different generations look at sexuality and gender will be discussed by author JJ Bola (*Mask Off: Masculinity Redefined*), Sima Taparia from the Netflix show *Indian Matchmaking* and Ruth Westheimer (*Ask Dr. Ruth*). Artistic productions from China, South Africa and Malaysia will also be presented. All content is available in the livestream at [www.goethe.de/kultursymposium/en](http://www.goethe.de/kultursymposium/en).

Johannes Ebert, Secretary General of the Goethe-Institut, said, “The Kultursymposium Weimar once again offers us the opportunity to explore an important theme from a global perspective. Particularly in challenging times like those we are currently experiencing, looking at global issues and relationships from multiple perspectives extends the dialogue across borders and promotes mutual learning. And what would be better suited for this than the theme of generations, which connects essential areas of our coexistence no matter where we live. Are conflicts between young and old carried out differently in Western Europe than in East Asia, and why? How do people talk to their children about sexuality today and in the past? What is the status of the elderly in West African societies and how do these societies involve young people in political decision-making? I'm very much looking forward to the discussions and hope that the digital version of the Kultursymposium Weimar will develop the same international dynamics as past editions.”

### Wednesday, 16 June | 1 pm: Launch of the Digital Edition

**Carola Lentz**, President of the Goethe-Institut, and **Michelle Müntefering**, Minister of State for International Cultural Policy at the Federal Foreign Office, will open the third Kultursymposium Weimar. The anthropologist and senior research professor at the University of Mainz Carola Lentz has already explored different aspects of this subject in her academic career. The moderator of the Kultursymposium **Vivian Perkovic** (3sat Kulturzeit) will then interview the behavioural scientist and UN peace ambassador **Jane Goodall**, who dedicated a large part of her life to observing and researching apes, about the hurdles women of her generation had to overcome on their way to science and research – and about typical generational conflicts among chimpanzees.

### Wednesday, 16 June | 1:40 pm: Generations: A Closer Look

When we speak of a generation, we throw millions of individuals together in one pot, often with a collective label like X or Y emblazoned on the lid. But what connects those who were born and grew up at the same time, how the thinking of different generations differs in different parts of the world and whether the category 'generation' can offer direction is what we discuss with futurologist **Monika Bielskyte** (Lithuania), communication expert **Maryam**



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8 June 2021

**KULTUR  
SYMPOSIUM  
WEIMAR  
2021**

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**Laushi** (Nigeria), psychiatrist and happiness researcher **Robert Waldinger** (USA) and science journalist **Ranga Yogeshwar** (Luxembourg).

### **Conflict & Cooperation: Intergenerational Contracts**

The idea of the intergenerational contract unites societies around the globe. But how young and old look after each other differs: While in many western countries the state takes care of the balance between the generations, in large parts of the world people rely on their own families. Journalist **Ana P. Santos** has been researching Filipino migrant workers for years. She is in conversation with **Hosea-Che Dutschke**, Director of Care and Health in the city of Aarhus, who proclaimed the Loving Municipality. **(Wednesday, 16 June | 3:15 pm)**

### **Sustainability & the Future: A Glance into the Year 2099 and Temperature Rising**

The Kultursymposium Weimar dares to look into the future and asks historian and activist **Rutger Bregman** (*Utopia for Realists*), designer and scientist **Julia Watson** (*Lo-TEK: Design by Radical Indigenism*) and ethnologist **Björn Theis** (head of corporate foresight at Evonik) for their predictions. Will we all receive basic incomes in future and only work 15 hours a week? Will we limit growth and return to traditional and indigenous techniques that enable a different, resource-efficient economy? **(Wednesday, 16 June | 5:40 pm)** Under the title **Temperature Rising**, the New Zealand MP **Chlöe Swarbrick**, climate researcher **Navroz K. Dubash** from India and **Tobias Reuss** (sustainability expert, Volkswagen) will discuss the urgent challenges of present and future generations. **(Thursday, 17 June | 1:15 pm)**

### **Identity & Memory: Changing Love**

From arranged marriages and romantic twosomes to polyamorous constellations and casual hook-ups: How our ideas of sexuality and partnership are changing is discussed by poet and bestselling author **JJ Bola** (*Mask Off: Masculinity Redefined*), **Sima Tapania** from the Netflix show *Indian Matchmaking* and 93-year-old German-American sex therapist **Ruth Westheimer** (*Ask Dr. Ruth*). **(Thursday, 17 June | 5:20 pm)**

### **Art works & projects**

**Wednesday, 16 June | 1:10 pm:** “**Subculture Investment Bank** – Shrine to Review the Universe of Images” is the name of the video work by the 27-year-old artist **Li Hanwei** from Shanghai, which will premiere at the Kultursymposium Weimar 2021. With his works consisting of computer-generated images and video effects as well as quotes from commercial advertising and films, he creates worlds that, although artificial, still depict reality.

**Wednesday, 16 June | 4:10 pm:** The Iranian-American multimedia artist and filmmaker **Rashin Fahandej** addresses the role of imprisoned fathers in her project **A Father's Lullaby**. Touching stories of traumas often passed down through generations are sensitively told with the audience as witness. **From 6:35 pm Rashin Fahandej will be available for a 15-minute Q&A.**



**Wednesday, 16 June | 2:35 pm:** *Wayang kulit*, the art of shadow theatre that has been popular in Malaysia for centuries, is in danger of dying out, but **Tintoy Chuo** and puppetry master **Pak Dain** have set out to inspire future generations with it. They founded **Fusion Wayang Kulit** and are creating a buzz among young audiences with their pop culture-inspired performances. For the Kultursymposium Weimar, the group has now recorded an exclusive new video performance inspired by the Star Wars saga.

### Projects in Weimar

**Thursday, 17 June | 2:10 pm:** Despite pandemic social distancing, the festival programme reaches from the digital space to Weimar. In cooperation with Klassik Stiftung Weimar, Bauhaus-Universität Weimar, Lebenshilfe-Werk Weimar/Apolda e.V. and the Goethe-Institut London, Scottish artist **Natalie Taylor** will sow native wildflowers in Weimar as a symbolic act in “Foodbank for Pollinators – Seeding for future generations.” In cooperation with the Goethe-Institut Johannesburg, three video works by artist **Zara Julius** (South Africa) will be shown at Galerie Eigenheim in Weimar (from 16 June to 3 July and via livestream on Thursday, 17 June at 4:10 pm) together with works by Li Hanwei, Emilija škarnulytė and Kristin Jakubek.

### Programme partnerships

**Wednesday, 16 June | from 7 pm, 3sat Mediathek:** The **Blue Sofa**, the joint literary format of Bertelsmann, ZDF, Deutschlandfunk Kultur and 3sat, will be presented at the Bauhaus Museum Weimar as part of the Kultursymposium Weimar with a special edition on the theme of ‘Generations.’ **Wolfgang Schäuble**, President of the German Bundestag, the winner of the 3sat Prize at the Ingeborg Bachmann Competition **Dana Grigorcea**, the political blogger and journalist **Rayk Anders** and the author and winner of the Austrian Book Prize **Daniel Wisser** will present their latest books. They will talk about what shaped their own generation and what intergenerational issues they address in their books. On **Sunday, 20 June at noon**, 3sat will air the four conversations on its programme *Das Blaue Sofa* about the Kultursymposium Weimar.

**Thursday, 17 June | 7:20 pm: Premier broadcast on 3sat:** In an extra edition entitled “Ok, Boomer! Ach Greta!” **3sat-Kulturzeit** will also deal with the topic and bring activists from different generations into conversation with each other: Anti-nuclear pioneer **Rebecca Harms**, founding member of the Free Republic of Wendland, meets Fridays for Future press spokesperson **Quang Paasch**. The co-founder of Berlin’s first women’s centre **Cristina Perincioli** talks with **Maja Bogojević**, initiator of the digital education platform “erklär mir mal...”. **Ali Can**, founder of Interkultureller Frieden (intercultural peace) and initiator of the hashtag #metwo, meets the trade unionist **Irina Vavitsa** – a first-generation guest worker.

### About the Kultursymposium Weimar

The Kultursymposium Weimar is a festival for new networks and ideas. Every two years, the Goethe-Institut invites over five hundred people from all over the world to come together in Weimar to attend the event. Interdisciplinary and diverse, the Kultursymposium Weimar reflects the richness and complexity of global discourses and proposes new ideas for international



cultural exchange. Every edition of the festival format treats a new topic: In 2016 it was “The Sharing Game”, in 2019 “Recalculating the Route” on the challenges of our ever more complex world and in 2021 “Generations”.

*The Kultursymposium Weimar is made possible by the involvement of the following businesses from the economic advisory board of the Goethe-Institut: Bertelsmann, Evonik Industries AG, Siemens AG, Volkswagen AG and Adolf Würth GmbH & Co. KG. The media partners are 3sat, brand eins and Deutschlandfunk Kultur.*

**More information about the Kultursymposium Weimar 2021 at:**

[www.goethe.de/kultursymposium/en](http://www.goethe.de/kultursymposium/en)

**The press kit with a complete programme overview of the Kultursymposium Weimar 2021 can be downloaded from the following link:**

[www.goethe.de/pressemappe](http://www.goethe.de/pressemappe)

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# PRESS RELEASE

## PROGRAMME PREVIEW: KULTURSYMPOSIUM

### WEIMAR 2021 ON “GENERATIONS”

On 16 and 17 June 2021 at the third Kultursymposium Weimar, the Goethe-Institut will pursue the issue of Generations. A global perspective is the aim with guests from culture, academics, industry, media and politics such as behavioural scientist Jane Goodall, sociologist and sexual therapist Ruth Westheimer and the historian and activist Rutger Bregman. This year, the Kultursymposium Weimar will be held online and supplemented by selected events in Weimar and at Goethe-Instituts worldwide.

From the rapid progression of climate change to political reforms, from loud protests for equality to silent transfers of influence and wealth, from time-honoured traditions to the longing for eternal youth: The theme of **Generations** connects many of the debates and conflicts of our era, which the 2021 Kultursymposium Weimar will take up using three thematic focal points:

**Conflict & Cooperation** asks how generations argue amongst and stand up for each other. **Sustainability & the Future** addresses how the conflicting goals of sustainability and growth can be reconciled. **Identity & Memory** focuses on narratives from the past that continue to impact the present and influence our self-image and perception. The Kultursymposium Weimar illuminates the diversity of the topic in online debates, interviews and digital performances with prominent voices tuning in live from all over the world at [www.goethe.de/kultursymposium/en](http://www.goethe.de/kultursymposium/en).

#### Confirmed speakers

Die British behavioural scientist **Jane Goodall** has devoted much of her life to observing and researching great apes. Today a UN Peace Ambassador, she will speak at the Kultursymposium Weimar about the hurdles that women of her generation had to overcome in their careers in science and research as well as about typical generational conflicts among chimpanzees.

The German-American sociologist **Ruth Westheimer**, known in the USA for forty years as sex therapist Dr Ruth, will discuss generational differences in the understanding of love, sex and partnership and the attempt to break traditional role relationships.

The idea of the intergenerational contract concerns societies all over the world. Whether sophisticated pension systems or traditions determine the relationship, young and old depend on each other everywhere. The journalist **Ana P. Santos** reports on her research on labour migration in the Philippines, which often means that women have to leave their own children in the care of relatives for years in order to do care work in other countries.

The generational change in politics is the daily challenge of young politicians and activists. The Nigerian communication expert **Maryam Laushi** is therefore campaigning with numerous initiatives for more equality and greater political influence for the younger generation. The 26-year-old Green party politician **Chlöe Swarbrick** is one of the youngest members of the New Zealand parliament. Her curt remark “OK, boomer,” in response to an interjection by an



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21 April 2021



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older colleague during a parliamentary debate on climate protection, struck a chord in her generation.



**Rutger Bregman**, Dutch historian, activist and author, will speak at the Kultursymposium Weimar as one of the most prominent thinkers of Europe's young generation. In his book *Utopia for Realists: How We Can Build the Ideal World* he advocates the feasibility and realisation of future plans. He hopes the pandemic will change the zeitgeist for the next generation.

### Contributions from Weimar and the world

The Kultursymposium 2021 takes place online and includes discursive as well as artistic explorations of the topic. The digital festival program will be supplemented by events on site in Weimar.

As an artistic contribution during the festival, the rewilding project Foodbank for Pollinators – Seeding for Future Generations will take place, for which the **Goethe-Institut** is partnering with the **Bauhaus-Universität Weimar** and the **Klassik Stiftung Weimar**. The Scottish artist **Natalie Taylor** is installing wildflower beds in Weimar, which raise questions about cultural heritage and sustainability as elements of disruption and memory in the urban context. **Zara Julius** is presenting three video works in Weimar's **Galerie Eigenheim**. In her works, the South African artist deals with such things as the relationship between aesthetics and culture as well as with the ethics of representation, which is also impressively emphasised in her Family Matters project.

Talks with renowned authors are also planned on the joint literary format **Das Blaue Sofa** of Bertelsmann, ZDF, Deutschlandfunk Kultur and 3sat. For 20 minutes each, **Wolfgang Schäuble**, President of the German Bundestag, the Romanian-Swiss author **Dana Grigorcea** (winner of the 3sat Prize at the Ingeborg Bachmann Competition), the political blogger and journalist **Rayk Anders** and the Austrian author **Daniel Wisser** (winner of the Austrian Book Prize) will present their latest books.

### Pre-programme with Goethe-Instituts worldwide from May 2021 onwards

A preliminary programme of four projects will begin in the four weeks before the live festival. Conceived by Goethe-Instituts around the world, they shed light on the facets of the topic of "Generations" in its international scope. The **Goethe-Instituts** in **Cairo** and **Khartoum** will kick it off on **19 May**: "Old Wishes" is the name of the multimedia project that revives the first youth magazine in the Arab world. From 1946 onwards, the magazine asked children about their wishes for the future. After more than sixty years they will be asked again for the project: Did your wishes come true? Events at the **Goethe-Instituts** in **Warsaw**, **New Delhi** and **New York** will follow these.

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2016 it was “The Sharing Game”, in 2019 “Recalculating the Route” on the challenges of our ever more complex world and in 2021 “Generations”.

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**Further information: [www.goethe.de/kultursymposium](http://www.goethe.de/kultursymposium)**

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[www.goethe.de/en](http://www.goethe.de/en)





Wednesday, 16 June 2021

1 pm

**13:00 Opening**

- Carola Lentz (Germany)  
Vivian Perkovic (Host)

**Welcome**

Michelle Müntefering  
(Germany)

**13:10 Subculture Investment Bank**

- Shrine to Review the Universe of Images

Li Hanwei (China)

**13:20 Unknown Pathways**

- Generations of Humans and other Apes

Jane Goodall (Great Britain)  
Vivian Perkovic (Host)

**13:35 Unboxing my Generation**

- Juan Carlos Rincón (Colombia)

**13:40 Generations: A Closer Look**

- Do they actually exist, what do they have in common, and when is it Time for the Next Generation to take over?

Monika Bielskyte (Lithuania), Maryam Laushi (Nigeria), Robert Waldinger (US), Ranga Yogeshwar (Luxembourg)  
Johanna M. Keller (Host)

COOPERATIVE  
& IDENTITY & MEMO

2 pm

**14:35 Shadow of Change**

- A New Hope for Traditional Malaysian Art

Fusion Wayang Kulit (Malaysia)

**14:45 Live from Weimar**

- Vivian Perkovic + Kirsten Münch  
(Correspondent Weimar)

**14:55 Pengsoo for President**

- How an Irreverent Penguin became a Spokesperson for South Korea's Millennials

Jimin Kang (Korea/US)  
Regine Hader (Host)

& MEMORY

CONFLICT & COOP

3 pm

**15:15 Intergenerational Contracts**

- How Young and Old Support each Other

Alberto Cabanes (Spain), Hosea-Che Dutschke (Denmark), Ana P. Santos (Philippines)

Jana Binder (Host)

CONFLICT & COOP

4 pm

- 16:10** **A Father's Lullaby**  
**A Poetic Movement for Social Justice**  
 Rashin Fahandej (US/Iran)
- 16:20** **Emil's World**  
**Challenges of Future Generations**  
 Ranga Yogeshwar (Luxembourg)
- 16:55** **Unboxing my Generation**  
 Agnė Juškėnaitė (Lithuania)

OPERATION

& FUTURE

ENTITY

5 pm

- 17:00** **Das Blaue Sofa**  
**Conversations about Literature and Generations (I)**  
 Rayk Anders (Germany),  
 Dana Grigorcea (Switzerland),  
 Wolfgang Schäuble (Germany),  
 Daniel Wisser (Austria)  
[Immanuel Hermreck \(Welcome\)](#)
- 17:10** **Future Library**  
**A Conversation about Woods and Books**  
 Katie Paterson (Great Britain),  
 Anne Beate Hovind (Norway)  
[Martina Puchberger \(Host\)](#)
- 17:25** **Stars, Planets and Intelligent Life**  
**The Life Cycle of Galactic Civilisations**  
 Avi Loeb (Israel/US)  
[Vivian Perkovic \(Host\)](#)
- 17:40** **A Glance into the Year 2099**  
**What kind of World will the Generation of our Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren Live in?**  
 Rutger Bregman (Norway),  
 Björn Theis (Germany),  
 Julia Watson (Australia)  
[Katja Kessing \(Host\)](#)

IDENTITY & MEMO

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6 pm

- 18:35** **Live Q&A**  
**With Rashin Fahandej**  
 Rashin Fahandej (USA/Iran)  
[Martina Puchberger \(Host\)](#)
- 18:35** **Live Q&A**  
**With Rutger Bregman**  
 Rutger Bregman (Niederlande)  
[Katja Kessing \(Host\)](#)
- 19:00** **Das Blaue Sofa**  
**Conversations about Literature and Generations (II)**  
 Rayk Anders (Germany),  
 Dana Grigorcea (Switzerland),  
 Wolfgang Schäuble (Germany),  
 Daniel Wisser (Austria)

& IDENTITY & M

Thursday, 17 June 2021

12 pm

**12:30** Virtual Weimar  
An Invitation to Digital Exchange  
with other Participants

1 pm

**13:00** Opening  
Vivian Perkovic (Host)

Welcome

Benjamin-Immanuel Hoff (Germany)

**13:10** Unboxing my Generation

● Tim Rowett (Great Britain)

**13:15** Temperature Rising  
Climate Change and Solidarity  
between the Generations

Navroz K. Dubash (India),  
Tobias Reuss (Germany),  
Chlöe Swarbrick (New Zealand)  
Katarzyna Wielga-Skolimowska  
(Host)

TY & MEMO

THE FUTURE & SUS

2 pm

**14:10** ● Foodbank for Pollinators  
Seeding for Future Generations  
Natalie Taylor (Great Britain),  
Kristin Jakubek (Germany)  
Lin Franke (Host)

**14:20** ● A Toothless Grin  
A Video-Artwork on Alienation  
through Digitalisation  
Kristin Jakubek (Germany)

**14:30** ● Talking Across Time  
Warning Future Generations  
about nuclear waste  
Jon Lomberg (US)

**14:40** ● Unboxing my Generation  
Jia-Hui Li (Peggy Lee) (Taiwan)

**14:45** ● Japan & Niger  
Insights into the Oldest and  
the Youngest Nation on Earth  
Nouhou Abdoul Moumouni  
(Niger), Keisuke Otsu (Japan)  
Benjamin Bergner (Host)

TY & THE FUTURE & SUSTAINABILITY

IDENTITY

CONFLICT & COOP

3 pm

**15:20** ● Haircuts & Social Justice  
Three Generations from Los Angeles  
in Conversation  
Reeves Gift (US),  
Madin Lopez (US),  
Karen Tongson (US)

TY & MEMO

Thursday, 17 June 2021

4 pm

**16:10 Family Matters**

- **The Canelands**  
Zara Julius (Südafrika)  
Vivian Perkovic (Host)

**16:40 Unboxing My Generation**

- Andeel (Egypt)

MEMORY & IDENTITY

5 pm

**17:00 Inherited Wounds**

- **The Transmission of Trauma to the Next Generation**  
Gabriela Fried Amilivia (Uruguay)  
Vivian Perkovic (Host)

**17:10 Lewat Liwet Talks**

- **A Conversation about Generations with Five Art Collectives in Indonesia**  
Gudskul (Indonesia)

**17:20 Changing Love**

- **How our Ideas of Sexuality and Partnership are Evolving**  
JJ Bola (Great Britain),  
Sima Taparia (India),  
Ruth Westheimer (US)  
Johanna M. Keller (Host)

IDENTITY & MEMORY & IDENTITY & MEMORY

6 pm

**18:15 Conclusion and Outlook**

- Johannes Ebert (Germany)  
Vivian Perkovic (Host)

& MEMORY

7 pm

**19:20 Ok, Boomer! Ach, Greta!**

- **Which Generation is Moving Society forward?**  
3sat Kulturzeit Extra  
Vivian Perkovic (Host)

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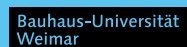
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## KULTURSYMPOSIUM WEIMAR 2021 GENERATIONS

### SPEAKERS (SELECTION)

The events of the Kultursymposium Weimar 2021 will feature around 50 international speakers from the fields of culture, business, science, media and politics, including

#### **ABDALSALAM ALHAJ**

*Artist*

Abdalsalam Alhaj is a Sudanese digital media producer and visual storyteller, and a founder of *Rift Digital Lab*. His work puts a spotlight on stories often overlooked by mainstream media, treasuring the local and the small-scale. His projects question the attitudes, fears and unwritten rules which have formed our environment and our behavior within it. His goal is to open unexplored stories, places of curious self-expression, but also a world of new relationships, new chances, new beginnings and most importantly new stories by using immersive technology.

#### **MONIKA BIELSKYTE**

*Futures Researcher*

Monika Bielskyte is a futures researcher and has engaged with future emergence in more than 90 countries. As a futurist, she consults at the future intersection of science/tech-culture-politics. As a world designer, she explores the bleeding edges of new Science Fiction universes. Monika Bielskyte is currently developing @protopiafutures, a platform for research and creative collaborations, challenging and offering alternatives to dystopian/utopian stereotypes. Protopia prototypes visions of radically hopeful and inclusive futures, centering queerness, indigeneity, disability and previously marginalized cultural perspectives.

#### **JJ BOLA**

*Writer, Poet*

JJ Bola is a writer and poet of three collections. His debut novel, *No Place to Call Home*, was first published in the UK in 2017. His latest book, *Mask Off : Masculinity Redefined*, was published September 2019, and translated into five languages. It exposes masculinity as a performance that men are socially conditioned into, using examples of non-Western cultural traditions, music and sport. His second novel, *The Selfless Act of Breathing*, will be published autumn 2021.





## KULTURSYMPOSIUM WEIMAR 2021 GENERATIONS

### **RUTGER BREGMAN**

*Historian and Author*

Rutger Bregman is a dutch historian, activist and author. His books *Humankind* (2020) and *Utopia for Realists* (2017) were both New York Times Bestsellers and have been translated in more than 40 languages. Bregman writes for the Washington Post, the BBC as well as various Dutch media and has twice been nominated for the prestigious European Press Prize for his work at The Correspondent.

### **HOSEA-CHE DUTSCHKE**

*Administrative Director*

Hosea-Che Dutschke has been director of the department of Health and Care at the Municipality of Aarhus, Denmark since 2006. He is the creative mind behind the concept and strategy of "the Loving Municipality". The concept seeks to rethink the traditional roles and positions of the welfare state by enabling citizens to live independently of municipal support. Hosea-Che Dutschke lives with his family in Aarhus. He was born in Germany and is son of student leader and sociologist Rudi Dutschke.

### **RASHIN FAHANDEJ**

*Artist and Filmmaker*

Rashin Fahandej is an artist, filmmaker and assistant professor of emerging media at Emerson College, USA. Her projects center on marginalized voices and the role of media, technology, and community co-creation to ignite social change. Her projects have been supported by Boston Mayor's Office, Institute of Contemporary Arts Boston, MIT Open Doc Lab, Boston Center for the Arts, ThoughtWork Arts, Scatter VR, Mass Cultural Council and American Arts Incubator.

### **JANE GOODALL**

*Behavioral Scientist & UN Peace Ambassador*

The British behavioral scientist Dr. Jane Goodall has dedicated a large part of her life to observing and researching chimpanzees in Tanzania. Today at the age of 87, she is still working tirelessly to protect endangered animal species and habitats as a UN peace ambassador and chairwoman of the institute named after her. At the Kultursymposium Weimar, Jane Goodall talks about the obstacles that women of her generation had to overcome in order to become a researcher - and shares her knowledge on typical generational conflicts among chimpanzees.

### **GUDSKUL**

*Artist Collective*

Gudskul: Collective and Contemporary Art Ecosystem Studies is an educational platform formed by three Jakarta-based collectives: ruangrupa, Serrum and Grafis Huru Hara. Since the early 2000s, they have been respectively doing collective practice in the contemporary art scene of Jakarta. In 2015, they joined forces to form a common ecosystem, Gudang Sarinah Ekosistem. Learning from this working

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experience, they launched a knowledge-sharing platform for everyone interested in the practice of similar approaches in 2018.

### **LI HANWEI**

*Artist*

Li Hanwei lives and works as an artist in Shanghai. His artistic practice is based on adapting forms of commercial advertisements and films to metaphors. Through his observations of different means of communication, he uses computer generated images and video effects to establish views into fictional worlds where plagiarism of the real world and science fiction coexist, to show the intersection of today's cultural forms and individual identities. Li Hanwei also co-operates the online contemporary art space "Slime Engine" with Liu Shuzhen, Fang Yang and Shan Liang.

### **MARYAM LAUSHI**

*Communication specialist*

Maryam Laushi is a communications specialist with years of experience with international aid organizations and INGOs. She is as an activist focusing on gender equality, social justice and youth inclusion in politics. Maryam Laushi is also a pioneer member and one of the leaders of the Not Too Young To Run movement, which sought to reduce the age limit for running for elective office in Nigeria. In 2017, she was awarded one of the SME100 Nigeria's 25 under 25 awards for Active Citizenry. In 2019, she was selected as a fellow of the Deutsche Welle Global Media Forum and received the youth award for governance from TELAF's Electoral College in 2020.

### **AVI LOEB**

*Physicist*

Avi Loeb is the founding director of Harvard University's Black Hole Initiative, director of the Institute for Theory and Computation at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, and the former chair of the astronomy department at Harvard University (2011-2020). He chairs the advisory board for the Breakthrough Starshot project and is a former member of the US-President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology and a former chair of the Board on Physics and Astronomy of the National Academies in the USA. He is the bestselling author of *Extraterrestrial: The First Sign of Intelligent Life Beyond Earth* (2021).

### **KEISUKE OTSU**

*Economist*

Keisuke Otsu is a professor at the Faculty of Business and Commerce at Keiō University in Tokyo and Honorary Lecturer at the School of Economics, University of Kent. His primary research fields are Quantitative Macroeconomics and Economic Growth. His latest research studies the impact of population



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aging on intergenerational mobility and economic growth through households' choices of the number of children and their level of education.

### **ANA P. SANTOS**

*Journalist*

Ana P. Santos is an award-winning journalist reporting on female migrant labor, sexuality and reproductive justice. As the Pulitzer Center's 2014 Miel Fellow, she has reported on the Filipino diaspora to Europe and the Middle East. Her stories help bridge the gap between vulnerable women in Philippine society and legislators who draft policies that affect their right to work, their right to decide about their body, and their right to own their future. Currently, Ana P. Santos is pursuing a postgraduate degree in Gender and Sexuality at the London School of Economics as a Chevening scholar.

### **CHLÖE SWARBRICK**

*Politician*

Chlöe Swarbrick is the MP for Auckland Central, New Zealand. She grew up in an Auckland family who raised her on a diet of robust and challenging discussion, in a community that showed her that inequality and injustice were a daily reality for too many New Zealanders. She has been a law student, journalist, business owner and a community project leader. When interviewing politicians of all stripes on daily issues she found that too often they had become out of sync with the orbit of everyday people's lives.

### **SIMA TAPARIA**

*Marriage consultant and matchmaker*

Sima Taparia has been a marriage consultant and matchmaker since 2005 and is residing in Mumbai. Having been married herself at the age of 19, she initially started matchmaking as a hobby and later made it her profession. Sima Taparia has a lead role in the documentary film 'A Suitable Girl' (2017), which won the Best New Documentary Filmmaker award at the Tribeca Film Festival in New York City. She is also featured in the Netflix reality show 'Indian Matchmaking' (2020).

### **JULIA WATSON**

*Designer, activist and author*

Designer, activist, academic, and author, Julia Watson is an expert in the field of Lo-TEK, a design movement that strives to revive traditional and ecological knowledge by collecting know how, methods and philosophy from different generations and cultures. In 2019, she published her book *Lo-TEK: Design by Radical Indigenism*. Regularly teaching at Harvard and Columbia University, Julia Watson's studio work involves landscape and urban design, and consulting with brands on sustainability.

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### RUTH WESTHEIMER

*Psychosexual therapist*

Dr. Ruth K. Westheimer is a psychosexual therapist who sprang to national attention in the USA in the early 80's with her live radio program *Sexually Speaking*. She went on to have her own TV program, appeared on the cover of People Magazine, and is the author of 46 books. A one-woman show about her life, *Becoming Dr. Ruth*, has played in New York and other cities, while the documentary *Ask Dr. Ruth* airs on Hulu since 2019. Dr. Ruth K. Westheimer teaches at Columbia's Teachers College, lives in New York and has two children and four grandchildren.

**All speakers of the Kultursymposium Weimar 2021 can be found at:**

[www.goethe.de/kultursymposium/en](http://www.goethe.de/kultursymposium/en)

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**This year, the Kultursymposium Weimar will be supplemented by a two-day radio programme to approach the topic of generations using a variety of conversational and artistic formats. generations.fm is the name of the programme, which will be produced jointly with the Weimar community radio station Radio Lotte and the Experimental Radio department of Bauhaus-Universität Weimar. The programme will be broadcast in German and English both on FM in Weimar and the surrounding area and via an online stream.**

The radio programme addresses intergenerational conflicts, visions of the future and questions of memory and identity from an international perspective and links them to local concerns and actions. The first day is dedicated to the question of how to deal with memory and heritage. Who writes history and how can it be rewritten? What forms of anti-racist and post-colonial remembrance are there? But also, how does historiography work within families and at a personal level? The second day reflects on our coexistence in the present and ventures to look into a better future. What would a sustainable society be like, what should we fight for and what stimuli can art offer for life together in future?

The razing of monuments during the Black Lives Matter movement in the USA is a recent example of attempts to shape collective memory. Actors from the local initiative Decolonize Weimar (**Dean Ruddock, Margarita Valdivieso**) and participants in a large-scale project on cultures of remembrance in the USA called Shaping the Past (**Ulf Aminde, Free Bangura**), will discuss what antiracist and postcolonial remembrance can look like. The artist **Candice Breitz**, who has sparked a broad social discussion with the format This is Germany – People with a Nazi Background, will also speak about how the culture of remembrance is negotiated in today's society. Local sites of memory culture and colonial history will be made audible by the students of Experimental Radio of the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar. The author and cultural scientist **Mithu Sanyal** will address the silent transfer of taboos in different cultural contexts. The president of the Goethe-Institut, **Carola Lentz**, and the president of the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar, **Winfried Speitkamp**, discuss the concept of "generations" from a historical and anthropological perspective, while the **bauhaus.fm radio orchestra** uses it as a compositional model and describes the evolution of a sound in a live performance.

How do we want to treat each other? What would a better society be like? These are the topics of the second broadcast day featuring the producers of the independent journalism platform **La Vida de Nos** from Venezuela, who are initiating an intergenerational dialogue triggered by massive migration from the country. Activists at feminist radio stations from Senegal and Mexico will discuss the challenges faced by a new generation of feminists, while the artist **Marialuisa Capurso** will share her vision of anti-patriarchal radio in a composition and the sound artist **Edyta Jarzab** will transmit a voice of friendship across the theatre square in Weimar and through the airwaves.

generations.fm is being produced by a partnership of the Goethe-Institut, Radio Lotte and Experimental Radio at the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar. The broadcast can be heard on 16 and 17 June from 9 am to midnight on 106.6 MHz in Weimar and the surrounding area, via the [livestream](https://www.livestream.com/radiolotte) of Radio Lotte and on [goethe.de/kultursymposium](https://goethe.de/kultursymposium).

### Information:

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## Media Information

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NO. 101/2021

## Volkswagen actively involved in generational discussions at Kultursymposium Weimar hosted by Goethe-Institut

- **As a long-standing partner, Volkswagen is also supporting the Goethe-Institut's 3rd international Kultursymposium Weimar with content**
- **With the theme "Generations", the international panel discussions will be held digitally for the first time on 16th and 17th June: and will be made available to all interested parties around the world**
- **Volkswagen sustainability expert Tobias Reuss talks about climate change and solidarity among generations**

**Wolfsburg, June 11, 2021 – For the third time, the Goethe-Institut is bringing leading personalities and innovative ideas from around the world together to discuss the pressing issues of our society. Voices from culture, science, politics and economics are set to debate generational issues in many areas of life in the upcoming digital edition.**



**Volkswagen sustainability expert Tobias Reuss on the "Temperature Rising" panel**

Such as on the "Temperature Rising" panel, where Tobias Reuss, head of the sustainability strategy at the Volkswagen Passenger Cars brand, will meet Indian climate scientist Navroz K. Dubash and Chlöe Swarbrick, a young Member of Parliament from the Green Party, from Auckland, New Zealand (17.6. at 13.15 CEST, time subject to change).

For Volkswagen, as a globally active company, responsibility means: "We want to become net-zero climate-neutral by 2050. At the same time, as the Volkswagen brand, we stand for making new technologies available to everyone and for the freedom of individual mobility. Around the world, the car – especially in rural areas – remains synonymous with self-determination for millions of people. Bringing climate protection and mobility together is Volkswagen's responsibility. Which is why we are reducing the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of our cars through the entire lifecycle of the supply chain to recycling, and are going down the route of shared mobility in urban areas in particular," said Reuss.



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Volkswagen has supported and been part of Kultursymposium Weimar since its inception. At the last Kultursymposium in 2019, for example, Hiltrud D. Werner, member of the Group Management Board, was on the panel “Gender & Tech”, and Volkswagen futurologist Wolfgang Müller-Pietralla was part of the round table on “Euphoria over technology vs. fear of the future”.

Johannes Ebert, CEO and Secretary General of the Goethe-Institut, emphasised the importance of a pluralistic debate with global social relevance: “The 2021 Kultursymposium Weimar on the topic of ‘Generations’ gives us the opportunity once again to look at a globally relevant issue from an international perspective. The format of the digital festival allows open, constructive, and at times quite critical, exchange across borders. It is very important to me that in addition to culture, science, politics and media, voices from the economy are also involved in the debate on what the world of tomorrow should look like. I’m delighted that Volkswagen has been involved in Kultursymposium Weimar from the outset and is also supporting the current edition.”

The 2021 Kultursymposium Weimar gets underway at 13.00 CEST on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> June. Over 60 speakers and artists from more than 25 countries will be involved in the discussions, including from Australia, China, Colombia, Denmark, Egypt, Germany, Great Britain, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, the Philippines, Romania, Switzerland, South Africa, South Korea and the USA.

Benita von Maltzahn, head of Volkswagen’s cultural commitment, lent her support to the collaboration with the Goethe-Institut: “The open discussion of future issues is more important than ever for our society. Continuous lively communication is particularly necessary between generations; because together we need to ensure that the world remains worth living in and sustainable.”

**Link to the event and access to additional information on the Kultursymposium Weimar:**  
[www.goethe.de/kultursymposium](http://www.goethe.de/kultursymposium).

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## About the Volkswagen Group:

The Volkswagen Group, with its headquarters in Wolfsburg, is one of the world's leading automobile manufacturers and the largest carmaker in Europe. The Group comprises twelve brands from seven European countries: Volkswagen Passenger Cars, Audi, SEAT, ŠKODA, Bentley, Bugatti, Lamborghini, Porsche, Ducati, Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles, Scania and MAN. The passenger car portfolio ranges from small cars all the way to luxury-class vehicles. Ducati offers motorcycles. In the light and heavy commercial vehicles sector, the products range from pick-ups to buses and heavy trucks. Every weekday, 662.600 employees around the globe are involved in vehicle-related services or work in other areas of business. The Volkswagen Group sells its vehicles in 153 countries.

In 2020, the total number of vehicles delivered to customers by the Group globally was 9.31 million (2019: 10.98 million). Group sales revenue in 2020 totaled EUR 222.9 billion (2019: EUR 252.6 billion). Earnings after tax in 2020 ended amounted to EUR 8.8 billion (2019: EUR 14.0 billion).

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# **KULTURSYMPOSIUM WEIMAR 2021**

## **GENERATIONS**

### DIGITAL EDITION

## **BASIC INFORMATION**

### **KULTURSYMPOSIUM WEIMAR**

The Kultursymposium Weimar is a festival of new networks and ideas for which the Goethe-Institut brings together people from all over the world every two years. Interdisciplinary and diverse, the Kultursymposium Weimar reflects global societal issues and thus provides stimuli for international cultural exchange – in 2016 on the theme of “The Sharing Game” and in 2019 on the great upheavals of modernity (“Recalculating the Route”).

In 2021, the Kultursymposium Weimar will be held online. The two-day festival brings together guests from culture, academics, business, media and politics on the theme of “Generations” and presents lectures, discussions, artistic works and participatory formats in the digital space.

### **Dates**

Wednesday and Thursday, 16 and 17 June 2021 / 1 to 7 pm

### **Partnerships in Weimar and worldwide**

The digital festival programme will be supplemented by projects in Weimar. The cooperating partners are Bauhaus-Universität Weimar, Bauhaus FM, Deutsches Nationaltheater Weimar, Galerie Eigenheim, Klassik Stiftung Weimar, Lichthaus Kino and Radio Lotte.

In addition, from mid-May, a preliminary programme in collaboration with the Goethe-Instituts in Cairo/Khartoum, New York, New Delhi and Warsaw sheds light on the theme of the Kultursymposium Weimar in its international scope.

### **Speakers**

Around 50 speakers between the ages of 9 and 93 from more than 25 different countries have been invited.

### **Programme**

The complete programme can be found at [www.goethe.de/kultursymposium](http://www.goethe.de/kultursymposium).

### **Languages**

The lectures and talks of the digital festival will take place in German and English, with subtitles or translation in both directions.

### **Participation**

Registration for the Kultursymposium Weimar 2021 is not required, participation in all digital events is free of charge at [www.goethe.de/kultursymposium](http://www.goethe.de/kultursymposium).

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Two projects are also being realized in Weimar that are open to the public: *Foodbank for Pollinators – Seeding for future generations* can be experienced as an art intervention in the Weimar urban space.

An exhibition on the Kultursymposium Weimar with works by Zara Julius, Li Hanwei, Emilija Škarnulytė and Kristin Jakubek opens on 16 June at Galerie Eigenheim (until 3 July, Asbachstraße 1, Weimarahallenpark, opening hours: Thursday–Sunday , 2–7 pm).

### **Kultursymposium Weimar 2021 project team**

Daniel Göpfert (director), Lin Franke, Marie Golenia, Anna Heinemann, Quirina Kiesel, Anne Morgenstern, Carolin Nüser, Alexandra Röhr and Cora Thielen.

### **Sponsors**

The Kultursymposium Weimar 2021 is made possible by the involvement of the following businesses from the economic advisory board of the Goethe-Institut: Bertelsmann, Evonik Industries AG, Siemens AG, Volkswagen AG and Adolf Würth GmbH & Co KG.

### **Media partners**

The media partners of the Kultursymposium Weimar 2021 are 3sat, brand eins and Deutschlandfunk Kultur.

### **Press contacts, interview requests and image materials**

PR-Netzwerk | Annette Schäfer, Christine Gückel-Daxer, Tel: +49 30 61 65 11 55,  
presse@pr-netzwerk.net

Goethe-Institut Capital City Office, Viola Noll, Deputy Press Officer, Tel.: +49 (0)89 15921 249,  
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### **Press credentials**

Credentials are not required for the online events of the Kultursymposium.

### **More information at:**

[www.goethe.de/kultursymposium/en](http://www.goethe.de/kultursymposium/en)

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