



URBAN SUBCULTURES 2016

Music and art in Berlin- the wild 1980s and their legacy



Geniale Dilletanten: The wild 1980s in Berlin exhibition 10 March until 13 April in Sydney

Public program highlights at Ambush Gallery, Sydney:

Thu 10 March, 6pm: Opening Night, including live music from Gudrun Gut

Wed 23 March, 6pm: Film screening: *Tod den Hippies, es lebe der Punk!*

Fri 01 April, 6pm: Film screening: *B-Movie* followed by Mick Harvey Q&A

Fri 08 April, 6pm: Exhibition closing party: Live music and DJs

Gudrun Gut: Live beats, sounds and voice 10 March until 17 March in Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne

Thu 10 March, 6pm: Sydney, Ambush Gallery at *Geniale Dilletanten* Opening

Sat 12 March, 7pm: Brisbane, Institute of Modern Art (IMA)

Wed 16 March, 8pm: Melbourne, John Curtin Hotel

Sven Marquardt: eclectic photography exhibitions 28 April until 31 May in Sydney, Melbourne

28 April until 31 May: *Fotografien* at The Substation, Melbourne

05 May until 22 May: *Future's Past* at Ambush Gallery, Sydney, co-presented by Head On Festival

The Goethe-Institut Australia is thrilled to launch the 2016 **Urban Subcultures** program, a curated series of exhibitions, concerts, artist talks and film screenings showcasing the intense flurry of cultural activity of subculture in the 1980s and now, in Berlin and across Germany. International guests include musician, Gudrun Gut, photographer Sven Marquardt and an appearance from Mick Harvey.

It's not a secret that **Berlin** has been a magnet for international artists such as Nick Cave, David Bowie, Brian Eno and many others. *Urban Subcultures* looks at the source, investigating Germany's rough and experimental music and arts scene.

The program is anchored by international touring exhibition **Geniale Dilletanten** at Ambush Gallery in Sydney. The term *Geniale Dilletanten* ("brilliant dilettantes") was deliberately misspelled title that was



created in 1981 and has become synonymous with an era of artistic upheaval that brought Germany's edgy artistic scene international recognition. The exhibition is the most comprehensive survey of the 1980s German subculture, incorporating a rich array of video and photographic material, films, audio, magazines, posters and other artefacts capturing the bold and daring scene around Einstürzende Neubauten, Palais Schaumburg, Deutsch Amerikanische Freundschaft (DAF) and many other musicians, filmmakers and artists.

One original Geniale Dilletanten participant was Berlin-based avant-garde musician **Gudrun Gut**, founding member of Malaria!, Mania D and Einstürzende Neubauten. Gudrun Gut was invited by the Goethe-Institut to visit Australia and to perform at the exhibition in Sydney, with additional concerts in Brisbane and Melbourne.

Another key figure in the 1980s scene was musician and producer **Mick Harvey**. Best known as a long-time collaborator of Nick Cave in The Birthday Party and The Bad Seeds, he has also worked closely with PJ Harvey and has a successful solo career. Mick Harvey will engage in a talk following the screening of *B-Movie: Lust and Sound in West Berlin*.

Taking the scene onto the big screen, **B-Movie: Lust and Sound in West Berlin** has enjoyed glowing reviews at festivals around the world. Half documentary, half personal account of producer Mark Reeder, the film features archival footage from acts including Einstürzende Neubauten, Joy Division, Nick Cave, Nena and more.

Following the Geniale Dilletanten exhibition, the Goethe-Institut Australia presents eclectic photographer **Sven Marquardt** at Ambush Gallery as part of Head On Photo Festival in Sydney, and a different selection of works at Substation in Melbourne. His dark and captivating photographic work have won international acclaim, earning him feature articles and portraits in the New York Times, The Guardian and practically every important German news outlet. In addition to his work as an artist, Sven Marquardt is also closely connected to the city's techno scene through his work at the infamous club, Berghain.

www.goethe.de/australia

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