OFF SCENE
Everyone knows the Aalto Theatre and the Museum Folkwang in Essen. But what might you experience in the small theatres of the city, in the art houses, the studios and the cultural centres? What about the choirs and dance ensembles?

Getting to know this so called «independent» cultural scene is really worth it, for both locals and visitors. It has played a part in RUHR.2010 becoming Cultural Capital of Europe.

One could call this independent cultural scene «the salt in the soup». It is from this scene that some now great and well-known artists began their careers.

This booklet presents 34 of more than 100 cultural opportunities out of the independent cultural scene – all in Essen, maybe even situated in your neighbourhood.

Most events are priced around 10 Euro, occasionally up to 20 Euro. And some are even free!

If these tips are not enough, you can find even more detailed updated information in local newspapers and weekly papers and magazines as well as in the internet.

So! get up off the sofa and get out and experience it for yourself! This small publication seeks to inspire you – so look after it.

To save space for information and for your quick reference, we are using some standard symbols throughout. They are as follows:

- accessible to handicapped persons
- gastronomy
- nearest stop of local public transport
- advance booking and informations about the program
- possibility to reserve rooms or to book events
ALTER BAHNHOF KETTWIG

The neo-classical former train station on the Essen - Düsseldorf - Cologne rail route, has for years been a well known meeting point for the locals of Kettwig. Visitors are of course always welcome.

Apart from the sporting activities on offer, you can choose from a range of creative, language and further education courses. Special programmes run from Mondays to Fridays for the over-60s and for young mothers where childcare is provided.

At the weekends the old station attracts an audience of all ages from the area, presenting concerts, lectures, dance evenings and cabaret.

An annual highlight and quickly sold out, is the «Kettwiger Kabarett-Tage» (Kettwig Cabaret Days) where you can appreciate the local «Kettwichte», young talents along with award-winning performers. Another hallmark of the house are concerts by the Essen Baroque Soloists.

Ruhrtalstraße 345 | 45219 Essen-Kettwig | ☎ 02054 939339
www.bahnhof-kettwig.de | bahnhof-kettwig@web.de

Kettwig S: S-Bahn 6; Buslinien 142 und 190
Mo - Do 9 - 13 Uhr; 14 -18 Uhr; Fr 9 -13 Uhr;
nur Erdgeschoss
Situated on the grounds of the world cultural heritage colliery- Zollverein, the spectrum of activities of The Arka Kulturwerkstatt spans sketching and painting to sculpture and photography. Exhibitions presenting the work of regional and national artists occur four times a year and are popular events set in the inspiring ambience of Zollverein XII.

ARKA has been running creative courses, weekend workshops and holiday academies for many years. Youth art workshops are staged in co-operation with the Kulturbüro (office for culture) and the Jugendamt (youth welfare office) of Essen.

The creative courses are open to any interested person over the age of 15- no matter from where they come.

Zeche Zollverein, Schacht XII, Halle 12 | Gelsenkirchener Straße 181 | 45309 Essen
☎ 0201 306140
arka.essen@freenet.de | www.arka-kulturwerkstatt.de
♿ Zollverein: Bahnlinie 107 (Essener Kulturlinie)
Any visitor entering the Blauraum venue on the 3rd floor in the attic of the Vossbusch building in Bredeney for the first time will immediately see where the room gets its name. In 2003, during the complete restoration of the room where pupils of the nearby Grashof grammar school were once taught, they didn’t certainly economize on blue paint. The ties with the grammar school were retained: firstly by virtue of the performers and secondly with frequent programme items intended specifically for school pupils.

Ultimately, Holger Ellwanger and Gerrit Stratmann, who run the Blauraum, still regard their commitment to high-quality yet affordable performing arts as a “hobby project”. They bring drama, music, comedy, audio plays, magic shows, improvisations and cabaret to an audience of up to 70. The stage was originally set up and used in Haus Vossbusch by members of the “Südfrüchte” cabaret group in 1984. A peculiarity of the Blauraum is its “box office”. Its sole purpose is issue tickets that theatre-goers have to book in advance by phone or online (by 3 p.m. at the latest on the day of the show).

Voßbusch 4 | 45133 Essen-Bredeney
www.blauraum-essen.de | info@blauraum-essen.de

Frankenstraße: Straßenbahnlinien 101 und 109; H: Bredeneyer Kreuz oder Voßbusch: Buslinien 160 und 194

Der Blauraum ist nur zu Veranstaltungen geöffnet. Programminformationen gibt es immer aktuell im Internet. Kartenbestellungen: ☏ 0208 3779197
Kleine Bar mit Getränken sowie Salz- und Süßwaren
nach Absprache möglich
High quality cultural entertainment in a very personal atmosphere is the hallmark of the former Mayors house in Werden. Presenting an ambitious and wide-ranging programme for all ages, their aspiration is that visitors make the listed neo-classical 1830s building «their own personal» cultural centre.

The Mayors house offers not only chamber music with wonderful piano evenings but also jazz, tango, klezmer, chanson and cabaret. Concerts for the whole family, exhibitions, literature events and special lectures with coffee and cake for the older generation complete the programme.

The stylish ambience of this historic house fosters the relaxed exchange of ideas and there is often the opportunity to meet the artists after concerts.

Heckstraße 105 | 45239 Essen-Werden | 📧 0201 493286
www.buergermeisterhaus.de | buergermeisterhaus@t-online.de

Essen-Werden S-Bahn S6 Essen-Düsseldorf-Köln (ca.10 Min. zu Fuß);
Werden Markt: Buslinien 169, 190
Mo - Fr 9 - 15 Uhr
nur Getränke
A small cellar theatre, but only in terms of space, (it’s doors first opened 45 years ago making it one of the oldest private theatres in the Nordrhein-Westfalia region) it has just 41 seats in the cosy, old fashioned rooms. An equally intimate little bar is open for thirsty guests before and after shows. In contrast, a the large repertoire is presented by the brilliant ensemble of talented amateurs and professional actors. The theatre was founded by well known actor Helmut Gahmann. The diverse programme ranges from classic to modern pieces, from comedy and criminal stories to pieces for children and teenagers.

With this broad and colourful programme Das Kleine Theater has for years delighted its audience - age «6 to 99» looking for intelligent entertainment.

Gänsemarkt 42 | 45127 Essen | ☎️ 0201 5209852
www.kleines-theater-essen.de | bestellung@kleines-theater-essen.de

Berlin Platz: U11, U17, U18; Straßenbahn: 105, Bus: 166

Anrufbeantworter rund um die Uhr; Rückruf innerhalb von 24 Stunden

Bar mit Getränke-Angebot

inklusive Bewirtung auch außerhalb der normalen Spieltage und Spielzeiten möglich
The programme of the independent theatre, Die Bühne, demonstrates an appetite for skilful entertainment and the courage to experiment. Socially critical pieces and classics of the absurd theatre are to be seen next to enchanting pieces for children and improvisational pieces that will make you laugh your head off.

But it is not only about entertainment here. Convinced that theatre is not dependent on age, but on a desire and an interest in playing, acting, Die Bühne hosts several ensembles, amongst them a children’s group and a seniors group.

The performance space with 96 seats is also available for guest theatre companies.

Most members of the ensemble began their careers in the workshops of actor, director and theatre educator Detlef Fuchs.

Actors classes, directing courses, workshops and weekend seminars (eg voice training and improvisation) provide children, young people and adults of all ages with sound knowledge and skills.

The workshops and seminars are also on offer to companies.

Girardetstraße 2-38 (Girardet-Haus, Eingang 6) | 45131 Essen
☎ 0201 3846766;
www.diebuehne.com | d.fuchs@diebuehne.com

Martinstraße: U 11; Straßenbahnlinien: 101, 107; Bus: 142, 160/161;
Girardet-Haus: Buslinie 142
This ensemble is granted something allowed to very few: to play within the incomparable ambience of the Villa Hügel. Subscriptions or tickets for individual concerts can be booked for the three cycles Barock (baroque), Mozart and Hügel (as well as combined). In addition, there are family concerts, introductions to concert music and christmas concerts. Some concerts are accompanied by a presenter. The family concerts are for all generations: children (from 10-12), their parents and grandparents (and priced accordingly).

Geschäftsstelle: Haus der Technik (Innenstadt) Hollestraße 1g | Osteingang, Ebene 7
Spielstätte: Villa Hügel | Hügel 1 | 45133 Essen
☎ 0201 230034
www.folkwang-kammerorchester.de | info@folkwang-kammerorchester.de

Geschäftsstelle: Essen Hbf.: U11, U17, U18; Straßenbahnen: 101, 105, 106, 107;
Buslinien: SB 15; 143, 145, 146, 154/155, 193, 196;
Spielstätte Villa Hügel: Essen-Hügel: S-Bahn S 6; H: Frankenstraße:
Straßenbahnen 101, 107; von dort bis H: Villa Hügel: Bus 194
Mo - Fr 10 - 13 Uhr
Forum Kreuzeskirche, a private initiative founded in 1997 by Essen citizens in cooperation with the university, the Institute of Cultural Sciences, the Folkwang University and the congregation of the old town (Altstadt) church, encourages encounters between the arts, sciences and the Church in the inner city. This project pursues the goal of converting the monument-listed Kreuzeskirche (Church of the Cross), one of the last-remaining historic buildings in the city centre that survived the Second World War, into a meeting place for the general public where a lively exchange can take place between the arts and sciences. Concerts, lectures and exhibitions are staged here. The high standard of the concerts given by the church choir (Kantorei) and well-known ensembles and soloists make a notable contribution to culture in the Ruhr district. Special concerts on the first-rate programme of the Kreuzeskirche are also put on for children.

Zwinglistraße 28 | 45141 Essen
Ansprechpartner: Kantor Andy von Oppenkowski, Kriemhilde Weber
Tel. 0201 248 65 47 oder 0171 54 83 583
www.forum-kreuzeskirche.de | info@forum-kreuzeskirche.de
Rathaus Essen: Straßenbahnlinien: 101, 103, 105, 107, 109;
Buslinien: 145, 147, 154/155, 166, 196
This forum aims to be a space for debate about culture, organising monthly individual and group exhibitions dealing with art, architecture and city design, as well as artist’s talks and musical events. It is the only institution in the region that offers a common forum for discussion about art and architecture. Two of Essen’s artists unions and the Bund Deutscher Architekten (association of German architects) are housed here.

Kopstadtplatz 12 | 45127 Essen | ☏ 0201 61619885
www.forum-kunst-architektur.de | sekretariat@kunstvereinruhr.de

Buslinien: 145, 147, 154/155, 166, 196
Di - Fr 10 - 19 Uhr; Sa + So 12 - 17 Uhr
Nur die obere von zwei Etagen
GREN KULTURZENTRUM

Grend is a multi-disciplinary socio-cultural centre in Essen-Steele. With more than 200 events a year, it is known as one of the most successful independent cultural institutions in NRW.

The programme includes theatre, with a concentration on «Ruhrgebietskommödien» (comedy from and about the Ruhr region) in the Freudenhaus theatre on the ground floor (see no 21), presenting concerts (rock, pop, world music), poetry slam, adult education (mainly theatre and languages), intercultural events, creativity for children and youngsters, festivals and community arts. Grend can also provide a seminarhouse and a guesthouse visited by national and international guests.

Grend’s creed is that culture is an existential and immediate part of human life as well as an expression of a living democracy and the will to create. It works to reach as many people as possible (of all ages, including people with migrant backgrounds and people with special needs), offering different possibilities of cultural participation, as well as a free and inspiring space for personal development.

Westfalenstraße 311 | 45276 Essen | ☎ 0201 85132-0
www.grend.de | info@grend.de

Essen-Steele: S-Bahnen S1, S3, S9, Straßenbahnlinie 109. Von da bis Grendplatz: Buslinien: 144, 164, 166, 167, 174

Programmansage ☎ 0201 85132-56; Karten ☎ 0201 85132-30
Di, Do, Fr 16 –19 Uhr, auch Abendkasse
Vorverkausstellen in Essen und cts-Ticket ☎ 0201-85132-50
ausgezeichnet von der AG Selbsthilfe Behindeter für barrierefreien Zugang
Speisen und Getränke
Komödien im Theater Freudenhaus auch in Verbindung mit der Gastronomie
At first glance, this is an odd group that can’t be pinned down in any sense of the word: an institution without place and space, a pool of 20 artists that appear as the case may arise.

Of themselves, they say that their existence is purely virtual until an event, voluntarily organised and financed, comes up. After an event, ZORMM returns to its virtual state and, should money for adequate artists fees be insufficient, events just don’t take place.

What kind of events? A combination of entertainment and artistic debate, for example: lectures combined with music and visual arts (images, sounds, words.) Their repertoire also includes cabaret and dance.

In short: Gruppe ZORMM runs interdisciplinary events by the motto: Folkwang unites the arts.

Ulrich Straeter | Joseph-Lenné-Straße 3 | 45131 Essen | ☏ 0201 421226
straeter-kunst@t-online.de

Man kann Künstler oder Künstlergruppen für bestimmte Themen buchen, etwa „Südfrankreich“, „Irland“, „Ruhrgebiet“.
JAZZ OFFENSIVE ESSEN (JOE)

Jazz Offensive Essen e.V., founded in 1995 and now numbering more than 100 members, is a central influence on Essen's jazz music scene. JOE concerns itself with jazz music of all styles and directions and with its manifold activities and performances in many various venues, is an anchor of Essen's cultural life.

As well as the series, «free essen», it hosts the annual JOE jazz festival and bi-monthly sessions, one in the old cinema Lichtburg and one in the Domstuben. In addition, they present jazz films once a month. Their monthly «JOE» newsletter supplies up-to-date information about jazz events in and around Essen.

The promotion of modern jazz and the networking of musicians and jazz fans are the primary aims of JOE. It cooperates successfully with initiatives such as „Jazzwerk Ruhr“ and „Jazz plays Europe“.

Geschäftsstelle: Feuerbachstraße 2 | 45147 Essen | ☎ 0201 327817
www.jazz-offensive-essen.de | info@jazz-offensive-essen.de

Gemarkenplatz: U 17
Mo 10 -12.30 Uhr
Hängt vom Veranstaltungsort ab
Hängt vom Veranstaltungsort ab
The Katakomben-Theater in Girardet Haus is a multi-ethnic stage under Turkish direction. Jazz and world music, Rembetika and Salsa, cabaret and theatre for children, chamber theatre and Turkish comedy in German language create the multilayered and distinctive profile of the house.

Theatre leader Kazim Calisgan works on the staging and development of contemporary Turkish theatre pieces. He is a musician himself and can be found on stage with the „Transorient Orchestra“ and other smaller formations. He cultivates fruitful relationships and creative networks with artists all over Europe and Turkey.

The theatre not only calls a comfortable Theatre space with 200 seats its own, but has a swell lavish Foyer that is used for exhibitions and dance parties.

Girardetstraße 2-38 | 45131 Essen | ☏ 0201 4304672
www.katakombentheater.de | katakomben-theater@web.de
Martinstraße: U11; Straßenbahnlinien 101, 107; Buslinien 142, 160/161;
Girardet Haus: Buslinie 142

Mo - Fr 10 - 14 Uhr | Karten an der Abendkasse: 1 Stunde vor Veranstaltungsbeginn;
Weiterer Kartenservice über Reservix: Man kann die Karten zu Hause ausdrucken.

Sowohl einzelne Räume als auch das ganze Theater.
This choir ensemble aims to create a memorable and innovative programme. The high standard of their lively interpretations of occidental choir music has won them a loyal following in and around Essen and, through national radio broadcasts, further afield.

Contemporary choir music, including first releases and topical programmes are the nucleus of their repertoire.

Based at Schinkels St. Peter in Essen-Kettwig, the ensemble performs mainly in churches.

The ensemble aims to support families, and children up to 16 enter free. For pupils and students there is a reduced entry fee.

Konzerte: Kirche St. Peter | Münzenberger Platz 8 | 45219 Essen |
☎ 0201 274655 (Anrufbeantworter)
www.bachensemble.de | info@bachensemble.de
Bahnhof Kettwig: S-Bahn S 6 (Essen-Düsseldorf-Köln);
Corneliusstraße: Buslinien 151, 190
Kirche St. Peter
Das Ensemble ist für gelegentliche „geschlossene“ Veranstaltungen (etwa Firmenjubiläen u.ä.) ansprechbar.
The former school building in the old mining-workers district of Rellinghausen, is both studio and exhibition space. Kunsthaus Essen presents regular exhibitions, workshops, courses, artists talks, tours and dance and music events. The art house regards itself as a forum for international experimental art. The possibility of encounter with the artists and their work, opens ways to contemporary art and culture. Participatory workshops for all ages aim to wake an interest in and understanding of artistic questions. Dance workshops are part of a special project, whereby the arthouse focuses in particular on the integration of children and youth with migrant backgrounds.

Rübezahlstraße 33 (Gottfried-Wilhelm-Siedlung) | 45134 Essen

0201 443313
www.kunsthaus-essen.de | khe@kunsthaus-essen.de

Finefraustraße: Bahnlinie 105; Buslinien 142 und 155
Mo - Fr 9 - 16 Uhr
Nur das Erdgeschoss
Das Café ist unregelmäßig, nur zu besonderen Anlässen, geöffnet
In Germany and its neighbouring countries, this original and extensive collection is considered unique. In more of a home-like than museum environment, the visitor can view merry-go-rounds, merry-go-round animals, organs, illustrated moral tales, friction machines, zograscopes and many other authentic objects in an old factory shop on the outskirts of Essen’s city centre. The over 80-year-old man behind this collection, the Essen fairground showman Erich Knocke, has brought the items together from all over Europe. They furnish proof of the diversity of the traditional fair and the showman’s instinct for technical innovation. Knocke has also collected countless silver, wooden, porcelain, tin and sheet metal figures, toys, wall plates, carpets and all kinds of rarities. The fair of the “good old days” is brought back to life acoustically by eight large working fairground organs and many other musical instruments in the hall. Anyone who wants to seriously investigate the lives of showmen past and present can make use of the well-stocked library, many personal documents and a collection of graphic works comprising over 5,000 old engravings and prints.

Hachestraße 68 | 45127 Essen (Stadtmitte)
☎ 0172-2678969 oder 0179-2093054 (täglich 11 bis 19 Uhr)
www.schaustellermuseum.de | schaustellermuseum@web.de
_scheme: 1
MBahn: U11, U17, U18; Straßenbahnen: 101, 105, 106, 107;
Buslinien: SB15, 143, 145, 146, 154/155, 193, 196;
vom Hauptbahnhof zu Fuß etwa 5 bis 7 Minuten

Jeden Samstag wird um 14 Uhr eine öffentliche Führung angeboten.
Andere Termine sind (nur für Gruppen) nach Absprache möglich.
In former times, the red brick building with high windows housed a steam machine, which kept the skip of the Zeche Carl (colliery) running. Today the building is a home to a creative diversity of artistic disciplines. The concept of the Machinenhaus is to exist, not just as a space for the presentation of visual arts, music, composition, theatre, choreography and dance, but to serve as a space for the development and creation of innovative ideas.

Parallel to the productions shown at Maschinenhaus, the process of creation plays an essential role.

Wilhelm-Nieswandt-Allee 100 | 45326 Essen | 0201 8378424
www.maschinenhaus-essen.de | maschinenhaus.essen@t-online.de
Altenessen-Mitte: U 11, U17; Zeche Carl: Buslinien: 162, 170,172
Di - Fr 10 - 14 Uhr
Those who are intrigued by the name of this interactive exhibition will not be surprised to learn that it is unique in the Ruhr region. The sensory perception of the visitors of all ages is challenged at more than 60 experimental stations through an exploration of the demonstrated laws of nature and the illusions of sound, light and motion. Phänomania was the concept of the Essen born carpenter, writer, educator, philosopher and artist Hugo Kükelhaus. The different stations of the Phaenomania—first shown at the World exhibition in Montreal in 1967—allow visitors a direct experience of the universal laws of their physical existence whilst they are experiencing the laws of «outer nature» (oscillation, gravity, polarity, reflection etc.) Through interaction with the Kükelhaus devices, our often dulled sense of perception and perception of the senses are newly awoken. The combination of entertainment and science presented in the former hall of Zeche Zollverein (Schacht 3/7/10) makes an ideal family outing.

Am Handwerkerpark 8 – 10 | 45309 Essen | ☎ 0201 301030
www.erfahrungsfeld.de
Huestraße: Buslinien 183, 348
von 9 -18 Uhr
im benachbarten Café Zollverein
Posters are considered a mirror of the times and mediators between art and everyday life. And this is the thinking behind the commitment of the graduate structural engineer Victor Seroneit who founded Plakat Kunst (poster art) Hof Rüttenscheid with the artist Feliks Büttner from Rostok (who also gave the AIDA cruisers their striking appearance) in 1991. Since then, he has been promoting international poster art in regular projects and supporting the work of the famous German Poster Museum in Essen. Seroneit has also initiated worldwide poster competitions and other campaigns for the protection of children.

Thanks to numerous interdisciplinary art events, the courtyard complex in Annastrasse has meanwhile evolved into a magnet for designers. The highlights of the events are the annual presentation of the venue’s own prize for graphic design and the award of the “JazzPott” to innovative jazz artists. Also well known are the rounds of discussions on current topics with celebrity guests.

Annastraße 75 | 45130 Essen | 0201 8723926 (Di. - Do.: 9 - 12 Uhr)
www.pkhr.de | info@pkhr.de
Cäcilienstraße: Straßenbahnlinie 106; Buslinien: 145 und 146;
Rüttenscheider Stern: U11; Straßenbahnlinien 101, 106, 107
Der Innenhof ist täglich frei zugänglich.

nur für Eigenveranstaltungen
Even smaller then the Small Theatre is Sago Hinterhoftheater in Essen-Rüttenscheid. The theatre is run by the two artists Isabell K. Sandig und Ralf Gottesleben who are also the main performers.

Encounter, communication and exchange are central to their understanding of culture. They present chanson-nights, vignettes, lectures, exhibitions and workshops as well as arranging parties, jubilees and children's birthdays. Exchange with the audience always comes first. Sago creates new connections and people meet and talk in a cosy atmosphere, feeling at home. Culinary highlights are served according to the presentations.

Reginenstraße 12 | 45130 Essen | ☏ 0201 8068801
www.sago-kultour.de | duosago@kultour.de
Rüttenscheider Stern: U11 und Straßenbahnlinien 101, 106, 107
Rosastraße: Buslinien 145 und 146
werktags 10 - 18 Uhr

Man kann den Raum, das Künstler-Duo und auch die bewährte Köchin aus Mülheim buchen.
“What has been brought together here will impress the connoisseur of African art and overwhelm the interested layperson. There’s probably no collection that’s as rich and abundant – not in Africa, not in Europe, nor in America.” This enthusiastic accolade from an “insider”, Professor Joseph Adande of the University of Cotonou, Benin, expresses his appreciation of the collection devoted to the subjects of voodoo, healing and magic in West Africa. The museum has been privately built up and funded by the writer and photographic journalist Henning Christoph.

The owner and curator of this exhibition, which is still unknown even to many citizens of Essen, wants to dispel the Hollywood cliché that adherents of voodoo stick pins in dolls and mumble a person’s name in order to harm someone. In his talks, Christoph explains that that voodoo, rather than cause harm, aims to heal and create harmony. During his guided tours, he hopes that visitors to his collection will be fascinated by the magic of Africa and inspired by the mysterious appeal of African devotional objects.

Rüttenscheider Straße 36 | 45128 Essen | ☏ 0201-787640 (Do. 14 - 18 Uhr; Fr. 18 - 22 Uhr; Sa. + So. 14 -18 Uhr)
www.soul-of-africa.com | henning.christoph@web.de
Rüttenscheider Stern: U11; Straßenbahlinien 101, 106, 107
The people of Steele, where emperor Otto held a day of court 1000 years ago, are aware of their history. That’s why they founded an association that runs a comprehensive archive at Dreiringplatz.

The library keeps around 600 books and brochures about the history of Steele, as well as various Steele newspapers and magazines.

Books about the history of Essen and the Ruhr area, charcoal mining and industry complete the collection.

In the image archive you will find around 5000 photographs and postcards of Steele and the surrounding districts of Horst, Freisenbruch and Eiberg. There are aerial photographs, panoramas and artistic images and framed pictures.

In the document archive there is a collection of around 35000 written documents such as newspaper articles, historical documents and small brochures with detailed information about the history of Steele, plus 350 maps and topographic maps and plans.

The association offers lectures, tours through Steele and its own publications.
“Essen’s doctor” has his “practice” in the heart of the city centre in the Europahaus at Kennedyplatz. Long before Eckart von Hirschhausen, Ludger Stratmann, a fully qualified doctor and for many years a medical practitioner, demonstrated that humour is an extremely efficacious and, moreover, popular medicine. Dr. Stratmann’s solo programmes, in which Caretaker Jupp, as he calls himself, analyses medical topics from the patient’s point of view, have become cult medical comedy with a distinctive Ruhr district flavour. TV broadcasts and tours have also made him a household name all over Germany. And whenever he’s on the road for this reason, the house’s own ensemble puts on comedies with their own unique and zany brand of humour in the Europahaus. In addition to these shows, the Stratmanns Theater stage is popular with celebrity guests, e.g. Jochen Malmsheimer, Frank Goosen, Hennes Bender and Fritz Eckenga. It’s therefore hardly a surprise that tickets for shows in the Europahaus should be booked well in advance.

Kennedyplatz 7 | 45127 Essen | ☎ 0201 8204060 (Mo–Fr: 9.30–18 Uhr; Sa: 9.30–16 Uhr
Hauptbahnhof: U11, U17, U18; Straßenbahlinien: 101, 105, 106, 107; Buslinien: SB15, 143, 145, 146, 154/155, 193,196; von hier 5 Min. zu Fuß; Hirschlandplatz: U11, U17, U18; von hier ca. 3 Min. zu Fuß
Restaurant „Leos Casa“ (italienische Küche) im Hause. 250 Plätze. Tischreservierungen für Theatergäste. auch inklusive Bewirtung
The Studio-Bühne, situated in an former school in Kray-Leithe, has enriched Essens cultural life for more than 50 years. Presenting with charm, individuality and passion nearly 150 shows per year for an audience of all ages, the ensemble consists of around 40 volunteer members.

True to its motto «drama, cult and childrens laughter», it offers swinging comedies, sensitive chamber theatre, well known Loriot sketches, poetic fairy tales, trashy cult shows and contemporary drama. Studio theatre collaborates with, amongst others, Berlin Theater Zapperment and Youth Theatre VERA in Essens russian twin town Nishnij Nowgoroda and is involved in intercultural projects, such as with russian-german communities. They are also active in theatre education, work in schools, projects in the district, theatre days for childrens and adults, workshops, symposiums and special seminars.

Primarily, Studio-Buehne seeks to entertain, but also to promote discussion on serious themes and their presentation and to invite participation in the «open ensemble» through schoolprojects, youth clubs and summer workshops.

Korumhöhe 11 | 45307 Essen | 0201 554601 oder 551505
www.studio-buehne-essen.de | StudioBuehneE@aol.com
Buslinien 146 und 170
Mo - Fr 14 - 17 Uhr
im „Wohnzimmer“ vor und nach den Vorstellungen
Brunel.Tanz.Cie. is an independent contemporary dance company which has been working in Essen since 1987. The nucleus of their original choreography is the «chamber dance», meaning small forms such as solos and duets to quintets. The inspiration of the french choreographer Christine Brunel has developed over the years, from «music and idea» to «movement and the personality of the dancer» whereby movement follows music, rather than music following movement. The dance theatre does not have their own venue, performing only guest shows—often in the Maschinenhaus.

The company is well known for their long term educational work with children and youth in schools where they present dance and promote discussions about it. The children have the opportunity to experience dance directly in their own school sports hall, without the separation of stage and audience. They may develop and express their own thoughts and ideas about the presentations. For many children, it is their first encounter with stage dance.

They learn how a choreography is developed, that along with concrete ideas and tasks, feelings and emotions can be the base of a dance. As a practical exercise, they may come up with themes for the dancers to improvise on. At the end they all rehearse a small sequence together. The dance show becomes an interactive project, where the children don’t just spectate, but take part. The workshops are currently free for schools, being subsidised by the city Kulturbüro (cultural office).
Very few define their work as clearly as does Theater Courage: «our audience experiences culture as entertainment»

To be more precise, these are hearty comedies you won’t see anywhere else. Force of nature, Gabi Dauenhauer, front woman of the small unique stage in a Rüttenscheid backyard writes and directs nearly all pieces herself. Peter-Maria Anselstetter has been her partner in crime for more then 20 years.

Theatre Courage is the only institution in Essen that stages «erotic nights». Those looking for relaxation and entertainment after a long day in the office, in the workshop, in the kitchen, as a participant in a trade fair, as a local or a tourist will find it in Theater Courage. On summer nights they even perform outside.

To round off the evening, visit the nostalgic party-cellar style sailor bar La Paloma right next to the stage.

Goethestraße 67 | 45130 Essen | 0201 791466
www.theatercourage.de | theatercourage@t-online.de

Rüttenscheider Stern: U11; Straßenbahnlinien 107, 101 (von dort ca. 10 Minuten Fußweg) | Zweigertstraße: Straßenbahnlinie 106 (ca. 5 Minuten)

Mo - Fr 11:30 - 17:30 Uhr

in der Theater-Bar „La Palomar“ Getränke, Knabberreien
At home in Schloss Borbeck (Borbeck Palace) since 1987, Essen's “Palace Theatre” is the "Theater Extra". The ensemble initially performed in the palace's grand hall before moving in 2000 into premises of its own in the palace's farm complex – a move that has paid off. The semicircular stage, the new auditorium accommodating an audience of up to 60, unusually good stage equipment and sufficient space for the props, a dressing room and control room are a boon to creativity. The lovingly furnished interior and personal atmosphere give the theatre a special charm much appreciated by theatre-goers well outside Essen.

A permanent ensemble, which has undergone major rejuvenation around its core members in the last few years, aims to offer its audience quality entertainment nearly every Saturday from 7 p.m. from September through to May. The programme of Theater Extra is wide-ranging – an alternating selection of whodunits, comedies and straight drama make up its basic repertoire. Supplementary guest performances by various performers and children’s theatre groups add diversity to this structure and thus yield a colourful theatre programme for all age groups.

Schlossstraße 101 | 45355 Essen (Schloss Borbeck) | ☏ 0201 623515 (täglich 9-20 Uhr)
www.theater-extra.info | kontakt@theater-extra.info
Essen-Borbeck: S-Bahn S 9; H: Fürstäbtissinstraße: Buslinie 185
Fahrtstuhl vorhanden
nur Getränke
The programme promises theatre and cabaret with a local connection, a connection to the Ruhr region. The «Ruhrgebiets» comedies of in-house author, Siggi Domke who also writes for well known comedian Uwe Lyk (aka Herbert Knebel), are cult. There are special ticket prices for pensioners, but the «normal» entry fee is also very reasonable.

The Theater Freudenhaus, situated in the Steele culture centre, Grend, offers a programme of great entertainment with local colour. Freudenhaus is always open to creative ideas: who’d have known that well known Chanson- Cabaret-Duo Weber & Beckmann started their career here?

Westfalenstraße 311 | 45276 Essen | ☎ 0201 8513230
www.theater-freudenhaus.de | theater-freudenhaus@grend.de

Essen-Steele: S-Bahnen S1, S3, S9; Straßenbahnlinie 109; von dort bis Grendplatz: Buslinien: 144,164, 166, 167, 174

Di, Do, Fr 16 - 19 Uhr
Intimate, cosy, with a good view from all seats and a varied programme of boulevard, musical, intelligent comedy and drama.
The only theatre in Germany situated in a town hall (which also happens to be the tallest in the republic) usually offers a classical boulevard repertoire such as can be found in Berlins Kudamm, starring well-known actors from radio, film and TV.
Foremost a venue for entertainment and relaxation, Theater im Rathaus also presents demanding literature and controversial themes.
There are special pensioner matinees and a new Tuesday matinee subscription for people of all ages who have the time.

Porscheplatz 1 | 45127 Essen | ☎ 0201 2455555
www.theater-im-rathaus.de | service@theater-im-rathaus.de

Buslinien: 145, 147, 154/155.
Im „Parkhaus am Rathaus“ (Einfahrt beachten – dem hintersten von drei Parkhäusern) können Theaterbesucher zu einem ermäßigten Tarif parken.
Mo - Fr 10 - 18:30 Uhr, Sa 10 - 13 Uhr
zwei besondere Plätze für Rollstuhlfahrer
im Foyer, Getränke und Snacks
In this Essen theatre with by far the youngest audience, children from three to ten years along with their parents, grandparents and the young-at-heart, can experience drama, puppet theatre, music, singing and magical shows developed especially for children.

“We want to tell beautiful stories and inspire children’s imaginations” say the puppet players, about their work. “We want to create pleasant experiences for children so that they keep going to the theatre.” And most of all: “we work without being didactic.”

Theater Petersilie is a mobile theatre group visiting its audience in kindergartens, primary schools and children’s hospital wards. They collaborate with Theater Freudenhaus in Steele, the Rü-Bühne in Rüttenscheid and Studio-Bühne in Kray-Leithe where their performances can also be seen.

☎ 0201 7587298 und 0176 48763172  
www.theaterpetersilie.de | Kathrin@theaterpetersilie.de

Hängt vom Veranstaltungsort ab

Hängt vom Veranstaltungsort ab

Hängt vom Veranstaltungsort ab
This committed theatre group take their name from their origins in the area surrounding the church St. Theresia in Essen-Stadtwald, where they started as amateurs. Only the director was a professional. With their increasing popularity and expanding membership, the ensemble left their community hall. Now on stage in Essen Frohnhause, they are realising their ambition to combine entertainment with contentious contemporary political themes.

The current repertoire ranges from pieces for children and youth to comedy and criminal stories; from classical literature to contemporary political pieces. They have even begun to perform pieces with music and dance.
The institution with the «modest» name of Unperfekthaus is situated in the rooms of a former Franciscan convent in the inner city of Essen and is probably the largest private art gallery in and around Essen. Also a bar and meeting point for the creative scene and its friends, it offers space for company events, private parties and relaxed overnight accomodation. The original concept aims to close the gap between established artists and newcomers, to the benefit of all. Newcomers acquire free access to resources for their projects. The house serves as a springboard for artists and founders of new businesses. Restaurant and events in the house support the network financially. Locals, business travellers and tourists are invited to experience and be infected by the special Unperfekthaus atmosphere.

Friedrich-Ebert-Straße 18 (gegenüber dem Einkaufszentrum Limbecker Platz) 45127 Essen | ☎ 0201 84735-0 | www.unperfekthaus.de | info@unperfekthaus.de

Berlin: U1, U17, U18; Straßenbahnlinien: 101, 103, 105, 109;
Buslinien: 145, 147, 166

täglich 10 - 23 Uhr
The socio-cultural centre in the north of Essen, in the district Altenessen is, with more than 25 years of tradition, one of the oldest in Germany. It is a creative forum open to people of all ages, nationalities, social levels and cultural disciplines.

The Zeche Carl concept offers not only an attractive programme of ambitious and current events—concerts, theatre, cabaret and literature events by local and well-known international artists, but is also committed to the creative development of the next generation. The DIY programme of Zeche Carl attracts children, youth and older people. It runs intercultural programmes, organises creative courses, workshops, discussion forums and thematic projects.

In brief, visitors of all ages are not just addressed as «consumers» of culture, with entertaining, educational, pleasurable and sometimes provoking events, but also as «producers».

Zeche Carl offers space for diverse use—courses, rehearsals and seminars.

Wilhelm-Nieswandt-Allee 100 | 45326 Essen | ☏ 0201 8344410
www.zechecarl.de | info@zechecarl.de
Mo - Fr 11 - 16 Uhr, Ticket-Hotline ☏ 0201 8344417
The words concealed behind the mysterious German abbreviation “ZKE” stand for the goal of the project initiated and managed by artist Eugen Bednarek. “Inventing art/culture together”, “learning art/culture together” and “experiencing art/culture together” are the possible interpretations. The elements of the project located on the site of Zeche Elisabeth (colliery) in Essen-Frillendorf are:

The Big ZKE Art Gallery – a non-profit presentation stage for performing artists, actors, dancers, musicians and writers

The Little ZKE Gallery – the first and only gallery for self-taught artists in Essen (non-profit gallery)

The ZKE Colliery Theatre, which is devoted to the production and holding of art and theatre projects at Zeche Elisabeth in cooperative ventures e.g. with the Rüttenscheid Katakomben Theater.

The Big ZKE School of Painting which offers, apart from painting lessons, an arts popularization programme with study trips, visits to exhibitions and museums, art seminars, art nude seminars etc.

The Little SKE School of Painting for children and adolescents of 6 years and older.

Elisabethstraße 31 – 39 | 45139 Essen | ☎ 0201 780858 (Mo - So: 12 - 19 Uhr)
www.projekt-zke.de | bedart@t-online.de
Kumpelweg: Buslinie 154/155
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Bocholder Straße 278, 45356 Essen

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Hollestraße 3, 45127 Essen

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