

Annex 3

Manifesta 16+ Programme

Culture and Community across the Ruhr Area

18th of June, 2026

Manifesta 16 Ruhr is shaped by contributions from within the Ruhr Area. As part of the Manifesta 16 + programme, local artists and community groups were invited to submit proposals through an open call.

The response was impressive: 217 project submissions were received, with 145 from across the Ruhr Area. A jury selected 16 projects to extend the biennial into additional cities. The selected projects highlight both the diversity of the local cultural landscape and many innovative approaches to reimagining and activating church spaces.

Due to the fact that these events are organised by external partners, some details may change over the course of the biennial. Please check <https://manifesta16.org/plus-programme> for the most up to date information.

An Invitation to Cook and Create Together

Go(o)d kitchen turns Heilige Familie church into an open community space where people can meet, collaborate and share ideas. Through cooking and building workshops, participants prepare meals using donated food, exchange culinary traditions and create practical furniture for the church. The project encourages cultural exchange, collective creativity and new ways of using the space for community life.

Heilige Familie "Tafelkirche":

Gustavstraße 54, Oberhausen

*Friday the 26th of June, Saturday the 4th of July,
Sunday the 5th of July*

Cooking: 12.00–14.00

Building: 10.00–16.00

(also Saturday the 27th of June)

Additional dates available online.

Creative Perspectives in Bottrop

For a limited period, St. Franziskus in Bottrop will serve as a space for artistic exchange and public participation. The project *auf.atmen*, initiated by the Künstler Kollektiv Bottrop, begins with an exhibition featuring works by members of the collective. Over time, visitors are invited to contribute their own ideas and creations through free workshops, allowing the exhibition to evolve continuously throughout its duration.

St. Franziskus

An St. Franziskus 6, Bottrop

1st of August to 20th of September

Monday, Thursday, Sunday: 11.00–18.00

Friday and Saturday, 11.00–19.00 until 19.00

Light Art and Performance in Herne

Catch the Light – build bridges transforms Christuskirche Wanne into a dynamic setting for artistic exploration. Combining light installations, dance performances, and literary contributions, the project reimagines both the church and its surrounding environment. The event encourages interaction between artists, audiences and the wider community through shared cultural experiences.

Christuskirche Wanne

Hauptstraße 254, Herne

18th of September, 15.30–20.00

19th of September, 14.00–22.00

Listening, Reflection, and Dialogue in Mülheim

Under the title *Zuhören* (Listening), St. Engelbert becomes a temporary gathering place dedicated to conversation, music and community. A varied programme of audio works, choral and organ performances, shared meals, and discussion formats invites visitors to slow down, engage with others and experience the value of attentive listening.

St. Engelbert Church

Arndtstraße 27, Mülheim

Wednesday the 15th of July, to Sunday the 19th of July

Digital Creativity Beyond the Internet

At the Social-Ecological Centre housed in the former Markus Church in Dortmund, the project *Baze* explores alternative ways of connecting in a digital world. Participants create zines, memes, tutorials and other media directly on their smartphones and exchange them through device-to-device sharing rather than

online platforms. The focus is on creativity, collaboration and meaningful offline interaction.

Social-Ecological Centre (Sozial-Ökologisches Zentrum)

Gut-Heil-Straße 12–14, Dortmund

Workshops in July, August, and September on three Fridays each month, from 14.00–17.00

Singing in Solidarity

Sing our Songs! at St. Mariä Himmelfahrt in Gelsenkirchen-Buer revisits the tradition of workers' songs and collective singing. Professional musicians and community participants work together to explore music connected to labour, migration, caregiving, social movements and solidarity, bringing these themes into a contemporary context.

St. Mariä Himmelfahrt

Goldbergstraße 11, Gelsenkirchen

Saturday the 4th of July and Thursday the 9th of July, 19.00 onwards

A Space for Inclusion and Representation

Created by artists Donja Nasser and Cate Lartey, Maktaba Room offers an inclusive cultural environment that encourages dialogue around diversity, participation and representation. Through artistic and community-based activities, the project provides opportunities to reflect on different perspectives and strengthen cultural exchange.

Frisörsalon

Kastanienallee 14, Essen

21st of June to 4th of October

Tue.–Sun., 10.00–18.00

Reimagining Ludgeriplatz Together

Residents of the neighborhood are further developing the square at St. Ludgerus Church in Duisburg-Neudorf into an open, vibrant, and inclusive meeting place through the project *Ludgeriplatz 2.0*.

St. Ludgerus Church

Ludgeriplatz, Duisburg

Conversations at the Church Counter

This is not a bar explores iconic places and symbols of the Ruhr Area and asks what possibilities they may hold for the future. In the former Markus Church in Dortmund, a collaborative installation is being created from donated furniture, memories and stories. At the construction workshops, visitors can actively participate in building the project. The open counter invites conversations about culture, transformation and new ideas for repurposing vacant churches.

Socio-Ecological Center

Gut-Heil-Straße 12–14, Dortmund

Construction Workshops

Friday the 26th of June to Friday the 24th of July, 11.00–16.00

Open Counter

Saturday the 4th of July to Saturday the 22nd of August, 16.00–22.00

German-Polish Communion Dinner

Holy Spits / Święta Ślina – Performances in Non-Binary States connects questions of origin, identity and memory with perspectives on Upper Silesia, queer history, and personal family narratives. The performance by Grupa Mauczka moves between drag, ritual and contemporary art.

Gethsemane Church

Amtsstraße 4a, Bochum

Dates and times can be found on our website.

Shaping Democracy Together

Under the title *Sinsen Connected*, installations, workshops, storytelling and a bicycle tour invite people to experience and help shape democracy in everyday life. During the project, Kreuzkirche in Marl becomes a place for encounters, dialogue and cultural activities.

Kreuzkirche

Goldregenstraße 17, Marl

Voices of the Neighborhood – An Audio-Visual Installation

15th–29th of August

Additional dates available on our website.

Rethinking the Church together

How can church spaces be used and designed in the future? Led by urban planner Svenja Noltemeyer, this participatory project in Heilig-Geist Church invites people to develop new ideas. Works by Verena Issel, Sarah Haas, Oliver Mark and David Janzen, along with various events, encourage encounters, discussion and collaborative design.

Heilig-Geist Church

Neuer Graben 162, Dortmund
23rd & 25th of June, 9th & 14th of July
From 18.00 onwards

Reclaiming Spaces

With Reclaiming the Space of Worship, artists Amdrita Jakupi, Arina Costea, Concetta Dewus and Cat Jugravu explore experiences of exclusion and open up new perspectives on church spaces.

Holy Family Church

Sadelhof 16, Dortmund
28th of August to 27th of September
Tuesday–Sunday, 11.00–18.00

Textiles tell stories

For the project *The Fabric of Neighborhood*, residents collect everyday textile objects – from clothing to protest banners. Together, they create an artwork about solidarity, community and neighborhood life.

Melanchthon Church

Melanchthonstraße 3, Essen

Community Sewing Sessions

August and/or September

Cooking together, remembering together

Sacred Kitchen brings neighbors together through cooking in Essen-Fulerum. Artist Beate Gärtner documents encounters, voices and recipes in a video work and a digital cookbook.

Fulerum Community Center

Humboldtstraße 167, Essen

Cooking Evenings

Saturday the 4th, 11th & 18th of July, 17.00

Exhibition

1st–4th of October

A Square for the Community

With the project Piazzetta, the parish of St. Martin in Dortmund-Gartenstadt revisits an urban planning idea that is around 70 years old. A new marketplace will be created in front of the church as a place for community gathering and exchange.

St. Martin Church

Gabelsbergerstraße 32, Dortmund