

Winners of the Manifesta 16 Ruhr Open Call

4th of December 2025
St. Josef, Gelsenkirchen-Ückendorf

Auf Atmen

Künstler Kollektiv Bottrop
Bottrop

For *AUF ATMEN*, the Künstler Kollektiv Bottrop transforms a church in Bottrop into a breathing cultural space.

Catch the Light - Build Bridges

Pottporus e. V.
Christuskirche, Herne

Catch the Light - Build Bridges transforms the Christuskirche in Herne-Wanne into an intercultural laboratory where art acts as a catalyst for dialogue, community and democratic participation. At the heart of the laboratory is an experimental dance-theater created by the Pottporus Young Ensemble.

Der Stoff, aus dem die Nachbarschaft besteht

Negar Foroughanfar
Essen

Der Stoff, aus dem die Nachbarschaft is a project by artist and curator Negar Foroughanfar, intertextually referencing the wrappings by Christo and Jeanne-Claude.

Ein queer-oberschlesisches Abendmahl

Grupa Mauczka
Venue of Manifesta 16 Ruhr,
Bochum

Grupa Mauczka invites to a queer final communion, a performative ritual dedicated to “remnants” in a radical act of remembrance, reinterpretation and excessive celebration. This project was selected through the Open Call and will be presented in a Manifesta 16 Ruhr venue.

Go(o)d Kitchen: Gemeinsam Bauen und Kochen

Oberhausener Tafel e. V. und KITEV
Tafelkirche Heilige Familie, Oberhausen

Go(o)d Kitchen: Gemeinsam Bauen und Kochen transforms the Heilige Familie Church in the city centre of Oberhausen into an open, shared space for learning and encounter, highlighting the social realities of food banks and reimagining communal spaces for local residents.

Ludgeriplatz 2.0

WeLoveLudgeriplatz
Ludgeriplatz, Duisburg

Ludgeriplatz 2.0 transforms the square of St. Ludgerus Church in Duisburg-Neudorf into a vibrant, inclusive meeting point.

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Maktaba Room

Cate Lartey und Donja Nasser
Venue of Manifesta 16 Ruhr,
Essen

Maktaba Room is an existing project by artists Donja Nasser and Cate Lartey that creates an inclusive cultural space focusing on diversity, participation, and representation. This project was selected through the Open Call and will be presented in a Manifesta 16 Ruhr venue.

Nebenan: Quartiersgeschichten - Auf dem Weg zur Ehrenamtskirche

Dr. Bettina Heine-Hippler
St. Martin Kirche, Dortmund

In the project *Nebenan*, the St. Martin parish in Dortmund-Gartenstadt is realizing the 70-year-old urban vision of a marketplace in front of its south wall by developing the Piazzetta.

Reclaiming the Space of Worship – An Artistic Manifesto

Save Space e. V., Romano Than e. V. und Museum Ostwall im Dortmunder U
Kirche Heilige Familie, Dortmund

In *Reclaiming the Space - An Artistic Manifesto* artists from the Romani and Sinti communities transform the Heilige Familie church in Dortmund-Marten into a place of gathering and encounter for residents as well as Romani and Sinti who have long been excluded from church spaces throughout Germany.

SACRED KITCHEN

Beate Gärtner
Essen

SACRED KITCHEN is a participatory, interdisciplinary art project connecting neighbourhood life, everyday culture, and artistic practice within a church in Essen. The core of the project comprises three communal cooking sessions.

SHAPING TOMORROW: OPEN HOUSE, NEW COMMUNITIES

Die Urbanisten e. V.
Heilig Geist Kirche, Dortmund

SHAPING TOMORROW by Verena Issel and the co-creative project *OPEN HOUSE, NEW COMMUNITIES* by *Die Urbanisten* explore new forms of neighbourhood community.

Sing our Songs!

Markus Pottbäcker - Katholische Kirchengemeinde Gelsenkirchen, Musiktheater im Revier und Kunstmuseum Gelsenkirchen
Kirche St. Mariä Himmelfahrt, Gelsenkirchen

The project *Sing our Songs!* revives the tradition of workers' songs from the Ruhr area's labour movement.

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Sinsen vernetzt - Kirche neu gedacht

AWO Unterbezirk Münsterland-Recklinghausen
Kreuzkirche, Marl

Sinsen vernetzt - Kirche neu gedacht transforms the post-war Modernist Kreuzkirche in Marl-Sinsen into an inclusive meeting place, counselling centre, and cultural venue.

ZUHÖREN

Theater an der Ruhr und Makroscope e. V.
Mülheim an der Ruhr

With *ZUHÖREN*, the Theater an der Ruhr and the cultural centre Makroscope transform the de-consecrated St. Engelbert Church in Mülheim an der Ruhr into a school of listening.

The Church is Our Baze

Sozial Ökologisches Zentrum Dortmund SÖZ e. V.,
Sam Hopkins, Daniela Berglehn
Markus-Kirche, Dortmund

The Church is Our Baze reimagines the former Markus-Kirche in Dortmund Nordstadt as a space where young people can meet, create and share self-produced digital content offline, from phone to phone.

This is not a bar

Wilko Meiborg und Felix Meermann
Dortmund

In *This is Not a Bar*, artists Felix Meerman and Wilko Meiborg create a temporary pub within a repurposed post-war church in Dortmund furnished with discarded „Gelsenkirchen Baroque“ furniture.