

Berlin, 27 August 2019

“Your vision in the skies above Berlin” – 30,000 handwritten messages to feature in floating art installation at the Brandenburg Gate during Berlin’s festival week

During the festivities from 4 – 10 November to mark the **30th anniversary of the Peaceful Revolution and the fall of the Wall**, **30,000 messages** will float above Straße des 17. Juni as **part of an art installation** by **Patrick Shearn of Poetic Kinetics** at the Brandenburg Gate. Under the heading of **“Your vision in the skies above Berlin”**, everyone is invited from 31 August to write down their **messages, wishes and hopes** for the future, as well as their memories of the past to be incorporated into the artwork. In reminiscence of the banners carried during the demonstrations of the Peaceful Revolution, a so-called **Skynet** in the artist’s signature style will be created from these multicoloured, partly reflective **“message ribbons”**, which will float almost weightlessly across the sky for one hundred metres, from the Lindenrondell at the Brandenburg Gate to Straße des 17. Juni.

During the Peaceful Revolution, hundreds of thousands of people boldly raised their voices in protest, contributing to the fall of the Wall. The handmade art installation at the Brandenburg Gate by Mr. Shearn commemorates their commitment. Its rectangular form conjures the form of the wall; but instead of a heavy, impenetrable border, the form takes flight. On the installation in Berlin, Shearn says: *“In collaboration with Kulturprojekte Berlin, we have created a narrative that symbolizes the freedom and unity earned when the wall came down, while holding aloft the current memories, wishes and hopes of all the people of Berlin, both East and West, as well as the world at large.”* The many floating messages symbolize that those who raise their voices together can overcome dictatorships and make the impossible possible. As a symbol of freedom, the messages, wishes and hopes are thrown skyward for the world to see.

Pressemitteilung

Everyone can take part!

Between 31 August and 20 September, messages can be submitted at various sites throughout Berlin. As well as locations such as the **Berlin Wall Memorial**, the **Tränenpalast** and the **East Side Gallery**, ribbons can also be inscribed with messages, wishes and hopes at numerous events, including the **Lange Nacht der Museen** on 31 August and **Lollapalooza Berlin** on 7 – 8 September. In addition, **Moritz van Dülmen**, CEO of **Kulturprojekte Berlin** says *"In memory of the thousands of people who courageously raised their voices 30 years ago, today we would like to cordially invite everyone to share their memories, messages and thoughts on the future. Everyone can participate, like the buddies did during Lichtgrenze back in 2014!"*

About the artist

Patrick Shearn and studio are based in Los Angeles, CA, Berlin's twin city. The artist specializes in larger-than-life artworks made from ultralight materials. His kinetic **Skynets** have been exhibited worldwide, including in **Beijing, Lisbon, Miami** and **Los Angeles**. As CEO and creative director for his studio **Poetic Kinetics** the artist is responsible for fan favorite roving sculptures at the **Coachella Valley Music & Arts Festival**.

Share your memories, messages, wishes and hopes online

You can also share your messages with us through the festival website. These messages will be displayed in front of the Brandenburg Gate during the festival week, allowing people from all over the world to contribute to the installation. Over 200 messages were submitted to the website within the first few days. From Joseph in Berlin: **"I hope that the UK stays in the EU."** Marianne Birthler, in turn, writes: **"I worry now about a new kind of wall – the wall between those who love freedom and those who fear it."** Statements such as **"Honestly – I still experience tears of joy when I see pictures from that time!"** by Oliver from Cologne can also be found among the submissions. To view the messages, please visit www.mauerfall30.berlin/botschaften/ueberblick.

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Pressemitteilung

Additional information

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