

Time to say goodbye

In February 2024, the KulturRampe is going to turn 18 years old and we are very certain that it will do so!

BUT:

turning 18 years old always goes hand in hand with becoming “adult” – whatever that means.

Before we’ll finally turn into “adults” it is time for my wife Annette and I to say “goodbye”. For us, the Rampe has always been defined by its’ irrationality, unforeseen turns and risks.

We were able to attract a fair number of bands to Krefeld – from all over the world - onto our small and humble stage. Chinese zither players, hard rock from Lebanon, country and rock from the USA and Canada, weird stuff from France and South America, punk rock from England and many bands from Krefeld and the rest of Germany and many more countries from around the world. We always granted ourselves the freedom and luxury not to pay attention to commercial success, but to quality and, admittedly, personal taste.

Starting with 4 borrowed lamps, used screws and collected leftover paint, we believe we’ve created a cultural music gem in Krefeld that has become an important institution for a city.

It was a fantastic, exciting and very important time in our lives. We have celebrated countless birthdays, many weddings, made lots of new friends over the years and unfortunately had to accompany too many on their last journey.

BUT sometimes stories are simply coming to an end and it is time to start writing new ones; so now the time has come for Annette and myself to start writing a new story.

We wanted to guide the Rampe through the rough time of the covid pandemic and we did so. Now other people must continue writing the story of the KulturRampe.

The second half of the year will be marked by transition and the handover to the successor(s), so there will only be a smaller, but nevertheless fine music program. Until the end of June we will have our regular program with lots of musical goodies. So come along and let's have a brilliant farewell tour.

What we'll do after our time at the Rampe, we don't know - the chapter is not written yet. But whether it's sheep farming in Northern Ireland, managing a miniature golf course in Bratislava or being a postman on Sylt, one thing for sure: we'll have band shirts for the rest of our lives!

We would like to thank all the musicians, all the bookers and all the guests, the team of these 17 years at the bar and the sound technicians, all the active helpers in the background, our support team, the city of Krefeld, my dad, my mum and our son, who often made the experience that we fell asleep before him reading the good night story. And we thank all those we have not forgotten but cannot list here, but without whom the Rampe would not have been the same for us.

Thank you so much, Pille and Annette