



www.superhymne.de

Germany in Search of the Super Anthem

One country. One contest. No boundaries.

THE PROJECT

In short

Deutschland sucht die Superhymne (Germany in Search of the Super Anthem) is an art project, a song-contest in order to replace the old national anthem with one with the potential to represent all people living here nowadays - the Super Anthem!

After the public call for ideas for a new anthem and a subsequent casting of the song-ideas in Berlin, six of the candidates are chosen in a public online-voting. Those rehearse their song-ideas for one month together with professional musicians and finally present them at a public concert in Berlin. There the audience chooses its favorite - Germany's Super Anthem!

About

People living in Germany have a difficult relation to the current German national anthem. Not only the millions of immigrants have difficulties relating to this song, also long-time residents have, at the best, an indifferent attitude towards it.

Composed for the longing for unity around 1848, charged with bad associations during the reign of the Nazis and consequently cut by two strophes, the "Song of the Germans" has had an eventful history which did not always take fortunate turns. Also the discussion about the German national anthem led at the time of the Reunification remained without results.

Originated at the time of rising nationalism and the forming of national states in Europe, the national anthem is neither adequate nor contemporary any more these days - with this applying not only to



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Germany. By its origin, history and tradition it neglects a major part of today's situation. Many of the people living here today come from or live according to different backgrounds, cultures and realities, thus not identifying themselves with the "Song of the Germans".

At last since the Football World Cup 2006 people living here seem to be more at ease with their country and its symbols. Still, no one is really keen on the national anthem.

It's time for the Super Anthem!

The art project *Deutschland sucht die Superhymne* questions individual and collective patterns of identity in a seemingly globalized and interdependent world.

Call for ideas

We are searching for a song, one likes to sing, because one can identify with it. A song up to date with our times. A song expressing something the individual can relate to, because it describes a relation of the people to this country - as diverse, controversial or simple it may be today.

What makes a song an anthem? What is it supposed to represent? Which story is it to tell? Which form is it to have? Can it originate from the spirit of the age? And: How can a contemporary anthem be composed today, as the concept of the national state undergoes changes?

Everyone can take part, no matter from where, what age or in which language. Amateurs and professional musicians are all welcome. All music genres are possible. The only prerequisite: The song is to express an own idea of, a personal relation to Germany.



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Schedule

The public call of ideas goes out April 25th.

Having registered selected participants are invited to a casting in Berlin end of May. There they present their song-idea.

The casting is filmed and a selection of the candidates' clips are put online on the project's web site **www.superhymne.de** For one week people can vote online for their favorites.

For four weeks the six finalists will work on their song ideas in Berlin, together with professional musicians, bands and music producers, preparing the performance of their song.

The finale will be a concert in Berlin beginning of July, where the candidates will present their songs. The audience votes for their favorite – and Germany's super-anthem is found!

The super-award: We will have the Super Anthem be produced in a professional recording studio and have a music video shot to it. Second and third prize are a voucher for a music shop as well as a music software package.

Partners

The project is partially funded by the Foundation *Arte y Derecho*, Madrid, Spain and takes place with the support of *Radio Multikulti*, *Kreuzberg Museum*, *Ballhaus Naunynstraße*, *Naunynritze* and *ufaFabrik Berlin*.



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