



## SAVE THE DATE

CONFERENCE

INDUSTRIAL CULTURE FOR FUTURE (IC<sub>4</sub> FUTURE)

PAVING THE WAY FOR A NEW CHARTA OF INDUSTRIAL CULTURE

**LOCATION:** LWL-Industriemuseum, Zeche Zollern, Dortmund  
LVR-Industriemuseum, Peter-Behrens-Bau, Oberhausen

**TIME:** November 4-5, 2021

The cooperative project **FUTUR21 – kunst industrie kultur**, which is set to take place between November 2021 und March 2022, is the first of its kind to bring together current research in the field of Industrial Culture Studies and the Digital Arts at the 16 industrial museums of the *Landschaftsverband Rheinland* (LVR) and the *Landschaftsverband Westfalen-Lippe* (LWL). The project thus initiates the engagement with and reflection on topics related to the future precisely at those historical locations that testify to two hundred years of modernization and that – as sites of change – throw into relief the limits of progress.

The opening of **FUTUR21** makes it mandatory to negotiate questions pertaining to the future and to open up a space for exchange and discussion. After decades of engaging with socially relevant topics from a historical-cultural perspective, the industrial museums of the LVR and the LWL wish to tread new paths and discuss future-oriented questions together with a variety of actors from academia, the art world as well as from cultural institutions, in particular museums. Such questions may include: Which are key questions on the way to a diverse, sustainable and digital society, to which an engagement with industrial culture pay provide answers? In how far shall industrial museums as community forums take into focus the future-related topics of (post-) industrial society, and in how far are they capable of doing so? Which common narratives require critical examination and further development? How does industrial culture relate to, or is immersed in, power structures, and is it time to approach industrial culture through the theoretical lens of power? In how far are the Digital Arts capable of inspiring new

forms of representation and mediation in museums? What can the Digital Arts contribute to the conceptualization of a “New Industrial Culture”?

Those and other questions will be scrutinized and debated at the conference „Industrial Culture for Future“ (IC4 Future) at the LWL-Industrial Museum Zeche Zollern in Dortmund on November 4-5, 2021.

As the official opening of the collaborative art project **FUTUR21**, the conference also includes various installations of well-known artists, both in Dortmund and Oberhausen. The official kick-off at Dortmund will be continued with a collective immersive art experience at the LVR-Industrial Museum Peter-Behrens-Bau in Oberhausen on the evening of November 5, 2021.

The academic and artistic engagements with the future of industrial culture are oriented around four thematic clusters:

1. *Key Questions on the Way to a Sustainable Society;*
2. *Industrial Museums as Forums for the Most Urgent Issues of Our Time;*
3. *Powerful Narratives – Narratives of Power;*
4. *Future Visions of Representation and Mediation in Museums.*

We would like to invite you to participate in our joint effort to conceptualize industrial culture anew!

Due to the pandemic, the event is planned as a hybrid conference.

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Contact us: [conference@futur21.de](mailto:conference@futur21.de)

For more conference details, see [www.futur21.nrw](http://www.futur21.nrw)