

Der Fluss bin ich (I am the river)
An exhibition along the Pader
28 June – 5 October 2025

Tatort Paderborn 2025: Publication and final event

On Sunday, 5 October, after exactly 100 days, the exhibition "Der Fluss bin ich (I am the river)" in Paderborn came to an end. Curated by Marijke Lukowicz and Sophia Trollmann, this third edition of the Tatort Paderborn series brought together art in public spaces dedicated to the River Pader and its special significance for the city.

On 5 November, the last event of the "Kunst_Fluss_Gespräche" series will take place at the Deelenhaus Paderborn in partnership with "Stadt.Mensch.Fluss – Die Pader für Europa" and the Catholic University of Applied Sciences North Rhine-Westphalia (Paderborn campus). The key question here is "What will remain?" In a series of interactive discussions, the curators and team behind "Stadt. Mensch. Fluss" will talk about what can be learned from the exhibition "Der Fluss bin ich" for future projects.

Further information can be found here: https://www.tatort-paderborn.de/de/kalender/kunst_fluss_gesprache-5-mit-stadtmenschfluss-die-pader-fur-europa/5

That evening will also see the launch of a publication which comprehensively documents the exhibition and the 100-day programme. The publication will be available to purchase at the event.

Kerber Verlag, 32 euros
German/English, 192 pages, 153 illustrations
with texts by Christoph Gockel-Böhner, Marijke Lukowicz, Naomi Richter, Nada Rosa Schroer, Sophia Trollmann, Maren Ziese

From 6 November, the publication will be on sale at the city of Paderborn's museums and galleries. From 7 November, it will be available in bookshops.

The Pader River is the shortest river in Germany, rising in the middle of the city from roughly 200 springs and feeding into the Lippe River after only 4.6 kilometres, still within the city limits. Along this unique river landscape, new productions and commissioned works by Daniela Brasil, Anushka Chkheidze, Jeppe Hein, Anne Duk Hee Jordan, Pallavi Paul, raumlaborberlin with Zhenru Liang, Lex Rütten & Jana Kerima Stolzer, Sophie Utikal and Manfred Webel, as well as a performance by Inga Krüger were on display during the summer. As most of the works were located in public spaces, the art was free of charge and could largely be accessed and experienced around the clock. The exhibition also opened up unknown places to city residents and allowed visitors to get to know the Pader River from previously unknown perspectives.

The accompanying programme of events and educational activities aimed to give individual access to the exhibition and its themes to a group of people as diverse as possible. A total of 170 events took place during the 100 days as part of the exhibition, including more than 70 guided walks and bicycle tours. Both the exhibition and the accompanying programme were very well received by the public. A stainless steel sculpture designed by Paderborn sculptor Manfred Webel in consultation with an ornithologist was even occupied by a moorhen, which built a nest in it and hatched three chicks during the exhibition.

What else will remain of the exhibition?

The website [tatort-paderborn.de](https://www.tatort-paderborn.de) will remain available as an archive until further notice.

A review is currently underway to check whether the city of Paderborn can keep and purchase individual works – as was the case in previous editions of Tatort Paderborn.

The success of the exhibition project is largely thanks to the numerous cooperation partners.

“We are very grateful for the broad support, expertise, local knowledge and advice that we received from so many people in Paderborn,” say curators Marijke Lukowicz and Sophia Trollmann. The city of Paderborn’s museums and galleries facilitated exhibitions in the Stadtmuseum Paderborn, the Kunstmuseum im Marstall, the Städtische Galerie in der Reithalle and the Residenzmuseum Paderborn. Some of the unexpected exhibition venues included the Mühlencafé, the Paderumflut, the Westfalen-Kolleg and the Theological Faculty. “We are delighted that the sound installation by Anushka Chkheidze in our faculty’s Brunnenkeller invited many people to get to know this very old and otherwise inaccessible part of the building belonging to Westphalia’s oldest university,” says Professor Aaron Langenfeld, Rector of Theological Faculty of Paderborn.

In the foyer of the Westfalen-Kolleg, a video work by Pallavi Paul reached not only the audience who actively visited the exhibition, but also the students on site, enabling new encounters on many levels: “The international dimension in art, which is captured in the installation, fits very well with our school, as many people from countries other than Germany are pursuing continuing education here. By placing the exhibition in a busy everyday location of the school, new encounters took place between our students and the visitors to the exhibition,” says Dr Manuel Koch from Westfalen-Kolleg.

Numerous other partnerships arose in the context of the supporting and educational programme – one of them with the Friedrich-Spee-Gesamtschule. Starting in February 2025, six school classes engaged with the exhibition and the invited artists. Over the course of the project, some classes became actual co-producers of artworks. The collaboration with the artists was so well received by the participating students that the school will now continue to work with the artist Daniela Brasil even after the end of the exhibition project: “Tatort Paderborn has become an extraordinary, interdisciplinary place of learning for our students in the European context. Not only have we come a little closer to Paderborn’s urban nature, but we are also embarking on further teaching projects through our encounter with the artists’ perspectives of the river. Daniela Brasil has sharpened our awareness of roots, the cycle of water and a learning journey into human companionship with nature and animals,” says head teacher Stefanie Baldauf.

In her text in the forthcoming publication, Professor Maren Ziese of the Catholic University of Applied Sciences North Rhine-Westphalia summarises how consistently the educational offerings were designed: “As a cooperation partner for the art education program and an observer of the curatorial processes, I was impressed the most by the meandering way of thinking and acting of those responsible during the course of the project. From the very beginning, curating and art education were almost radically coordinated, interwoven, and integrated into Paderborn’s urban society and the local cultural scene like a flowing, meandering path – analogous to the meandering course of the Pader River. The experience of the collective practice of unlearning, along with the activities of curating and art education understood as social, democratic processes of bringing voices and people together, were applied principles that proved to be fruitful.”



Tatort Paderborn is a project of the non-profit organisation Ausstellungsgesellschaft Paderborn mbH (sole shareholder: City of Paderborn).

In collaboration with the Städtischen Museen und Galerien Paderborn (Municipal Museums and Galleries)

Sponsored by Förderstiftung Paderborn, Kunststiftung NRW, Stiftung der Sparkasse Paderborn-Detmold

The public programme and the educational programme are sponsored by the LWL Cultural Foundation.

tatort-paderborn.de

Press contact

Denhart v. Harling, segeband.pr, dh@segeband.de, +49 179 4963497