



16th Art & Finance Conference

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Rainer Kern

Founder and Director, Enjoy Jazz Festival
Executive Director, Global Parliament of Mayors

Rainer Kern was born and raised in Mannheim. He studied chemistry in Karlsruhe and Heidelberg before moving into the field of culture and urban development. He holds a university degree in chemistry and political science. He is a Speaker/workshop leader/consultant in the field of Networks, Creative Economy/Culture and Creative Industries, Migration and the role of Culture and the Arts for sustainability, urban development and public or private management.

Speaker at UN events hosted by the GA regarding the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) and Global Compact on Refugees (GFR), at HLPF, at Habitat III, the 2020 Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) in Quito, at CONNECTI:CITY 2022 International Conference on Creative Economy, the UNESCO Creative City Network Annual Conferences, at the World Conference on Creative Economy (WCCE, an official side event of G20 in 2022), the Abu Dhabi Culture Summit 2022.

Culture/Arts

- Festival director and artistic director of Germany's largest jazz festival "Enjoy Jazz - International Festival for Jazz und More", which he also founded in Heidelberg in 1999.
- Founder of "jetztmusik", a Mannheim based Festival for electronic music and media art.
- Author of Mannheim's successful bid for the title of 'UNESCO City of Music' and head of the project from 2014 to 2023.
- Global Chair of all UNESCO Cities of Music from 2016 to 2023.