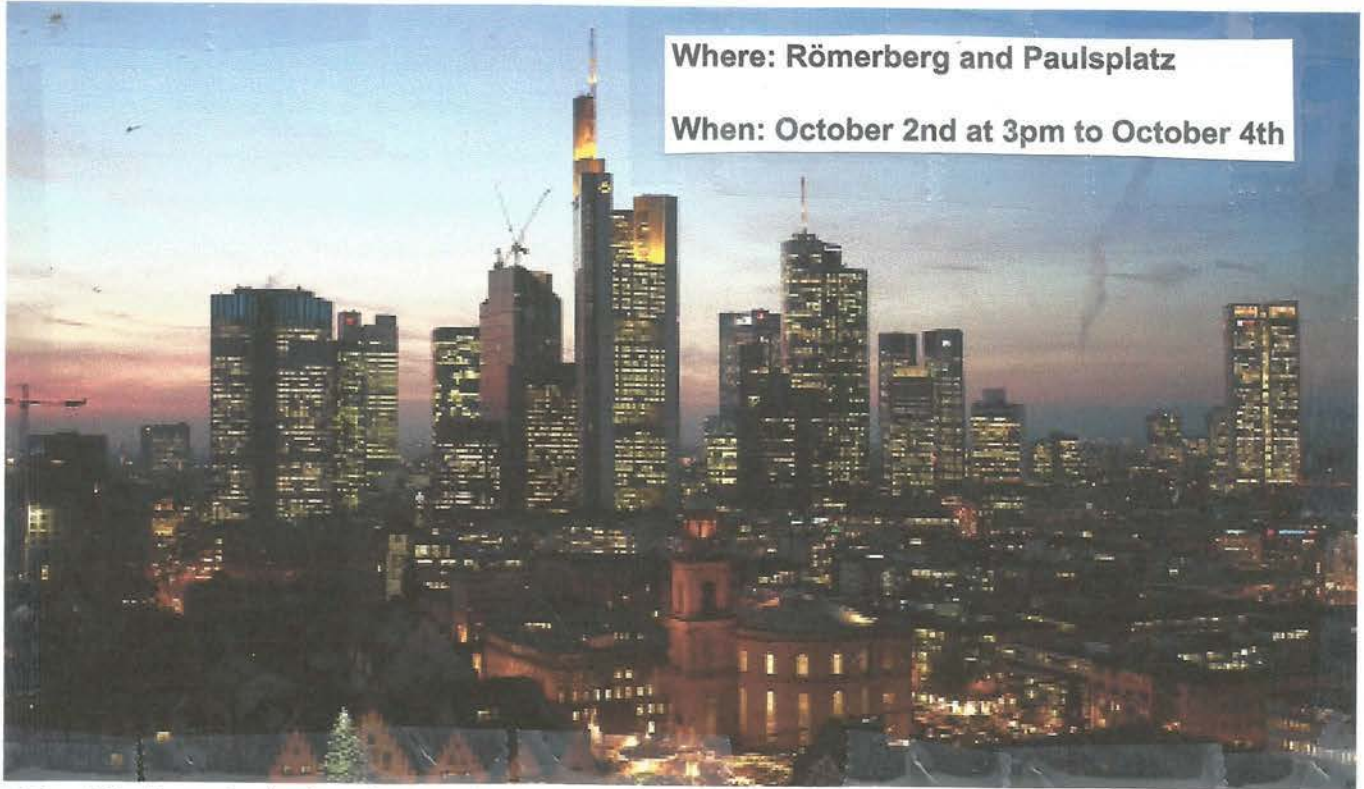


“Bei uns ist immer was los!”

OCTOBER 3—DAY OF GERMAN UNITY

HOW TO CELEBRATE GERMAN UNITY DAY NATIONWIDE

Frankfurt am Main



Frankfurt is actually the place to be to celebrate reunification this year, with Chancellor Angela Merkel, President Joachim Gauck, former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and even European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker in attendance.

Why, you might ask? It's a tradition that each year since 1990, the major national celebration takes place in the state of the sitting president of the Bundesrat (the upper house of the German parliament). Since the current president, Volker Bouffier, is from Hesse, the big party is taking place in the state's largest city, Frankfurt.

The festivities in Germany's financial hub will swing into action on Friday, with a concert by Frankfurt singer Namika, followed by a performance by German rapper CRO.

Merkel and Gauck will take the stage at about noon on Saturday to greet the anticipated one million visitors and officially mark 25 years since Germany became one again. Those in attendance will also get to hear stories from Michael Schlosser, who built an aeroplane to try to escape from former East Germany to the West.

More concerts will follow on Saturday, in particular from German pop singer Sarah Connor. The music will continue through Sunday evening, including big band style and folk music.