

# Contents

## **10 FOREWORD**

## **13 CARNIVAL – WHAT IS IT?**

- 13 To start with, a look at the soul of Carnival
- 14 Why this crazy festival?
- 17 “Yeah, yeah – no, no!” – the divided soul
- 19 The nature of fancy dress
- 21 “It does you good” – Carnival psychological health

## **25 CARNIVAL – WHERE DOES IT COME FROM**

- 25 Since when has Carnival been celebrated?
- 28 Carnival is a game, and games have rules
- 29 When is Carnival?
- 30 What does “Carnival” mean?
- 32 Carnival without Lent – what’s the point?

## **35 CARNIVAL – WHO RUNS IT?**

- 35 Cologne learns to organise Carnival
- 39 From Carnival meeting to Carnival show
- 41 The evolution of the Festival Committee
- 44 Alternatives and new initiatives “from outside”
- 45 No Carnival without the people

## **47 CARNIVAL – WHO IS IT?**

- 47 Costumed fools
- 50 Funken, guards, corps
- 59 Funkenmariechen and dance ensembles
- 64 All kinds of different Carnival societies

## **67 THE DREIGESTIRN – WHAT'S IT FOR?**

- 67 Rulers of the realm of fools: Prince, Farmer and Maiden
- 75 Who gets chosen for the Dreigestirn?
- 76 Tasks and helpers, rituals and proclamation

## **83 CARNIVAL – WHAT HAPPENS?**

- 83 Pre-season and opening on 11 November
- 86 Pontifical High Mass and church services
- 87 Carnival indoors
- 87 Corps roll-calls
- 88 The proclamation of the Cologne Dreigestirn
- 92 The proclamation of the Cologne Children's Dreigestirn
- 93 The Sitzung – different types of Carnival show
- 94 Carnival shows – tradition, change, experiments
- 96 Alternatives outside the Festival Committee structure
- 100 Balls and Parties

- 102 Street Carnival
- 104 Weiberfastnacht – Alter Markt and “Jan and Griet”
- 108 Carnival Friday – the Star March
- 109 Carnival Saturday – Bivouac, parades, Ghost Parade
- 115 Rose Monday – “The parade is coming!”
- 121 Facts and figures about the Rose Monday parade
- 124 An insiders’ tip: the assembly of the Carnival floats
- 125 Shrove Tuesday – Veedel, Nubbel, Carnival is over
- 129 Ash Wednesday

## **132 CARNIVAL – WHAT DOES IT COST?**

- 132 Carnival as an economic factor

## **139 CARNIVAL – WHO BENEFITS FROM IT?**

- 139 Social network
- 140 Carnival and politics – acceptance and satire
- 143 Join in or leave town?
- 144 How children can benefit from Carnival
- 146 Strengthening society

## **149 CARNIVAL – WHAT HAS IT GOT? MUSIC!**

- 149 Carnival music – Cologne's uniqueness
- 154 A musical panorama of the city: Cologne music quiz
- 156 School projects with Carnival songs
- 158 Songs – a mirror of the times, the mindset and history

## **161 CARNIVAL – WHERE IS IT GOING?**

- 161 Families, young people, voluntary work and social harmony
- 165 Carnival shows – a driving force and a problem child
- 167 Commercialisation of events
- 168 Literary Committee – the Academy and other promoters of talent
- 170 Cologne Carnival Museum
- 171 External impulses
- 174 The internal mission

## **177 CARNIVAL? – I KNOW IT!**

- 177 A glossary – everything at a glance
- 192 Literature