

PRESS RELEASE

(Berlin, May 14, 2007)



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INTERNATIONALES TANZFEST BERLIN 17 AUG – 1 SEP 2007

The dates for the 19th edition of TANZ IM AUGUST – INTERNATIONALES TANZFEST BERLIN have been set: This year Germany's biggest dance festival will take place from August 17th to September 1st.

The 20 productions that will be presented by the festival's producers – TanzWerkstatt Berlin and Hebbel am Ufer – over the course of sixteen days highlight current trends and developments in the international contemporary dance scene and include two world premieres and 11 German premieres. In the best Tanz im August tradition, the programme includes a diversity of formats and focuses.

The festival will be launched by Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker and her company ROSAS with their *Steve Reich Evening*. The pioneering Minimalist composer was a major influence on de Keersmaeker's career over many years.

Further highlights of the festival include productions by LALALA HUMAN STEPS, JEAN-CLAUDE GALLOTTA, GISELE VIENNE, and MEG STUART / PHILIPP GEHMACHER. The festival will also introduce new works by OLGA PONA from Russia and VINCENT DUPONT from France to Berlin audiences.

Besides Podewils'sches Palais and Hebbel am Ufer's three stages HAU 1-3, this year's festival venues include Ballhaus Naunyn, HALLE, Haus der Berliner Festspiele, RADIALSYSTEM V, Sophiensæle, and Volksbühne at Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz.

Two of the focal points of this year's programme is the new interest among choreographers in the classics of Modern Music (ROSAS, YVONNE RAINER, XAVIER LE ROY) and in the repertoire and canon of classical ballet (LALALA HUMAN STEPS, SARAH MICHELSON).

In addition, a number of distinguished New York artists will be coming to Berlin, such as YVONNE RAINER, SARAH MICHELSON, and JANET PANETTA, who will be offering a Master Class during the festival. Moreover, TANZ IM AUGUST will exhibit a selection of dance photographer PEGGY KAPLAN's distinctive portraits of well-known choreographers.

In LUCKY TRIMMER, one special event of this year's festival, ten young choreographers from Berlin and New York will share a platform on which to present their artistic approaches.

This year's programme includes festival co-productions by choreographers XAVIER LE ROY and MICHAEL LAUB and the company MATANICOLA.

As in recent years, the festival features a wide variety of events in addition to the performance, including a coaching programme for dance professionals, a series of architectural explorations of theatre space, and, for the first time this year, BACKSTAGE, a programme introducing interested young people to the world of contemporary dance and giving them an opportunity to discuss their impressions of the work they see with the festival directors and artists.

And, last but not least, SOMMER.BAR – an immediate popular success when it was launched last year – will also feature a wide variety of events.