

Tanz im August Internationales Festival Berlin Stresemannstraße 29 D-10963 Berlin Tel +49 (0)30.259 004 -57 Fax +49 (0)30.259 004 -13 www.tanzimaugust.de

# **Press Release**

20 August 2021

# TANZ IM AUGUST – 33rd International Festival Berlin

Presented by HAU Hebbel am Ufer 6–22 August 2021 Tickets for all productions on the closing weekend at www.tanzimaugust.de

# Festival review Tanz im August 2021

The international festival Tanz im August closes this weekend with six artistic productions. Moreover, two exhibitions by choreographers Choy Ka Fai and Amanda Piña can still be experienced until Sunday evening. The 2021 festival featured many world premieres and German premieres in the programme, enabling national and international artists to present new works to the public after the long period of lockdowns and restrictions due to the pandemic. In 2021, special attention was given to productions dedicated to postcolonial themes.

Four newly acquired outdoor venues ensured larger audience events despite Corona restrictions and were very well received by visitors (despite rain on the opening weekend). Until now, the extensive hygiene measures have also proven effective: a single positive test was registered in Italy before the festival started, the dancer stayed at home. Chessboard seating and compulsory wearing of masks indoors as well as the required proof of a test, vaccine or recovery were supported by all audience members at every venue. The artists themselves worked backstage and onstage within so-called PCR test bubbles.

Virve Sutinen, Artistic Director Tanz im August: "Dance is alive. The brilliant artists we were able to present in the festival have brought the magic of dance back to the stage with energy, passion and joy, making it a great success in uncertain times."

Annemie Vanackere, Artistic and Managing Director HAU Hebbel am Ufer: "Tanz im August has shown how audiences and artists can come together again. The festival was a strong signal for the dance scene and for the audience that art on stage, both indoor and outdoor, is permanently possible under safe conditions. Simultaneously with the festival, the Berlin Senate Department for Culture and Europe launched the initiative "IMPFEN SCHÜTZT auch die KULTUR! #Berlinimpft", which we at HAU Hebbel am Ufer support with all our means."

The festival finale this weekend focuses on three special venues. In the raw, historic industrial architecture of the MaHalla in Berlin-Oberschöneweide, not far from the Reinbeckhallen used by many Berlin artists, choreographer Stephanie Thiersch, composer Brigitta Muntendorf and architect Sou Fujimoto will present their new work *ARCHIPELAGO – A Spectacle of Blending*. The unique stage architecture is used by 10 dancers as well as musicians from Ensemble Garage as a musical



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instrument that appeals to all the senses (MaHalla, 20.–22.8., 8.30 p.m.).

An unused bumper car behind the Haus der Statistik in Berlin-Mitte is the outdoor venue for the German premiere of *Frontera / Border – A Living Monument* by Mexican-Chilean-Austrian choreographer Amanda Piña, whose choreography interweaves hip-hop culture, colonial narratives, indigenous practices and mysticism. (Haus der Statistik, 20–22 August, 8 p.m.)

The premiere of Finnish choreographer Milla Koistinen's solo *Breathe* will take place at Lilli-Henoch-Sportplatz at Anhalter Bahnhof. Through her interactions with an oversized, constantly changing object made of fabric, her performance opens up a space for shared emotions and is a special eye-catcher at the same time. (Lilli-Henoch-Sportplatz, 20.–22.8., 8.30 p.m.)

In addition, the final weekend will present a performance by Lea Moro at radialsystem, a world premiere by Thiago Granato at Sophiensæle and the world premiere of *Gotcha! An Evening of 9 short choreographic works* as part of the long-term project URBAN FEMINISM, initiated by Tanz im August, at HAU1. Available online and free of charge are the discussion format *Happy to Listen* and the film Martha & Niki. Also available via post are the performative objects by Italian performance artist and choreographer Chiara Bersani.

Until 22 August more than 100 artists from 20 countries will have presented a total of 14 productions and other artistic formats in around 70 performances. A total of 6 world premieres and 7 German premieres were shown at HAU Hebbel am Ufer and 10 different locations across Berlin.

**The complete programme of Tanz im August 2021 is available at www.tanzimaugust.de**. Information for festival visitors about the current hygiene rules will be updated daily on the website.

### Venues in 2021

HAU Hebbel am Ufer (HAU1), Freilichtbühne Weißensee, Gärten der Welt (arena), Haus der Statistik, KINDL – Centre for Contemporary Art, Lilli-Henoch-Sportplatz, MaHalla, radialsystem, Sophiensæle, St. Elisabeth-Kirche, Volksbühne am Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz.

### Tickets

Tickets and further information are available from today at www.tanzimaugust.de or the HAU Hebbel am Ufer box office (HAU1), tel. +49 (0)30.259004 -27. Please note that due to the Corona restrictions less tickets than normal will be available.

For **press accreditation** please use the form in the press section of the website. Images for all productions may be downloaded for free under Press at www.tanzimaugust.de.

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www.tanzimaugust.de www.hebbel-am-ufer.de



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