



Tanz im August  
Internationales Festival Berlin  
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**Press Release**  
**17<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

**TANZ IM AUGUST – 38<sup>th</sup> International Festival Berlin**  
**presented by HAU Hebbel am Ufer**  
**13<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> August 2026**

**Pre-sale start: The first three programme highlights 2026**

With the first three programme highlights, the Pre-Sales begin today for the 38th edition of the International Festival Tanz im August, a festival by HAU Hebbel am Ufer. The artistic direction is once again, for the fourth time, led by Ricardo Carmona.

Early bookers receive for these three productions a 15% discount on the full price\* until 17<sup>th</sup> of May. The full programme of Tanz im August 2026 will be presented in the beginning of June.

Among the programme highlights going on sale today is “Sounding Light”, a work of the choreographer **Cheng Tsung-lung** for the **Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan**.

Furthermore, Tanz im August presents the premiere of “Bat Dances,” the latest work by **Kareth Schaffer & Jonas Hauer**.

In addition, the choreography “Bruits Marrons” by **Calixto Neto** will celebrate its German premiere.

“Sounding Light” is inspired by the impressions gained by **Cheng Tsung-lung**, artistic director of **Cloud Gate**, during his long walks through forests. On a minimalistic stage with twelve dancers, scenes of a day in the life of a forest unfold: a mating ritual of birds, a rain shower in the leaves of a tree, sunbeams breaking through the clouds. In an attempt to integrate dance and sound, most of the atmospheric soundtrack emerges from the bodies of



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the dancers themselves as a natural element of their performance. Cheng's work for the internationally renowned company is a meditation on the beauty of nature that reveals the shared essence of the human and natural worlds.

How do different animal species perceive and experience the world – and how could dance contribute an answer to this question? In "Bat Dances", choreographer **Kareth Schaffer** and composer **Jonas Hauer** create a work that offers an aesthetically coherent experience for seeing, blind, and visually impaired audiences. Their first collaboration is a danced monologue from the perspective of a bat, cautiously juxtaposing its movement patterns to those of humans. With the solo performer Leah Katz, the use of echolocation, and gentle humour, they weave an interspecies fable that helps us to navigate the reality of environmental doom.

Like many artists who were considered too radical for their time, the Black, gay composer, singer, and performer Julius Eastman died in poverty and obscurity in New York in 1990. Choreographer **Calixto Neto** fell in love with his music at first hearing. In his new work, he opens up a dialogue of amends to Eastman. "Bruits Marrons" takes one of Eastman's pieces, "Evil N\*", as its starting point. Translating the idea of the Maroons – hidden settlements of escaped enslaved people since the 16th century onwards – six performers and a piano create a community that explores resistance and solidarity through music.

#### **Overview of the first three productions:**

##### **Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan / Cheng Tsung-lung**

"Sounding Light"

15.–17.8. | Haus der Berliner Festspiele

##### **Kareth Schaffer & Jonas Hauer**

"Bat Dances"

26.–29.8. | HAU3 | Premiere

##### **Calixto Neto / VOA**

"Bruits Marrons"

27.–29.8. | HAU2 | German Premiere



## Venues 2026

HAU Hebbel am Ufer (HAU1, HAU2, HAU3), Berlinische Galerie,  
Haus der Berliner Festspiele, Radialsystem, Sophiensæle, St. Elisabeth-Kirche,  
Stadtbad Oderberger, Tempelhofer Feld

## Tickets

Tickets and further information are available from today at  
[www.tanzimaugust.de](http://www.tanzimaugust.de) or the Box Office of HAU Hebbel am Ufer:  
Stresemannstr. 29, 10963 Berlin, Tel. +49 (0)30.259004 -27

*\* Limited number of tickets per event*

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