



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

Friday, 28th of August 2026

TANZ IM AUGUST – 38th International Festival Berlin

a festival of HAU Hebbel am Ufer

13th–30th of August 2026

Festival Review

On Saturday, August 29th of August, the 38th edition of the international festival Tanz im August, a festival of HAU Hebbel am Ufer, comes to an end. This year's festival presented dance as a political force that generates interaction and impact and turned Berlin once again into a vibrant meeting place, a space for dance, aesthetic experimentation and social exchange.

In 2026, Tanz im August can look back on three successful weeks, during which **19 productions** were presented at **11 venues** – including **3 premieres**, **6 German premieres**, and **4 Berlin and international co-productions within 54 events**.

A **capacity of 97%** with approximately **17.200 regular visitors**, and additional **800 expected visitors** to the **free event** on Tempelhofer Feld, as well as **150 workshop participants**, demonstrates the festival's strong resonance with a diverse audience. With venues predominantly sold out, this year's festival once again built on the success of previous editions.

Tanz im August welcomed around **510 dance professionals** from the national and international dance scene, who travelled to Berlin especially for the world premieres and German premieres. In addition, around **95 press representatives** from regional, national and international media outlets were accredited this year.

Following a captivating and thought-provoking festival opening with a premiere by **Joana Tischkau**, **Jeremy Nedd**, **Sophie Yukiko** and the **Malpaso Dance Company**, new works by **Chara Kotsali**, **Mohamed Toukabri**, **Marco da Silva Ferreira**, **Dana Michel** and **Cheng Tsung-lung** for **Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan** made for a diverse first festival week.

The second festival week began with a screening of a film (presented at Tanz im August for the first time) by **Jumana Dabis**. Over the course of the week, new works by **Simona Deaconescu**, **Ioana Vreme Moser** and **Simina Oprescu**, **Agnetė Lisičkinaitė** and **Igor Shugaleev**, **(LA)HORDE** with the **Ballet national de Marseille**, **Trajal Harrell**, **Lenio Kaklea** and **Diana Niepce** also captivated audiences.



HAU Hebbel am Ufer / Stresemannstr. 29 / D-10963 Berlin / www.hebbel-am-ufer.de
Tel +49 (0)30.259 004-0 / Fax +49 (0)30.259 004- 13

Hebbel-Theater Berlin GmbH / Künstlerische Leitung und Geschäftsführung: Annemie Vanackere
Amtsgericht Berlin-Charlottenburg HRB 29878 / VAT ID DE 136 782 738

The works by **Kasia Wolińska**, **Mélissa Guex**, **Kareth Schaffer** and **Jonas Hauer**, **Calixto Neto**, as well as **Emese Cuhorka** and **Csaba Molnár** with **En-Knap Company** were also very well received during the third festival week. Some of these works can still be seen during the final days of the festival.

In addition, on the final day of the festival, Tanz im August will once again present a free dance battle in cooperation with **Outbox Movement** – already for the fourth time. This year, the event will once again take place outdoors at Tempelhofer Feld.

Also this year a wide range of free **audience engagement formats** and accessibility offers once again complement the stage programme, inviting visitors to take part in introductory talks ('Before the Stage'), artist talks ('Beyond the Stage' and 'Beyond the Stage Plus'), workshops, audio descriptions, relaxed performances, podcast episodes and parties.

We are delighted to have continued our collaboration with **Berlin Mondiale** this year. Our long-standing partnership with **Tanzfabrik Berlin** was also continued in the form of a joint workshop. Further well-attended workshops were once again organised in collaboration with **Making a Difference**. In addition, a workshop was once again offered for residents of the **Mehringplatz neighbourhood**, which was also very well received.

Making a Difference strengthens the self-determined work of disabled, Deaf, and chronically ill artists in dance through barrier-free workshops, residencies and productions. **Berlin Mondiale** works to ensure access to art and culture for all – especially for people in Berlin with migration, asylum or exile experiences.

Ricardo Carmona, Artistic Director of Tanz im August, sums up the festival at its conclusion:

"This year's festival has shown us that dance, like the wind, can move across borders, unsettle what seems fixed and create new ways of being together. At a time marked by uncertainty, conflict and fear, the response of artists and audiences reminds us that dance and art can also be a form of resistance, connection and care. The conversations, encounters and shared experiences of these weeks are a powerful reminder that we do not have to agree to remain in dialogue. The freedom of art and the spaces where people can gather, question and imagine together are essential to a democratic society, and must be protected and sustainably supported."

Annemie Vanackere, artistic and managing director of HAU Hebbel am Ufer, is delighted with how the festival went: "We see how much joy the festival brings to Berliners and Berlin's guests, and how strongly dance provokes thoughts and emotions in the best sense. A city like Berlin, which – to quote Ece Temelkuran – is a 'nation of strangers', and also a capital city, needs this kind of cultural crystallisation."

Venues 2026

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



Press contact Tanz im August

Mutiara Berthold

+49 30 259 004 53

presse@tanzimaugust.de

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

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