



Tanz im August
Internationales Festival Berlin
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Press Release

10 April 2019

TANZ IM AUGUST – 31st International Festival Berlin

presented by HAU Hebbel am Ufer

9–31 August 2019

Presale start 2019

The 31st International Festival Tanz im August, presented by HAU Hebbel am Ufer, begins its presale for 2019 today with four festival highlights. Tanz im August will open on 9 August with two world premieres by New York choreography legend Deborah Hay at HAU1. The festival will honour Deborah Hay with a comprehensive retrospective titled RE-Perspective Deborah Hay: Works from 1968 to the Present.

Tickets for three further highlights of the festival are now available: Northern Irish choreographer Oona Doherty and the Korean Ensemble Ambiguous Dance Company will show German premieres at HAU1 and Berlin-based artist duo deufert&plischke will present a world premiere at SOPHIENSÆLE.

Early bookers will receive a 15% discount on the full ticket price until 28 May.*

The complete Tanz im August programme will be announced on 29 May 2019.

Berlin, 10 April 2019 – On 9 August 2019, Deborah Hay will open the 31st International Festival Tanz im August, presented by HAU Hebbel am Ufer, with the two world premieres „Animals on the Beach“ and „my choreographed body ... revisited“. For „Animals on the Beach“ Deborah Hay collaborates with five outstanding dancers who are familiar with the intimacy and stringency of Hay's performance but also contribute their own knowledge. Beyond the movement itself, Hay's choreography is primarily interested in the person dancing, and the relationships created by this dance.

In her new solo, „my choreographed body ... revisited“, Hay pays tribute to her wealth of experience – and for the first time she is without the compositional edifice that previously determined one solo from another. This new piece embodies Hay's fifty years worth of practice and her dedication to dance, both of which have choreographed and formed her as an artist. „RE-Perspective“ assembles Deborah Hay's works from the 1960s to the present, the extended programme will include a symposium, talks, an installation and a publication.

Three further productions are from today on available for presale, including a world premiere and two German premieres. At HAU1, Irish choreographer Oona Doherty guides us into the nervous system of a dirty city, into a patriarchal society characterised by religiosity and economic deprivation with „Hard To Be Soft – A Belfast Prayer“. Doherty illuminates the condition of Northern Ireland from various



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perspectives, parading a group of young, self-confident women and letting two men wrestle with one another for consolation and assurance.

Also at HAU1, Korean Ensemble Ambiguous Dance Company will present the German premiere of „Body Concert“. With tempo, wit and virtuosity, this successful production pulls together the many-faceted language of contemporary dance to deliver a concert of bodies swathed in light, music and costumes. To music from Baroque to pop, „Body Concert“ seeks the connection with its audience in a lavish celebration of movement.

In their new project „Liebestod“, which will celebrate its world premiere at SOPHIENSÆLE, deufert&plischke are interested in love stories as epic explosives for human relationships. Central to the project is a communal writing which combines as many voices as possible: the Berlin-based artist duo will uncover stories that will be turned into love songs and sung during the performance by Rasha Nahas and Alain Franco.

The productions at a glance

Deborah Hay

Animals on the Beach & my choreographed body ... revisited
Festival Opening | World premieres | HAU1 | 9.–11.8.

Oona Doherty

Hard To Be Soft – A Belfast Prayer
German premiere | HAU1 | 17.+18.8. | Family Friendly

Ambiguous Dance Company

Body Concert
German premiere | HAU1 | 23.–25.8. | Family Friendly

deufert&plischke

Liebestod
World premiere | SOPHIENSÆLE | 28.–31.8.

RE-Perspective Deborah Hay Works from 1968 to the Present

„RE-Perspective Deborah Hay: Works from 1968 to the Present“ will be the broadest institutional presentation of Deborah Hay’s lifetime achievements. It pays tribute to Deborah Hay as one of the most influential choreographers of postmodern dance in the 20th and 21st century. Her creative energy, methods and practice continue to inspire generations of dancers around the world.

„RE-Perspective“ is a continuation of the Tanz im August retrospectives in 2015 and 2017 for Rosemary Butcher and La Ribot.

Deborah Hay (*1941) was a founding member of the experimental Judson Dance Theater and toured worldwide in 1964 with the Merce Cunningham Dance Company. For the last 30 years, she wrote and published while developing her own language for dance practice and choreography, which she applied in her work with both untrained and professional dancers. Commissioned works were produced by The Forsythe Company, Toronto Dance Theater and Cullberg Ballet, among others. Last year, MoMA opened their major exhibition „Judson Dance Theater: The Work is Never Done“, which features Hay’s work alongside that of her pioneering dance contemporaries Yvonne Rainer, Trisha Brown, Steve Paxton and others.

Deborah Hay has been a guest at Tanz im August three times before, with „If I sing to you“ (2008), „No time to fly“ (2012) and „Figure a Sea“ with Cullberg Ballet (2016).



Venues 2019

Akademie der Künste (Pariser Platz, Hanseatenweg), Deutsches Theater Berlin, HAU Hebbel am Ufer (HAU1, HAU2, HAU3), KINDL – Zentrum für zeitgenössische Kunst, Radialsystem, SOPHIENSÆLE, St. Elisabeth-Kirche, Volksbühne Berlin

In 2019, the **Bibliothek im August** will be established at HAU2 – the festival centre – for the fourth time.

Tickets and accreditation

Tickets and further information are available from today at www.tanzimaugust.de or at the HAU Hebbel am Ufer box office: HAU2, Hallesches Ufer 32, 10963 Berlin, Tel. +49 (0)30.259004 -27

* Limited amount of tickets per event.

Images for the productions mentioned here are now available to download for free under Press at www.tanzimaugust.de.

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Tanz im August ist ein Festival des HAU Hebbel am Ufer.



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