



Tanz im August
Internationales Festival Berlin
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Press Release
8 August 2023

TANZ IM AUGUST – 35th International Festival Berlin
presented by HAU Hebbel am Ufer
9–26 August 2023

Festival Start and Festival Prospects 2023

Tomorrow, Wednesday 9 August 2023, the 35th edition of Tanz im August opens at 8 p.m. with the German premiere of “C A R C A Ç A”, by Marco da Silva Ferreira. This is preceded by a talk between the artistic director of HAU Hebbel am Ufer, Annemie Vanackere, the Berlin state secretary for culture, Sarah Wedl-Wilson, and the new artistic director of Tanz im August, Ricardo Carmona.

This year’s festival programme focuses on the mutual relationships between human beings, nature, and culture(s), and is presenting **19 productions at 11 venues – including 5 world premieres, 6 German premieres, 8 Berlin and international co-productions, and a commissioned project with 22 Berlin artists.**

The festival’s first week

After the opening with **Marco da Silva Ferreira** shows how folklore can look on today’s dance stages, and how traditions change under colonialism, during the first week of the festival a premiere by **Dorothee Munyaneza** creates a resonance chamber for memories of the uncounted stories denied by the colonial system.

Nadia Beugré’s new work also looks at marginalised perspectives, and shows how performers from the lively and resistant transgender community in Abidjan combine voguing and coupé-décalé. And **Trajal Harrell’s** festival contribution – a German premiere, presented in cooperation with the Berliner Festspiele – makes equally clear how dance can be celebrated beyond the boundaries of time and gender.



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Ginevra Panzetti and Enrico Ticconi examine the phenomenon of the island as a symbol of isolation in their premiere.

The question of how artists are responding to the urgency of the climate crisis is taken into Berlin's parks by the project "Interconnecting Dance & Ecology". 22 short choreographies by Berlin artists were selected from 222 project proposals on the overall theme of dance and ecology, and they can be experienced on three afternoons as part of Tanz im August.

On the first Saturday of the festival **Tatiana Mejía, Maren Strack, Umi Maisaroh, Djibril Sall / liminal.rehab, Martha Hincapié Charry, Jasmin İhraç, Kdindie & Luisa De Santi, and Shelley Etkin** present their work in the Park am Gleisdreieck.

The festival's second week

Week two begins with a German premiere from **Radouan Mriziga** in which the tradition of the North African Amazigh culture is celebrated as a form of non-imperial history. And in her premiere, **Kat Válastur** considers the Greek tragedy "Iphigenia in Aulis" from a self-empowered feminist perspective.

Self-empowerment is also the call of **Serge Aimé Coulibaly** – along with taking things into one's own hands and celebrating the joys of existence. In this new work, also a premiere, he allies traditional European and West African forms and rhythms with contemporary movement vocabulary.

Chiara Bersani takes her audience and performers into the undergrowth of an imaginary forest in her new work. This German premiere continues her intensive artistic examination of the politics of the body.

Bodies are also at issue with **Rosas**, who proceed from the everyday movement of walking to think about individualism and collectivity in their new choreography.

The battle project **Outbox Movement**, whose visit to Tanz im August is its first ever invitation to a dance festival, brings together movement artists and therefore styles of all kinds.

As a part of "Interconnecting Dance & Ecology", on the second Saturday of the festival **Kévin Bonono, Chōri Collective, Anna Natt & Roni Katz, Claire Vivianne Sobottke / Sheena McGrandles / Abigail Sanders, Michelle Félix, Melissa Figueiredo & Giuliana Corsi, Diana Alina Serbanescu, and Shelley Etkin** show their work in the Stadtpark Lichtenberg in cooperation with the Kultursommerfestival Berlin 2023.

The festival's third week

The third week of the festival begins with an exploration of trance states in the rituals of a **Sufi brotherhood by Taoufiq Izzeddiou**. Inspired by Sufi spiritual gatherings, this work connects tradition and the present day.

The **Ballet national de Marseille / (LA)HORDE**, by contrast, primarily stage the contemporary aesthetics of dances gone viral.

In a further contrast, a premiere by **Agata Siniarska** is an invitation to think about the impact of war on nature, and particularly to listen to the neglected voices of animals, plants, and inanimate matter.

Coexistence is the theme of **Yasmeen Godder**. In her work she send her performers in search of the empathy of sounds and gestures.

Cherish Menzo is another investigator of bodies, and she questions the restrictive categorisations of rap and hip-hop paradigms.

Evil and its ambivalence are central to **Marlene Monteiro Freitas**'s festival contribution. Her eclectic choreographic expression mixes marches, ritual, and sport with high and pop culture.

As the final part of "Interconnecting Dance & Ecology", **Ming Poon, Hea Min Jung, Renae Shadler & Collaborators, Patrycja Masłowska, Alvin Collantes & Jun Suzuki, Iga Śśćk, Angelo Petracca & Wojtek Blecharz, and Shelley Etkin** show their work on the third Saturday of the festival in the Volkspark Rehberge.

Audience engagement

The stage programme is extended by various **free events**, such as **audience discussions** ("Beyond the Stage"), **panels on dance, sustainability, and future practices** (Dance & Ecology), **workshops, audio-descriptions, the book presentation of "Into the Open. Nele Hertling"**, about the founder of Tanz im August, and **parties**.

The 35th Tanz im August also features a podcast series. In the five episodes of the **Tanz im August Podcast**, artists from this year's programme provide insights into their creative processes. Agata Siniarska, Yasmeen Godder, Chiara Bersani, and Radouan Mriziga speak about their current and past projects, and give detailed information about the work they're presenting at Tanz im August. And in one episode, several artists from "Interconnecting Dance & Ecology" have been invited to share their visions of how this can be achieved.

Festival centre

The **festival centre at HAU Hebbel am Ufer (HAU2)** will be a meeting place for the duration of Tanz im August. It's where the paths of artists, audiences, and dance experts cross. True to the spirit of this year's festival, visitors are invited to make new connections here too – through conversation, relaxation, and dance. HAU2 also houses the festival box office and the CAN Bar.



Venues in 2023

HAU Hebbel am Ufer (HAU1, HAU2, HAU3), Haus der Berliner Festspiele, Park am Gleisdreieck, Radialsystem, SOPHIENSÆLE, Stadtpark Lichtenberg, Villa Elisabeth, Volksbühne am Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz, and Volkspark Rehberge.

Tickets

Tickets and further information at www.tanzimaugust.de

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Tanz im August is a HAU Hebbel am Ufer festival. Funded by the Capital Cultural Fund.

