

PRESS RELEASE

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TANZ IM AUGUST – INTERNATIONALES TANZFEST BERLIN: the largest German dance festival invites you to experience the stylistic variation and vitality of contemporary dance. Pieces from a young generation will be presented, but also such renowned artists as **ANNE TERESA DE KEERSMAEKER**, the Spanish Flamenco star **ISRAEL GALVÁN** or **LOUISE LECAVALIER** and **BENOÎT LACHAMBRE**. Tanzwerkstatt Berlin and the Hebbel am Ufer will present „Poussières de Sang“ („Dust of Blood“) von SALIA NĪ SEYDOU as the festival opener, in its choreography and music a multi-layered and touching work from Burkina Faso. In total, in the 21st edition of **TANZ IM AUGUST – INTERNATIONALES TANZFEST BERLIN** 34 productions can be seen, among them six world premieres and 20 German premieres.

One aspect ties the program together: it is the acoustic instead of the visual experience of dance that will stand in the foreground. But can one hear dance?

In many, many different ways, as **TANZ IM AUGUST** demonstrates: for example in dance pieces that are constructed like rock concerts or choreographies in which movement elicits acoustic fantasies and vice versa... in works whose narrative approach function as an appeal or in productions in which movement can be heard directly – Flamenco or tap dance.

In the new piece by **ANNE TERESA DE KEERSMAEKER** for her Company **ROSAS**, she makes an exception and doesn't begin with a musical composition, but rather an unusual cast. She has chosen nine male dancers and one female dancer with very different backgrounds and explores the logic of the swarm movement with them.

THOMAS HAUERT and his Company **ZOO** occupy themselves with the relationship between music and dance in their new, internationally acclaimed piece „Accords“. Here it is, above all, the constant change in dynamics that fascinate the viewer. Hauert directs particular attention to the collective body of the ensemble, the „social body“.

„Empire (Art & Politics)“ by the French/Austrian collective **SUPERAMAS** begins with the supposed reconstruction of a Napoleonic battle. The carnage is the starting point for a reflection on the representation of violence – in war, politics, media, language and daily life.

Four well-known artists – **BENOÎT LACHAMBRE/ LAURENT GOLDRING/LOUISE LECAVALIER/ HAHN ROWE** – came together as **Par B.L.eux** and created in „Is You Me“ a fascinating game of movement, images and sounds that eludes all categorization and turns into a surprising multimedial adventure.

ISRAEL GALVÁN, known to deconstruct traditional Flamenco elements, goes without musicians and singers in his piece „Solo“ and uses his body as his sole instrument. By concentrating on the essential, he creates a modern, independent style that always remains anchored in the pure, raw, original soul of this dance form.

Further festival highlights include guest performances by **ANNE COLLOD** with „Parades & changes, replays“, **JUAN DOMÍNGUEZ** with his presentation „Blue“, **NACERA BELAZA** with „Le Cri“, **ALICE CHAUCHAT** with „Collective Sensations (praticable)“, **IVO DIMCHEV** with „Som Faves“ and many more.

In accordance with the festival motto „Listen!“, **TANZ IM AUGUST 2009** offers an entire series of public discussions, lectures and concerts that invite the audience to talk and listen. As was the case in past years, in 2009 the **sommer.bar** will once again be open and serve as the festival meeting point where Berlin's artists and international guests from the festival present special formats.

Venues for **TANZ IM AUGUST 2009** are, in addition to the Podewil and the Hebbel am Ufer with its three stages HAU 1-3, the Akademie der Künste, the HALLE TANZBÜHNE BERLIN, the Haus der Berliner Festspiele, the RADIALSYSTEM V and the Sophiensaele.

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