

Press release / 9 May 2023

ImPulsTanz 2023: Advanced booking start for 15 selected productions

Today, on 9 May, pre-sale begins for 15 selected performances of the 40th edition of ImPulsTanz – Vienna International Dance Festival. At Volkstheater, Akademietheater and Halle E, ImPulsTanz spans the spectrum from the greats of postmodernism to the shooting stars of the present. Newcomers include Marina Otero with *FUCK ME* and Benjamin Abel Meirhaeghe with *Madrigals* as well as masters well-known to the ImPulsTanz audiences Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker with *Fase*, Marie Chouinard with « *M* » and Meg Stuart with *All the Way Around*. And it is a particular pleasure to see the legendary Lucinda Childs herself on stage twice!

Tickets for the selected performances at Volkstheater, Akademietheater and MuseumsQuartier – Hall E are available now at www.impulstanz.com, at +43.1.235 00 22 and at MuseumsQuartier box office. Up to and including 16 May there is a 10% discount on up to two tickets per production in advance. The entire programme follows on 6 June.

American dance icon **Lucinda Childs** and director and visual artist **Robert Wilson** promise a masterful start to the performance programme with the revision of *RELATIVE CALM* music by *Jon Gibson, Igor Stravinsky, John Adams* – originally from 1981, now to be seen in a new version on 7, 9 and 10 July at Volkstheater. One can expect a musical treat and a visually stunning piece presenting impressive video projections with Childs herself on stage. And on the occasion of the 40th ImPulsTanz edition, the same shows her solo *Description (of a description)* followed by the world premiere of her group work *4 etudes* by *Philip Glass* on 16 and 17 July at Akademietheater. A journey back in time to the 1980s can also be experienced with **Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker** on 17 and 19 July at Volkstheater. Here she hands over her groundbreaking work from 1982 – *Fase, Four Movements to the Music of Steve Reich* – to the two **Rosas** dancers **Laura Bachman** and **Soa Ratsifandrihana**. And hard to believe, but true: the Canadian choreographer **Marie Chouinard** was a guest at the festival for the first time in 1988. Now she brings her group piece « *M* » to Vienna. On 12 and 14 July, 12 dancers in brightly coloured wigs – above all the great **Carol Prieur** – dance and breathe between madness and wisdom at Volkstheater. And in the ballads of *All the Way Around*, performed live by jazz bassist **Doug Weiss** and pianist **Marina Carvalho**, the dancer and choreographer **Meg Stuart** allows intimate insights into her movement thinking on 19 and 21 July at Akademietheater.

Another faithful companion will also be there: **Trajal Harrell**. He brings his celebrated *The Köln Concert* to the music of Keith Jarrett and Joni Mitchell back to Vienna as ImPulsTanz Classic on 31 July and 2 August at Volkstheater. Also back is *Maggie The Cat*, a provocative mix of art and pop culture between voguing and rap, on 4 and 6 August. And also packed in the bags as an Austrian premiere: *Monkey off My Back or the Cat's Meow* on 27 and 29 July at MuseumsQuartier – Halle E with 17 dazzling characters from the **Schauspielhaus Zürich Dance Ensemble** and actors from the theatre on the catwalk inspired by Piet Mondrian.

Two reunions with the Belgian **Needcompany** are anticipated, which bring all of William Shakespeare's comedies and tragedies to the stage. *Billy's Violence* (to be seen once at Akademietheater on 14 July) asks whether Shakespeare was the (more brutal) Quentin Tarantino of his time and looks for ways out of a world of hate. The sequel and world premiere of *Billy's Joy*, on 11, 13 and 14 July at the same venue, shows that the playwright's comedies are actually not that funny. One wants reconciliation and simply rewrites the stories, with Romeo in fairyland. Things also get dreamy in *miramar*. Here, ten dancers from French choreographer **Christian Rizzo** and the **ICI-CCN Montpellier Occitanie** swear by the literal meaning of the title, a view to the distant horizon where sky and ocean meet, and the associated longing for the supernatural – on 21 July at Volkstheater. *BLACK LIGHTS* by **Mathilde Monnier / Otto Productions** brings hard-hitting reality to the same stage on 28 and 30 July. Inspired by real events of women who experienced psychological and physical violence, ten of these stories are told for the first time in Austria.

On 28 and 30 July, **Cie. Ivo Dimchev** takes on a wild journey – how could it be otherwise – through his life as a choreographer in *Begeraz Top 40*. After 20 years, over 40 stage productions and around 100 songs, a spectacle is bound to happen. Also autobiographical is **Marina Otero's** *FUCK ME*. On 25 and 27 July, the Argentinian shooting star, who can no longer dance because of an accident, tells anecdotes and secrets from her life as a dancer at Akademietheater while five men move for her. Belgian countertenor **Benjamin Abel Meirhaeghe** shakes up the dance and music theatre scene with his daring venture to fuse Monteverdi's baroque *Madrigali guerrieri et amorosi* with contemporary compositions by **Jesse (Doon) Kanda** (known for collaborations with Björk, FKA Twigs and Arca, among others) and **Wouter Deltour** at Volkstheater on 24 and 26 July.

In the rest of the programme, national and international icons of the contemporary dance scene meet newer positions, presenting an exciting mix of classics and world premieres. Among them are **Doris Uhlich, Lenio Kaklea, Jérôme Bel, Nadia Beugré, Olivier Dubois, Christine Gaigg / 2nd nature, Akemi Takeya** and many more. In addition, a new generation of choreographers is presented within the framework of the **[8:tension] Young Choreographers' Series** with a total of nine works.