

IMPULSTANZ

Press release / 6 August 2023

ImPulsTanz 2023: Winners of the ImPulsTanz – Young Choreographers' Award & festival résumé

On Saturday, 5 August 2023 the ImPulsTanz – Vienna International Dance Festival awarded the ImPulsTanz – Young Choreographers' Award. It also looks back at a successful summer and invites you to an ImPulsTanz Special on 10 and 12 August at Odeon Theatre.

In the past five weeks, ImPulsTanz presented 165 performances, including 20 additional performances, attracted over 47,000 visitors to the theatres and museums and achieved an occupancy rate of approx. 98 %. The 224 workshops and research projects, 14 of which were added to the programme due to high demand, were also a big success. This amounts to 42,100 attended single lessons. More than 10,000 interested people enjoyed the open doors policy at the Universitätssportzentrum Auf der Schmelz. More than 10,000 people participated in the 118 free dance classes Public Moves powered by AK Vienna in public spaces, approx. 7,000 appreciated the programme next to the dance floors. In the ImPulsTanz Festival Lounge at Burgtheater Vestibül and at the ImPulsTanz Parties at Arkadenhof at Vienna's City Hall and at Kasino am Schwarzenbergplatz approx. 30,000 people danced in the last 5 weeks. At the opening event at MuseumsQuartier as well as at the «impressions'23», the Freestyle Dance Contest and the «expressions'23» at USZ we welcomed another 7,500 visitors. In total, more than 153,600 people took advantage of the various offers of the festival.

On top of that, the winners of the **ImPulsTanz – Young Choreographers' Award**, which was launched in 2018, were announced at a ceremony at Volkstheater – Rote Bar:

Marga Alfeirão with Mariana Benenge, Myriam Lucas, Shaka Lion (DE/PT & FR/CG & DE/MX/US & PT/BR)
LOUNGE

The artists can look forward to **5,000 euro** and a two-week **artistic residency** at ImPulsTanz 2024.

The international jury consists of the choreographer and dancer **Tamara Alegre**, curator, author and cultural scientist **Anna Kozonina** and curator and dramaturge **Mateusz Szymanówka**. They explain their decision as follows:

*We give this award to **Marga Alfeirão** with her team for LOUNGE: for a work that is relaxed but politically charged, for being courageous and caring, for masterfully choreographing lesbian sensuality and intimacy between two performers, establishing a strong personal connection on stage that is also welcoming for the audience; for an invitation to slow down and release habitual modes of perception; for the consistency of the proposal; for giving things time; for building bridges between dance genres and scenes; for centring rest and pleasure in a world that is built on self-exploitation, which as we believe is a powerful message for our exhausting times. Batty Bwoy by **Harald Beharie** and To Be Possessed by **Chara Kotsali** get a special mentioning from the jury.*

The latter two awaits an artistic residency at ImPulsTanz 2024.

Nominated for the ImPulsTanz – Young Choreographers' Award were works by a young generation of choreographers, which were presented in the past five weeks as part of the **[8:tension] Young Choreographers' Series** at ImPulsTanz. Altogether nine productions offered the audience a varied cross-sectional perspective on current trends and new developments in the realm of dance and performance. This year's programme was curated by **Christine Standfest**.

The [8:tension] Young Choreographers' Series has been presenting the works by newcomers during the ImPulsTanz – Vienna International Dance Festival since 2001. This year, the ImPulsTanz – Young Choreographers' Award was awarded for the fifth time. It is based on the Prix Jardin d'Europe, which was awarded as part of the EU-sponsored project Life Long Burning in Vienna up to and including 2017.

After the festival – on 10 and 12 August at 21:00 – ImPulsTanz invites you to a special at Odeon: **The Sound of Musick [sic!]**, under the direction of **Peter Kutin** and **Florian Kindlinger**, together with performers such as Elisabeth Tambwe, Katharina Meves, Akemi Takeya and God's Entertainment, will present the world premiere of their "Noisical" *The Grand and Glorious Party*. This party with stunning music acts will be the central scene of a film.