

Press release: 14 June 2024

ImPulsTanz 2024: William Forsythe receives the Kyoto Prize and opens ImPulsTanz 2024

The renowned choreographer and dancer William Forsythe has been awarded the prestigious Kyoto Prize 2024. The award recognises Forsythe's outstanding contributions to contemporary dance and his groundbreaking works that have revolutionised the understanding of dance. We look forward to opening the ImPulsTanz Festival 2024 at MAK with him and his *Choreographic Objects!*

William Forsythe

Choreographic Objects

Opening: 11 July, 20:00, free admission

Further opening hours: 12 July to 18 August, Tue, 10:00–21:00 & Wed – Sun, 10:00–18:00

MAK – Museum of Applied Arts Vienna

Up to and including 19 June, an Early Bird discount applies: minus 10 % on up to two tickets per production.

William Forsythe, known for his innovative choreographies and interdisciplinary projects, has expanded the boundaries of traditional ballet far beyond the usual. His works, often described as a mixture of dance, theatre and visual art, have gained worldwide recognition and contributed significantly to the development of contemporary dance.

Forsythe is closely associated with the ImPulsTanz – Vienna International Dance Festival. *Eidos:Telos*, performed at Burgtheater in Vienna in 1998, and his 2008 installation *Scattered Crowd* with four thousand white balloons in the Hall of Pillars at the Austrian Parliament are unforgettable. 2024 he is back with four more of his *Choreographic Objects*. On 11 July, these open the festival in cooperation with and at MAK – Museum of Applied Arts. The installations *City of Abstracts* (2001), *Nowhere and Everywhere at the Same Time, Nr. 2* (2013), *Putting one foot in front of the other* (2019) and *Attempt to walk without a rhythm* (2023) can be experienced from 20:00 (and up to and including 18 August). These *Choreographic Objects* are not revealed solely by looking at them. Only the reaction and the resulting movement of the audience create a comprehensive overall choreography that transcends genre boundaries and completes the works.

The Kyoto Prize, one of the highest international honours awarded for outstanding contributions in science, technology, art and philosophy, underscores Forsythe's extraordinary influence on dance, visual arts and beyond.

William Forsythe, born in New York in 1949, has received numerous awards and honours throughout his career, including the Bessie Award and the Golden Lion of the Biennale di Venezia, which was awarded by Ismael Ivo. With the Kyoto Prize, he now joins the list of visionary artists who have made a lasting impact on the world through their creativity and commitment.

It is a pleasure and an honour to open this year's festival with this outstanding artist!