

# IMPULSTANZ

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## **ImPulsTanz 2024: Winners of the ImPulsTanz – Young Choreographers' Award & festival résumé**

On Sunday, 11 August, the ImPulsTanz – Vienna International Dance Festival 2024 presented the ImPulsTanz – Young Choreographers' Award. It also looks back to an extremely successful summer. And after the festival, William Forsythe's installations continue to invite visitors to move and dance at MAK until 18 August, as the ImPulsTanz Country Retreats in beautiful Umbria. The Embodied Myoreflex Therapy Practitioner Certification takes place from November 2024 to May 2027.

Over the past 5 weeks, ImPulsTanz presented 150 performances, including 26 additional performances, attracting over 45,000 visitors to the theatres and museums and achieving an occupancy rate of over 98 %. The exhibition *Choreographic Objects* by **William Forsythe** at MAK – Museum of Applied Arts alone has so far counted around 12,000 visitors – a total of 18,000 visitors is expected by 18 August 2024. The 268 workshops and research projects, 14 of which were added to the programme due to high demand, were also a big success. These count 43,800 attended single lessons. A further 15,000 interested people enjoyed the open-door policy at Arsenal and the free events there. Over 18,000 people actively took part in the 357 dance classes at Public Moves in public spaces, which were held for the first time in Salzburg, Linz and Klagenfurt in addition to Vienna, and around 26,000 enjoyed the programme only to watch. Around 25,000 people danced at the Festival Lounge at Burgtheater Vestibül over almost 5 weeks and on the 2 evenings of the Social Weekender at Vienna City Hall. In total, more than 180,000 people attended the festival.

On top, the 2 winners of the **ImPulsTanz – Young Choreographers' Award**, which was launched in 2018, were announced during the ceremony at Odeon. Both positions can look forward to prize money of **5,000 euro** and a 2-week **artistic residency** at ImPulsTanz 2025:

**Deva Schubert** (DE) *Glitch Choir* & **Vini Ventania, Vitória Jovem / Irmãs Brasil** (BR) *Eunuchs*

This year's international jury consisted of the Berlin-based curator, dramaturge and author **Jette Büchsenschütz, Anne Faucheret**, also a curator living in Vienna, and the New York choreographer and performer **Raja Feather Kelly**. They explain their decision as follows: *As a jury, we decided not to crown a work for its achievement but rather for its potential, and to honor the interest it sparked in us. Therefore, we have decided and been given the great opportunity to honor equally two choreographic positions. Both presented compelling investigations of urgent issues, pushed the boundaries of choreography and shook up our comfort zone – in almost opposite ways. Deva Schubert's Glitch Choir convinced us by its precisely crafted composition, making it a subtle, multilayered, yet estranging and challenging assemblage of sounds, bodies and emotions. We were highly impressed by the driving force of the glitchy soundscape traversing bodies and space(s), echoing and diffracting, creating at once disorientation, dislocation and a deep connection to collective desiring and grieving, and to their transformative power. Vini Ventania, Vitória Jovem / Irmãs Brasil's Eunuchs offered us a challenging, unsettling, essential and highly political experience, negotiating delicacy and vulnerability with the threatening and the innocent. Whether as Mermaids, Nymphs, Stallions, or Demons, Irmãs Brasil kept audiences and themselves on their feet and in their world. We were highly impressed by the risks they took, choosing exposure, holding gazes, and actively confronting the public with a silent complicity to regimes of othering.*

Nominated for the **ImPulsTanz – Young Choreographers' Award** were works by a young generation of choreographers that were presented over the last 5 weeks as part of the **[8:tension] Young Choreographers' Series** at ImPulsTanz. A total of 11 productions offered a multifaceted cross-section of current trends and new developments in dance and performance. The programme was curated for the first time by **Breanna O'Mara** and **Chris Haring**. The [8:tension] Young Choreographers' Series has been presenting works by newcomers within the ImPulsTanz Festival since 2001. This year, the ImPulsTanz – Young Choreographers' Award was awarded for the 6<sup>th</sup> time. It is based on the Prix Jardin d'Europe, which was presented as part of the EU-sponsored project Life Long Burning in Vienna up to and including 2017.

The exhibition *Choreographic Objects* by **William Forsythe**, part of this year's festival, can be experienced at MAK until 18 August during regular museum opening hours. The 4 installations allow the audience to experience how we organise and are organised by our environment with the help of a floating pendulum field. Also after the festival, the **ImPulsTanz Country Retreats** at the Tenuta di Poggiolame estate in Umbria, Italy, continue to invite people to dance until October. The ImPulsTanz teachers **Sri Louise** with *After the Gold Rush – Yoga & Country Line Dancing*, **Defne Erdur** with *wit(h)nessing – Inner and outer habitats* and **Shinichi Iova-Koga** with *Qi Gong, Dao Yin & Butoh* are there. From November 2024 to May 2027, ImPulsTanz again offers the **Embodied Myoreflex Therapy Practitioner Certificate** by **Kurt Mosetter** and **Kerstin Kussmaul**. This is aimed at dance and movement practitioners, art and other educators, artists, therapists and social workers who want to learn effective, practically applicable embodied practice. Registrations are open until 25 August 2024.