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**ImPulsTanz 2019: The pioneers of the German Tanztheater conquer Vienna's biggest stages**

Radical, cross-border, visually stunning, touching and as topical as ever: the German Tanztheater. Two pieces of its most important trailblazers can be experienced this summer at the ImPulsTanz – Vienna International Dance Festival. On the 11th and 13th July Johann Kresnik, Kurt Schwertsik and Gottfried Helnwein will perform the opening with *Macbeth* at Volkstheater. At Burgtheater the Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch will join on 16th, 18th and 19th July with *Masurca Fogo*.

It is not without reason that **Johann Kresnik** is also called the “berserk of choreographic theatre” because hardly anyone is as provocative, radical and brutal as he is. His work *Macbeth*, based on William Shakespeare’s tragedy, celebrated its thirtieth birthday in 2018 – the reason for the reconstruction together with the ballet ensemble of the Landestheater Linz. His dance for power combines strong images, bold movement material, shattering intensity and is cruel and playful at the same time, which is reflected both in the elaborate stage design of the painter and graphic artist **Gottfried Helnwein** and in the music of the award-winning composer **Kurt Schwertsik**.

On the other hand, **Pina Bausch**’s fiery Mazurka doesn’t brim with tragedy; it brings the pure joie de vivre on stage. The cult figure of the international dance scene and arguably the most important choreographer of her time travelled to Lisbon to get musically inspired. In the group piece, which premiered 20 years ago, she combines Fado with elements of jazz, blues and Brazilian rhythms. In keeping with the Portuguese flair, the stage resembles a colour explosion with bright tones and flowery projections. But *Masurca Fogo* would not be by Pina Bausch, if this visual sensuality and flourishing life would not face also deeply felt melancholy. The 19 dancers of the **Tanztheater Wuppertal** arouse a yearning for tenderness, security and warmth, accompanied by music by Duke Ellington, Gidon Kremer, Amália Rodrigues, and many more.

The yearning for his deceased partner Elu led South African performer and visual artist **Steven Cohen** to create the beautiful, performative ceremony *put your heart under your feet ... and walk!* The stage of the Odeon will be covered with pointe shoes as an allusion to Elus dance passion. He combines a variety of artistic means and creates a stage monument that stands as a symbol of eternal love, and a touching Requiem for all who have lost loved ones through death. To be seen on 17th and 20th July.

In addition, **DD Dorvillier**’s trio *No Change*, or “freedom is a psycho-kinetic skill” and **Akemi Takeya**’s ZZ remix return to Vienna in new editions as [ImPulsTanz Classics] and three Viennese companies announce world premieres. The collective **Liquid Loft** around the choreographer **Chris Haring** will develop a new work for the Leopold Museum, influenced by Egon Schiele’s Expressionism, and **toxic dreams & WTKB** promise gag after gag by **Yosi Wanunu** and **Roland Rauschmeier**. A highlight in terms of music as well as dance announce **Jam Rostron aka Planningtorock** and **Ian Kaler** with **Powerhouse**. Together with dancer Maija Karhunen, they create a stage play for the celebrated album of the same name, which will be presented at ImPulsTanz after the premiere in Berlin’s Berghain.

The pre-sale will start on 6th June 2019 at [www.impulstanz.com](http://www.impulstanz.com) as well as at the ImPulsTanz box offices at MuseumsQuartier and Volkstheater.