

# IMPULSTANZ

## Vienna International Dance Festival

Press release / 14 July 2021

### ImPulsTanz 2021: The highlights of the first festival days

**Starting tomorrow, thousands of dance lovers from all over the world will once again gather in Vienna to see the great choreographers of our time on stage, dance with them in the studios of the workshop centre Arsenal, discover newcomers, experience new formats and enjoy concerts in the Festival Lounge. Until 15<sup>th</sup> August, it's once again dance and let dance.**

On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> July, **Alexandra Bachzetsis** opens the performance programme at Odeon. She brings together seemingly opposites – rembetiko and wrestling, love and war – and fuses pop culture and fashion with performance and dance. *Private Song* can be seen again on 17<sup>th</sup> July. On the opening day, from 19:00, the vernissage of **Dieter Blum's** photographic memories of Ismael Ivo will also take place at Odeon. From then on, the exhibition can be visited on all performance days at Odeon from 16:30 to 18:30 with free admission. The first day of the festival will close with a concert by soul and R'n'B high-flyer **Lou Asril**, who recently released *Lovemachine* with Conchita Wurst, in the ImPulsTanz Festival Lounge at Kursalon Wien at Stadtpark.

**Sophia Rodríguez** kicks off both the weekend and the [8:tension] Young Choreographers' Series on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July at Schauspielhaus with her – literally – hair-raising performance *Ostentation Project*. Following this, **Trajal Harrell** brings Tennessee Williams' *Maggie* to the catwalk at Akademietheater. Both pieces will be shown a second time on 18<sup>th</sup> July.

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> July will be marked by two world premieres. **Ian Kaler's** *POINTS OF DEPARTURE Hyphen* – with a falcon on his arm, a coming-of-age story and lots of dance – will premiere at WUK (second performance on 19<sup>th</sup> July) and **Meg Stuart's** *CASCADE* at Volkstheater – a free fall into dissolving time with a stage design by **Philippe Quesne** to music by **Brendan Dougherty** (again on 19<sup>th</sup> July). A happy ending is then provided in the ImPulsTanz Festival Lounge by the porn-pop band **Maraskino** with lead singer **Julian Hruza** from Julian & der Fux.

Four weeks of colourful workshops start with *«impressions'21»* at Arsenal on Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> July. In the *Opening Lecture*, selected teachers will show the dancers what to expect in the coming 190 courses, both verbally and dance-wise – and with free admission. Afterwards, you can look forward to a one-time screening of **Trajal Harrell's** film *Friend of a Friend* at mumok kino.

But that's not all: On Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July, **Trajal Harrell** will present his touching solo *Dancer of the Year* twice at Odeon, the starting point of which is his award as Dancer of the Year 2018. In between, and again on 21<sup>st</sup> July, the second of the nine productions in the [8:tension] Young Choreographers' Series will be on display: With *Everything I don't know, I've stolen*, **Petar Sarjanović** presents a playful journey of discovery through his personal art archive.

On Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July and Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July, choreographer **Guilherme Botelho** will be a guest at Akademietheater with the first of two pieces: In *Sideways Rain*, his 15-member **Company Alias** dances an impressive parable on the course of life. On Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July, he resumes with the group choreography *Normal*, in which seven dancers play a brilliant game with gravity.

The 21<sup>st</sup> July holds three more Austrian premieres, with a musical twist: from French Impressionism to Berlin rave. Choreographer **Lisbeth Gruwez** and pianist **Claire Chevallier** have joined forces to translate Claude Debussy's piano works into dance and present this at MuTh (second performance on 23<sup>rd</sup> July). At Odeon, Berghain **DJ Fiedel** brings the appropriate sound to **Frédéric Gies'** choreography, which he developed for the Swedish cross-generational **Weld Company**. *Tribute* can be seen in an additional performance on 22<sup>nd</sup> July and one last time on 23<sup>rd</sup> July. And in the first part of his *UGLY* trilogy, **Raja Feather Kelly** performs across all facets of pop music at Schauspielhaus, from The Beatles to Missy Elliott and Beyoncé to RuPaul. His *(Black Queer Zoo)* can be visited again on 23<sup>rd</sup> July.

#### Press contact

Theresa Pointner, Marlene Rosenthal & Sonja Kuzmics  
+43.1.523 55 58-34  
presse@impulstanz.com

ImPulsTanz – Vienna International Dance Festival  
Museumstraße 5/21, 1070 Wien, Austria  
T +43.1.523 55 58-0, F +43.1.523 55 58-9  
info@impulstanz.com, www.impulstanz.com