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PRESS RELEASE

Please include in your publication!

14th to 17th March in TREFFPUNKT Rotebuehlplatz, Stuttgart, Germany

Solo dance artists from 13 nations come to Stuttgart

The day we have all been waiting for is soon upon us: on 14th March, the international solo dance festival kicks off for the 17th time in TREFFPUNKT Rotebuehlplatz, Stuttgart, Germany. On four consecutive evenings, 18 solo dance pieces shall be showcased from artists hailing from all over the world. These 18 have been chosen from amongst 300 candidates and will be performing in front of an audience and a high-calibre jury.

It took several weeks for the festival trustees in TREFFPUNKT Rotebuehlplatz Stuttgart to view the 300 entries, which had arrived from every corner of the globe. "It's truly an exciting time when we begin to watch the entries", said Ms Gudrun Haehnel, head of event management in TREFFPUNKT Rotebühnplatz. " We receive so many different, yet artistically absolutley top quality pieces from all around the world, which makes it hard to decide about whom to invite."

Once again, the variety ranges from performances expressing recent topics like the hurricane „Sandy“, the very delicate translation of personal feelings into movement as well as an expression of statments about the role of women in society or the culture of clubbing.

The line-up for the 17th international solo dance festival was decided in mid December. The artists come from 13 different nations, including Australia, Brazil, Taiwan and Cameroon.

Jury

Once more this year, the festival team have been able to gain the expertise of renown jury members. These include Sonia Santiago-Brueckner, a former principal dancer at the Stuttgart Ballet, as well as Jan Pusch, former award winner of the Solo-Tanz-Theater Festival and current director of the Dance Department at Staatstheater Braunschweig. Two more high-calibre artists are Cathy Marston from Great Britain, currently working in Bern, Switzerland, as master of Ballett and the polish dancer Katarzyna Sitarz.

“We are delighted that each year we have the possibility to welcome such brilliant artists in our team“, emphasizes Marcelo Santos, artistic director of the festival. „I am looking forward to the many interesting conversations and discussions around the performances.“

New this year: a double audience vote

From Thursday 14th to Sunday 17th March, TREFFPUNKT Rotebuehlplatz, in the heart of Germany's Stuttgart, shall be completely dedicated to dance. At 8pm on three separate evenings, a dance-loving audience and jury shall be presented with a number of choreographed pieces between 9 and 12 minutes long, and mostly premieres. Whilst the jury then withdraws on the Saturday to nominate the finalists, Ahmed Soura, 3rd place winner in the 2011 solo dance festival, shall perform his solo piece “En opposition avec moi“ (in opposition to myself).

The winners will be announced in the finale on Sunday at 6pm, where there will be three prizes apiece for choreography and dance, ranging from €1500 - €3500.

Alongside these prizes, the audience will, for the first time, have two opportunities to crown their favourites. As well as the audience vote during Sunday's final, this year, there will also be a prize for the audience's favourite from the preceding rounds. These prizes are both worth €500.

Film of Tanja Liedtke's solo piece “construct“ in fringe events

In 2010, vhs Stuttgart gained a further partner in the form of the Tanja Liedtke Foundation, whose supports ensured the festival's continuation. Alongside the city of Stuttgart, the foundation carries the basic financing of the festival. On Thursday at 6pm, a recording of the Tanja Liedtke's solo piece “construct“ will be shown in the Carola-Blume-Saal in TREFFPUNKT Rotebuehlplatz. It was her last piece of work before her death in August 2007. The premiere of this performance was in May 2007. 2008 it was shown at the Sydney Festival in Australia.

Further fringe events include the exhibition "Solo-Tanz-Theater x 3 – 3 Fotografen, 3 Ansichten" (three photographers, three perspectives), which is available to view from 7th February 2013. The exhibition contains pictures from previous years of the festival, taken by long-time friends of the festival, photographers Jo Grabowski, Lars F. Menzel and Rainer Horn.

The participants:

Thursday 14.03.2013

- 1. Closing Time**
Choreography: Thomas Freundlich (Finland)
Dance: Neil Owens (UK)
- 2. Talk with Coffer**
Choreography and dance: Hung-Wen Chen (Taiwan)
- 3. Copy it Right**
Choreography: René Alejandro Huari Mateus (Columbia)
Dance: Maasa Sakano (Japan)
- 4. Catatonia**
Choreography and dance: Ross Martinson (England)
- 5. appels, appels, appels**
Choreography: Min Hee Bervoets (Belgium)
Dance: Gilles Noël (Belgium)
- 6. Welcome the Sting**
Choreography: Loni Landon (USA)
Dance: Lavinia Vago (Italy)

Friday 15.03.2013

- 1. Red Fields**
Choreography: Sharon Vazanna (Israel/The Netherlands)
Dance: Ravid Abarbanel (Israel)
- 2. Ritus**
Choreography: Katja Erdmann-Rajski (Germany)
Dance: Marek Ranic (Slovakia)
- 3. Tell me if I am wrong**
Choreografie: Matthieu Geffré (France)
Tanz: Arnaud Macquet (France)
- 4. Geile Grafik**
Choreography Bikash Chatterjee (Germany)
Dance: Philipp Repmann (Germany)

5. **The waiting room**
Choreography and dance: Rose Alice (Australia)
6. **From the waltz to the mambo**
Choreography and dance: Milán Ujvári (Hungary)

Saturday 16.03.2013

1. **Come Outside**
Choreography and dance: Malcolm Freitas (Brazil)
2. **Star-Watchers**
Choreography and dance: Sara Angius (Italy)
3. **Open Mic. Suffocation**
Choreography: Martin Harriague (France)
Dance: Joachim Maudet (France)
4. **What happened in Torino?**
Choreography and dance: Andrea Costanzo Martini (Italy)
5. **I CON (11 min)**
Choreography and dance: Sarah Grether (USA)
6. **Frustration**
Choreography and dance: Charly Mintya (Cameroon)

The prizes:

Coreography (sponsored by the ministry of science, research and arts, Baden-Württemberg, Germany):

- 1st prize €3500
- 2nd prize €2500
- 3rd prize €1500

Dance:

- 1st prize €3500 (sponsored by WALA pharmaceuticals)
- 2nd prize €2500 (City of Stuttgart)
- 3rd prize €1500 (City of Stuttgart)

Audience vote:

- Preliminaries: €500 (sponsored by Nicola Weyandt and Michael Deiml)
- Finale: €500 (sponsored by Christine Gugel)

THE FESTIVAL AT A GLANCE:

Thursday, 14th - Saturday 16th March 2013, 8pm: Competition entries shown

On Saturday evening, the nominations for the finale shall be announced after the performance.

Sunday, 17th. March 2013, 6pm: Grand finale with award ceremony

Place: Robert-Bosch-Saal, in TREFFPUNKT Rotebuehlplatz, Stuttgart, Germany
Ticket prices: Thurs-Sat: EUR 16,-/14,- Sun: EUR 18,-/14,-

Event management: Gudrun Haehnel
Artistic director: Marcelo Santos

Bookings taken from 1st February 2013. Booking hotline:+49 711 1873-800

www.vhs-stuttgart.de

www.treffpunkt-rotebuehlplatz.de

www.facebook.com/solotanz