

# PRESS RELEASE

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#### 13. - 16. März 2014:

## The programme and the jury are confirmed

### 18th International Solo-Tanz-Theater Festival Stuttgart - a tribute to Tanja Liedtke

The programme of the 18. International Solo-Tanz-Theater Festival Stuttgart is confirmed. The programme is as of now available in many culture facilities in Stuttgart as well as on the website of the volkshochschule stuttgart. This year the festival offers three novelties: A new sponsor was won - the talent foundation Henning Tögel donates the 2nd price dance. For the first time a "Videodance Prize" is awarded: the production of a dance video in the value of EUR 5,000; sponsored by the Stuttgart co. moving-angel film production of Jean Christophe Blavier and Birgit Baumgärtner. Moreover, two Workshops are offered by the dancer and choreographer Sonia Rodríguez, prizewinner of 2004.

From 13th to 16th of March 23 well-chosen artists show innovative dance theatre, the pieces are predominantly premieres. In the choreographies the artists often focus on personal experience. The Festival offers a platform to bring all this individual expression in combination with different cultural backrounds on one stage. This makes it a absolutely unique experience for the participants as well as the audience.

This year for the first time a dancer from India, Hemabharathy Palani, takes part. She combines contemporary dance with traditional elements in her piece "TRIKONANGA".

The performance "Maa Labyrinths" by Jain Souleymane Kone from Burkina Faso also picks the search for identity hesitating between tradition and modern age out as a central theme. The German contribution "Undland" of Jo Koppe shows a dialogue with José F.A. Oliver's poem "Im Gerippe eines Tages" who expresses his personal experiences of isolation, estrangement as well as contradictions of the past in this country.

Once more this year, the festival team have been able to gain the expertise of five renown jury members. Including Tarek Assam, ballet director of the Tanzcompagnie Gießen/Stadttheater Gießen and artistic director TanzArt-ostwest Festivals, as well as Ed Wubbe, Dutch, choreographer and artistic director of the Scapino Ballet in Rotterdam. Other jury members are Olga Roriz from Portugal who has her own dance company "Companhia of Olga Roriz" and Louis Stiens, choreographer and dancer with the Stuttgart ballet. The former participant and New York choreographer Sidra Bell is this year also represented as a juror and is very pleased to be involved in the Internationales Solo-Tanz-Theater Festival Stuttgart: "I gained my first work experiences in Europe at the Internationale Solo-Tanz-Theater. The festival has encouraged me very much in my artistic way". Sidra Bell won at the 15.

Internationales Solo-Tanz-Theater Festival Stuttgart in 2011 the first price for her choreography "Grief point". Today she leads her own Dance Company in New York.

Beside the dance presentations the audience can admire the exhibition "Tanzimpressionen" of Valentin Fanel Badiu in the foyer of the Robert-Bosch Saal at TREFFPUNKT Rotebühlplatz from 17th of February to 23rd of March. The exhibition shows photographs from three performed productions of Tanja Liedtke. In addition short films about dance are shown on the 13th and 14th of March in the

Theodor-Bäuerle Saal, presented by the Finnish "Loikka Dance Film Festival".

From Thursday, 13th to Saturday, 16th of March the participants present themselves in the competition to a dance enthusiastic audience and a renowned five-headed jury - six performances per evening. At the grand final on Sunday the jury will award six prices for choreography and dance which are endowed between EUR 3,500 and 1,500. The audience also can crown their favored presentations with two audience prizes.

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.

## **FESTIVAL SHORTLY:**

Thursday, 13th to Saturday, 15th March 2014, from 8 pm: Competitive contributions

On Saturday evening following the performances the nomination of the finalists will be announced.

Sunday, 16th March 2014, 6 pm: Great final with presentation of prizes

Venue: TREFFPUNKT Rotebühlplatz, Robert-Bosch-Saal

Admission: Thursday-Saturday, EUR 16.00/14.00 - Sunday, EUR 18.00/14.00

Festival Director: Gudrun Hähnel Artistic Director: Marcelo Santos

www.vhs-stuttgart.de www.treffpunkt-rotebuehlplatz.de

Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/vhsstuttgart and www.facebook.com/solotanz

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