

NEWSLETTER #03-2006

Leipzig, 13th December 2006

Dear colleagues and friends,
Dear Sir or Madam,

At the end of the year we would like to give you a few impressions of the last euro-scene Leipzig 2006. Furthermore, we hope to arouse your interest for our festival 2007.

We wish you a Merry Christmas, and much energy and health for the year 2007.

Ann-Elisabeth Wolff

Festival director

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1. Review of the Festival 2006

The 16th euro-scene Leipzig took place from 7-12 November 2006. Under the motto »Consonances – Dissonances« the role of music in theatre and dance was analysed more closely this year. The euro-scene Leipzig showed a total of 12 guest performances from 11 countries in 22 shows.

Among the highlights, next to the final night »vsprs« of the Flemish choreographer Alain Platel, were also smaller productions, such as »Miss Very Wagner« of the Swedish performance star Charlotte Engelkes or »Dok.Tor« by Wladimir Pankow with the Teatr.doc from Moscow. Particularly impressive was »Ashura« shown by the Turkish company 5. Sokak Tiyatrosu that moved deeply with its poetic-melancholic connection of politics and music in a scenic concert about expulsion and alienation.

These and all other performances shown in the nine Leipzig venues were received with much interest by more than 7,500 spectators. All in all the festival had an utilisation of approximately 90 percent.

2. Press excerpts

»Platel, who in the final magnificent of Monteverdi's »Vespers of the Blessed Virgin« at the latest leaves no doubt how immanently connected erotic and religious ecstasy are for him, has pushed the vocabulary of his company further into the extremes of pain and beauty. And with it he gives the spectator precisely the contrast agent to everyday theatre life which festivals as the euro-scene should offer in ideal cases.«

Andreas Hillger, Mitteldeutsche Zeitung, Halle/Saale 14.11.2006



Alain Platel / Les Ballets C. de la B., Ghent, »vsprs«, final night



Mélo die Théâtre, Boos, »Concert d'eau pour jardin d'hiver« (»A concert of water for a winter garden«), German premier

»Embedded between ›Velma Superstar‹ from Lausanne, the festival opening performance at the Arena Leipzig, and Alain Platel's ›vsprs‹ as acclaimed finale, the enchanting ›A concert of water for a winter garden‹ by the company Mélodie Théâtre from Normandy held its ground. Six reputable nobilities made music in alcove-roofed basin on glasses, tubes, bells, pots, pipes, an air pump, wind instrument, and clams in such a cheerful way that the world of water becomes an amazingly musical cosmos. This imaginativeness deserves a Golden Palm, even if Leipzig is not Cannes.«

Volkmar Draeger, Neues Deutschland, Berlin 16.11.2006

3. Annual Convention of the International Theatre Institute

The International Theatre Institute (ITI), Berlin, held its annual convention within the festival in Leipzig on 11 and 12 November and also arranged two public events together with the euro-scene Leipzig. Under the title »Bewegungsmelder« (»Motion Detectors«) the ITI started a project series on surveillance and control in public spaces and their repercussion in dance. In the conception by Michael Freundt and Henning Fülle representatives of technology, science, politics, and art took part in the discussion.

A panel discussion to the theme of music at theatre stage was held on the subject »Vom Gesamtkunstwerk zum entgrenzten Theater« (»From total work of art to delimited theatre«). Nike Wagner (artistic director Kunstfest Weimar), Barbara Mundel (director Theater Freiburg i. Br.), Fabrizio Cassol (composer and saxophonist, Brussels), and Paul Koek (director and composer, manager De VeenFabriek, Leiden) spoke about the suspension of classical principles of specialisation in contemporary theatre.

Furthermore, the new ITI board was elected in Leipzig, which Ann-Elisabeth Wolff will be a member of for the first time. The other members of the board are Laura Berman (music dramatic adviser, Berlin), Stephanie Gräve (dramatic adviser, Bonn), Harald Müller (publishing manager Theater der Zeit, Berlin), Irina Pauls (choreographer, Freiburg i. Br.), Jürgen Schitthelm (director Schaubühne am Lehniner Platz, Berlin), Bettina Sluzalek (artistic managing director Theaterhaus Stuttgart), and Alexander Stillmark (director, Berlin). President of the German Centre of the ITI remains Manfred Beilharz (director Staatstheater Wiesbaden). The vice presidents are Roberto Ciulli (director Theater an der Ruhr, Mülheim) and Martin Roeder-Zerndt (director Theater Heilbronn).

4. Preview Festival 2007

The euro-scene Leipzig is scheduled to take place from 6–11 November 2007 for the 17th time. 12 to 14 guest performances from approx. 10 countries are scheduled. The festival's Carte blanche no. 2 will be given to Rolf Dennemann, artistic director of the festival off-limits, Dortmund (after 2006 Maria Magdalena Schwaegermann, artistic director of the Zürcher Theater Spektakel).

The competition »Das beste deutsche Tanzsolo« (»Best German Dance Solo«), in the conception by Alain Platel, Ghent, will be held for the 8th time within the festival 2007. The announcement of the contest will be made in May 2007.



www.iti-germany.de



Panel discussion of the ITI »Vom Gesamtkunstwerk zum entgrenzten Theater« (»From total work of art to delimited theatre«) (Barbara Mundel, Nike Wagner, Peter Korfmacher – presenter, from right to left)



Daniela Lehmann, »Mina«, 1st award and audience award of the competition 2005

5. Imprint

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6. Financing 2006

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