

Leipzig

euro-scene

Festival zeitgenössischen
europäischen Theaters

PRESS RELEASE (09.11.2008)

**euro-scene Leipzig festival successfully completed –
with long visitor queues at the box offices**

Tonight the euro-scene Leipzig ends with „pitié!“ („Have mercy!“) by **Alain Platel** with his company **Les Ballets C. de la B., Ghent**, at the Leipzig Centraltheater. The new dance play by Platel, inspired by **Bach's „Matthäuspasion“ („St Matthew Passion“)** in a modern adaptation by Fabrizio Cassol, brings this year's festival to a close.

Under the motto **„Taumelnd auf glatter See“ („Floundering on a calm sea“)** this 18th festival of contemporary European theatre was dedicated to the opposite of a smooth surface and to the disasters concealed beneath. From **04 – 09 November** the euro-scene Leipzig presented **12 guest plays from 8 countries in 22 performances and 9 theatre venues.**

One **highlight** was the **work show** of the known choreographer Josef Nadj, who was born in former Yugoslavia and has been head of the Centre chorégraphique national d'Orléans since 1995. He fascinated the audience in Leipzig with his three productions „Entracte“ („Interval“), „Woyzeck“ and „Journal d'un inconnu“ („Diary of an unknown“). German premieres were also shown by the companies The Collective of Natural Disasters, Budapest, Quasi stellar dance company, Athens, and the Theatre Danny & Dessi from the Bulgarian Haskovo.

The other guest plays were also received with much interest. There were long visitor queues at the box offices of numerous of the 9 different venues. "All in all we can look back at an extremely successful festival year. Nearly all performances were sold out", said festival director Ann-Elisabeth Wolff. With about **7.500 spectators** the festival had an **utilisation of 96.2%**.

The euro-scene Leipzig **thanks all sponsors and partners**, who facilitate the festival. The main share in the financing this year was borne by the city of Leipzig and the Saxonian Ministry of Science and Art, Dresden. **Main Partner** for the 5th time is the **BMW plant Leipzig**. Next to numerous national representations, the festival receives support by the Nationales Performance Netz, Munich, Hotel Holiday Inn Garden Court, Leipzig, and Messedruck Leipzig. **Cultural partner** is the MDR Figaro; **media partners** are the ZDFtheaterkanal, the city magazine kreuzer and nachtkritik.de.

The next **euro-scene Leipzig** will take place from **03 – 08 November 2009**.

Ann-Elisabeth Wolff // Beate Dietrich
Leipzig, 09. November 2008

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NOTE: This text as well as photo material to all guest plays, the fringe programme, the festival logo and photos of the festival director are available under www.euro-scene.de/presse.