

NEWSLETTER #01-2009

Leipzig, 02 July 2009

Dear Colleagues and Friends,
Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today we would like to inform you for the first time about our festival this year. The euro-scene Leipzig will take place from 03 to 08 November 2009 for the 19th time and stands under the motto »Sonnenfinsternis« (»Eclipse of the sun«). Planned are 12 guest plays from 10 countries in 25 performances and 10 theatre venues. The spectrum of productions includes dance and spoken theatre as well as intermediate areas of performance art and musical stage forms.

The festival programme is now available under www.euro-scene.de/programm. The ticket sale will start on Saturday, 26.09.2009. Upon request the printed festival programme can be posted from 23.09.2009.

I wish you a nice summer and send my regards

Ann-Elisabeth Wolff
Festival Director

1. Conception of the festival

Under the motto »Eclipse of the sun«, this year's festival of contemporary European theatre is dedicated to the moments of an unusual situation between danger and fear, the secret of darkness and the hope for new light. After the collapse of the social foundations 20 years ago, people today seesaw between uncertainty and hope, disappointment and waiting for more enlightening times – the clouded sun reflects this situation like a concave mirror finding its playfully blithe pendant in the glittering bright light of the stage projectors.

»There is a before and an after and the moment at which the moon passes in front of the sun has always held a strong fascination for people. The experience of everyday life through to banality is what it always takes to make this short instant of a solar eclipse seem like an exceptional event«, says festival director Ann-Elisabeth Wolff, in whose hands lies the responsibility for the programme selection.

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2. Companies

The following companies will give guest performances at the euro-scene Leipzig 2009:

Cullberg Ballet / Johan Inger, Stockholm
Sanja Mitrović, Belgrade
Philipp Gehmacher & Milli Bitterli, Vienna
Trickster Teatro, Lugano
Muziektheater Transparant, Antwerp
Respublikanski Teatr Belaruskaj Dramaturgii, Minsk
Bernard Baumgarten & Sylvia Camarda, Luxemburg
Julien Cottureau, Paris
OKT / Vilnius City Theatre / Oskaras Koršunovas, Vilnius
Jo Fabian Department, Berlin
Nicole Mossoux & Patrick Bonté, Brussels

The Cullberg Ballet from Stockholm will be opening the festival with »Point of eclipse«, an abundant dance play by the Swedish choreographer Johan Inger. Among the other festival highlights are the guest performances by the Muziektheater Transparant, Antwerp, assisted by the a cappella choir Collegium Vocale, Ghent, with the play »Ruhe« (»Quiet«) by Josse de Pauw based on Schubert songs, and »Hamlet« (»Hamlet«) by William Shakespeare in a production by the Lithuanian director Oskaras Koršunovas with his company from Vilnius.

Among the eight German premieres are choreographies by Bernard Baumgarten & Sylvia Camarda from Luxemburg and a play by Sanja Mitrović from Belgrade. Nicole Mossoux & Patrick Bonté, Brussels, will show »Nuit sur le monde« (»Night across the world«) as festival closing. This year's Carte blanche for a guest play went to Sigrid Gareis, artistic director of the Tanzquartier Wien. She invited Philipp Gehmacher & Milli Bitterli with their choreographies within the series »walk + talk« to Leipzig.

3. Fringe programme

The guest performances will be complemented by an extensive fringe programme comprising films, talks, discussions and a workshop by Jo Fabian. This includes video presentations about dance in Luxemburg and the comparison of several »Hamlet« productions.

A public audience discussion will be dedicated to the topic »Festivals – in the city for the city«, presentation: Prof. Dr. Günther Heeg, University of Leipzig, with the members of the artistic council of the euro-scene Leipzig and important representatives of the theatres of the city.

The festival will have its own ticket outlet again this year. It will be in the festival centre Café-Restaurant Telegraph at the Dittrichring as from 26.09.2009.

4. Invitation to competition

The competition »Das beste deutsche Tanzsolo« (»Best German Dance Solo«), in the conception by Alain Platel, Ghent, will be held for the 9th time in line with the festival. Anyone may apply, regardless whether professional or amateurs, with a solo of 5 minutes length. The first three winners will be awarded prize moneys between 3,000.00 EUR and 1,000.00 EUR. Additionally, there will be an audience award. Applications should be submitted to the euro-scene Leipzig by 05.09.2009 including a brief curriculum vitae and a description of the solo.



**Cullberg Ballet, Stockholm,
»Point of Eclipse«, Festival
opening**



**OKT / Vilnius City Theatre,
»Hamlet« (»Hamlet«)**



**Jo Fabian Department, Berlin,
»Polka Dot. ein stilleben«**



**1st prize in 2007 for Jianan Qu,
Linz, »White Chrysanthemum«**

5. Award for Ann-Elisabeth Wolff

In May, the director of the euro-scene Leipzig, Ann-Elisabeth Wolff, was honoured with the »Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres de la République française«, one of the highest awards of the French Republic. Ann-Elisabeth Wolff receives this state award for her extensive presentation of French theatre and dance in Germany. The French Embassy, Berlin, and the Institut français, Leipzig, will present her with the prize within autumn 2009.

6. Imprint

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7. Financing 2009

Promoters and main partner:

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