

“Sound disturbance” on Leipzig’s stages

Theatre festival euro-scene Leipzig shows guestplays from all over Europe

The euro-scene Leipzig will take place **for the 21st time from 8 to 13 November 2011**. The festival of contemporary European theatre will show **12 guest plays from 12 countries in 25 performances and 10 venues**. The spectrum includes dance and spoken theatre, musical stage forms, performances and a play for children. Among them are 6 German premières. The euro-scene Leipzig holds a **firm place in the European festival landscape**. The festival enjoys the patronage of Burkhard Jung, lord mayor of the city of Leipzig.

The **motto** of the festival this year is **»Tonstörung« (»Sound disturbance«)**. **»Music and sounds, of course, play a large role. Disturbances, however, can also be found within societal and interpersonal structures as well as in aesthetic forms«, according to festival director Ann-Elisabeth Wolff**. The guest performances demonstrate strong, individual scripting of major directors and choreographers from all over Europe. After celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2010, primarily artists new to Leipzig will be presented – names which mark the European theatre and dance landscape are as much a part of this as companies which are still unknown. Of course, the tradition of **welcoming selected companies back** will also be continued.

The **festival opening** will take place in the concert hall **Gewandhaus zu Leipzig** this year. The high expectations associated with this famous location can only be encountered with a certain denial of superlatives. In doing so, **two experimental guest performances from Eastern Europe** stand for the aesthetic diversity of euro-scene Leipzig: the choreographic concert **»Srh« (»Shiver«)** with the **composition by Milko Lazar in the choreography of Matjaž Farič from Ljubljana** and the musical performance **»Concerto« by Ivo Dimchev from Sofia**. Another Eastern European highlight and for the first time in Germany will be the musical theatre play **»Antica« by Branko Brezovec with the Narodni teatar (National Theatre) Vojdan Černodrinski from Prilep / Macedonia**.

Dance is represented by **Josef Nadj, Orléans**, known for his three choreographies presented at the euro-scene 2008, **Israel Galván, Seville**, who interprets the flamenco in a ravishingly innovative way, and **Palle Granhøj, Aarhus**, with a humorous dance play based on the music of Gustav Mahler. As festival closure the **Swiss company Alias** can be seen with the choreography **»Sideways rain« by Guilherme Bothelo**. Spoken theatre of high quality comes to Leipzig with **Wladimir Prankow, Moscow** and **Gisèle Vienne, Grenoble**.

After five years of **carte blanche** – the selection of a guest performance – which was performed respectively by a member of the artistic advisory council, this **»white card«** is now being passed on to an artist for the next stage. The renowned French choreographer **Josef Nadj**, head of the Centre chorégraphique national d'Orléans, will be launching it this year and chose **»E.I.O« by Dragana Bulut, Belgrade, Maria Baroncea & Eduard Gabia, Bucharest**. This unusual performance with the audience as actors was awarded the **»Prix Jardin d'Europe«** in 2010 in Istanbul.

The performance group **She She Pop, Berlin**, will present its play **»Testament« (»Last will«)**, which has been showered with awards. And as a magical children's piece, **»Der Fischer und seine Frau« (»The fisherman and his wife«)** by the **Leipzig artists Berndt Stübner & Werner Stiefel** can be seen. The popular **competition »Das beste deutsche Tanzsolo« (»Best German dance solo«)**, in the conception by Alain Platel, Ghent, will be held for the 10th time.

The euro-scene Leipzig is financed from funds of the city of Leipzig and the Free State of Saxony. Main partner is the BMW Plant Leipzig. Partners are also the Best Western Hotel Leipzig City Center, Messedruck, Café-Restaurant Telegraph and Ring-Café. The festival is also supported by numerous embassies and cultural institutions as well as the European Union – Directorate General for Enlargement, Brussels. Cultural partner is the MDR Figaro. Media partners are ZDFkultur and info tv Leipzig.

Ann-Elisabeth Wolff, Festival Director
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