

PRESS RELEASE

New formats and associate curators for the Tanzmesse 2022

The application process for artists for the internationale tanzmesse nrw 2022, a project of nrw landesbuero tanz, starts on 20 September 2021. Dance artists can present their work in new formats at the upcoming edition from 31 August to 3 September 2022 in Düsseldorf. The Tanzmesse programme will be selected by the Co-Directors team, Isa Köhler and Katharina Kucher, together with the newly acquired associate curators Julia Asperska, Dan Daw, Natacha Melo and Quito Tembe.

Isa Köhler and Katharina Kucher have succeeded in recruiting four experts with different perspectives on the international contemporary dance scene. Together with the co-directors, **Julia Asperska, Dan Daw, Natacha Melo and Quito Tembe** will strengthen and further expand the network of the internationale tanzmesse nrw in order to present the diverse spectrum of contemporary dance worldwide at Tanzmesse.

Julia Asperska, a cultural manager and curator living in Poland, has gained extensive experience in the field of international distribution and is currently building a collection of 21st century contemporary performing arts for the agency Something Great. As a consultant, curator and manager, she also manages the international relations of the non-profit arts and education organisation PROAC in Uruguay.

UK-based Australian performer and choreographer **Dan Daw** is the associate director of the performance company Murmuration, with whom he commissions, develops and produces new works by disabled artists. He has received numerous awards as an outstanding performer and has worked with many renowned ensembles and choreographers. Dan Daw is committed to the discussion of dance and disability and will curate a day of the Talk & Connect discourse programme for the Tanzmesse.

Quito Tembe is the initiator and director of the international platform for contemporary dance KINANI in his home country Mozambique. He is also co-curator of the festival Festival Afro-Vibes 2021 in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, and a member of the artistic direction of the festival Danse l'Afrique Danse 2021 in Marrakech, Morocco.

Natacha Melo is an artist, curator and cultural manager from Uruguay. She develops and leads collaborative projects at the intersection of arts and social organisation, including the South American Dance Network, the Ibero-American Dance Platform (PID) and the National Dance Plan of Uruguay. She is currently evaluating the current production structures of the Ibero-American Live Arts.

Together with the Tanzmesse management team, they will select the full-length performances for the four days of the event, as well as productions for public spaces and young audiences. A new presentation option for the artists and companies at the Tanzmesse will be interactive and digitally immersive performances. Other digital offerings will create new opportunities for participation.

During the internationale tanzmesse nrw, artists and dance companies can also present their productions to professional visitors in the well-established Open Studios. The newly introduced pitching format offers the opportunity to present productions and collaborative projects to the professional audience in the form of short presentations.

Together with the Agora and the Talk & Connect discourse programme, the programme forms the three pillars of the internationale tanzmesse nrw. The Agora in the exhibition halls of the NRW Forum is the focal point for up to 2,000 participants. Companies, artists, institutions and organisations present themselves here. The Agora functions as a meeting place for dance professionals and is a venue for a variety of encounters. The redesign of the Agora is the responsibility of the renowned architect and interior designer Markus Miessen.

The 14th edition of the largest international meeting for contemporary dance will take place in Düsseldorf from 31 August - 3 September 2022. The Tanzmesse is supported by the Ministry of Culture and Science of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia and the state capital Düsseldorf.

About the organiser nrw landesbuero tanz

The organiser of the internationale tanzmesse nrw is the nrw landesbuero tanz under the management of Heike Lehmke. The nrw landesbuero tanz is an information and advisory centre for dance professionals in North Rhine-Westphalia. It provides information about current dance activities, is involved with formats for further training and qualification and promotes both intergenerational and international exchange with its dance education and Tanzmesse sections.

Further information: www.landesbuerotanz.de / www.tanzmesse.com

Organiser:

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