



Tanz im August  
Internationales Festival Berlin  
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**Press Release**  
**15 August 2024**

**TANZ IM AUGUST – 36th International Festival Berlin**  
**presented by HAU Hebbel am Ufer**  
**15–31 August 2024**

### **Festival Opening and the following weeks**

Today, 15 August 2024, the 36th edition of Tanz im August opens at 8 p.m. with the German premiere of “umuko”, by Dorothee Munyaneza. Before this the premiere audience will be addressed in HAU1 by Annemie Vanackere, Artistic and Managing Director of HAU Hebbel am Ufer, Oliver Friederici, Berlin’s permanent secretary for social cohesion, and Ricardo Carmona, artistic director of Tanz im August.

This year’s festival programme features various forms of expression at the interface of art, dance, and narration, and presents **18 productions at 10 venues – including 3 world premieres, 10 German premieres, and 7 Berlin and international co-productions.**

### **Festival week one**

In Ruanda the umuko tree is traditionally seen as a healer and keeper of stories, and is a symbol for the bond between past, present, and future. For **Dorothee Munyaneza / Cie Kadidi** it is also a childhood memory. They open Tanz im August 2024 with the German premiere of a performance centred on the creativity, bravado, and freedom of a new generation.

So the focus of this year’s festival is immediately apparent: how people and cultures are shaped by history and stories, memories and encounters.



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The festival's first world premiere is a durational performance by **Jefta van Dinther**. It examines the human longing for an alternative reality by carrying us off into an immersive installation around virtual escapism, deep fakes, and our relationship to machines.

**Tamara Cubas** tells women's stories of migration from various continents. The work is based on research conducted over many years, and focuses on the remarkable strength of its protagonists. It is being shown in Germany for the first time.

Another German premiere is the production by **Soa Ratsifandrihana**, a music and choreographic exploration of the diverse narratives of diasporic life. **Mette Ingvarsten** transforms the theatre stage into a skatepark and explores the choreographic potential of skateboards and roller skates. To do so she also brings in local skaters from a workshop taking place prior to the performance.

### **Festival week two**

The festival's second week begins with a world premiere by **Michelle Moura**, who in this most recent work questions humankind's ongoing exploitation of natural resources from a non-Eurocentric perspective.

The prehistoric nuraghe ruins in Sardinia are the starting point for another collaboration between **Francisco Camacho & Meg Stuart**. From the shards of the past the two dancers and choreographers create a new archaeology of the present that unites the mystical and the profane. This is its first presentation in Germany.

**Jérôme Bel & Estelle Zhong Mengual** look for answers to urgent ecological questions in the Western dance-historical canon. Their search is a radically sensitising reminder of the equality of all living beings. This production is also a German premiere.

For the first time in Germany with this work, **Amala Dianor** pays tribute to urban dance cultures and the social-media choreographies that have developed in Internet subcultures. His new work impressively shows how people and movement defy categorisation.

**Alessandro Sciarroni's** new work is also a German premiere. In this durational performance he guides us through a landscape of dreams, movements, and an exhibition of living sculptures.

**Yinka Esi Graves** uncovers the forgotten traces and influences of Black culture in flamenco, and examines the relationship between flamenco and other physical forms of expression from the perspective of the present-day African diaspora. This piece is also being seen in Germany for the first time.

### **Festival week three**

The festival's third week is opened by **Viktor Szeri**, who looks at the impact of today's fast-paced world on us and gives his body over to exhaustion.

The third world premiere of the festival is the new work by **Rita Mazza**. In it they examine the intimate relationship between voice and Deaf identity in a challenge to mainstream society, in which hearing is considered the norm.

The production by Ballet de l'Opéra de Lyon / **Christos Papadopoulos** imitates underground networks of fungi and the movements of flocks of birds or shoals of fish. Without romanticising, and avoiding mere mimicry, it evokes the struggle for survival behind the apparent beauty of many natural phenomena. This is the work's first presentation in Germany.

**Marco D'Agostin** pays nostalgic homage to all those who have neglected to say something that was on their mind. Now light-hearted, now melancholy, he relates historical and personal anecdotes about unanswered letters.

**Amanda Piña** delves into overlooked biographies and shines a light on people of colour in European dance history. Her work is a memorial to the forgotten, and celebrates their legacy while exorcising colonial theatre history.

In their German premiere with this work, **KOR'SIA** have been inspired by Francesco Petrarca's description of the ascent of Mont Ventoux. They go in search of a new image of humankind that does justice to the challenges of our time.

The battle project in collaboration with **Outbox Movement**, which first took place in Tanz im August in 2023, again brings together a variety of dance forms – this time for free and outside on the Tempelhofer Feld.

### **Audience formats**

The stage programme is complemented by a wealth of audience formats, such as **artist talks** ("Beyond the Stage"), **workshops**, **audio descriptions**, **podcasts**, a presentation of the book "Let's Not Get Used to This Place", by Meg Stuart / Damaged Goods, and **numerous parties**.

In the latest episodes of the **Tanz im August Podcast** Dorothee Munyaneza, Michelle Moura, Amala Dianor, Yinka Esi Graves, and Marco D'Agostin talk about the work they are presenting at Tanz im August 2024, and about past and future projects. All the episodes are in English, and can be accessed [here](#) or on the usual audio-streaming platforms.



### **Festival Centre**

Once again this year, artists, audience, and dance professionals meet at the **Festival Centre in HAU Hebbel am Ufer (HAU2)**. New contacts can be made here through shared conversation, relaxation, and dancing. For the first time our Tanz im August Kiosk offers current and past festival rarities for sale. The festival box office is also located in HAU2. Under new management, the café WAU (Wirtschaft am Ufer) awaits you with tartes flambées, beer, wine, and other drinks.

### **Venues in 2024**

HAU Hebbel am Ufer (HAU1, HAU2), Haus der Berliner Festspiele, Kraftwerk Berlin, Radialsystem, Sophiensæle (Festsaal, Hochzeitssaal), St. Elisabeth-Kirche, Volksbühne am Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz und Tempelhofer Feld.

### **Tickets**

Tickets and further information at [www.tanzimaugust.de](http://www.tanzimaugust.de)

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