



From June 5 to 10, 2018, the Berlin Performing Arts Festival becomes a window into the city's independent performing arts community. Over 140 artistic works from the fields of dance, theater, performance, children's and youth theater, puppet theater and music theater will be performed at 60 different performance venues. The schedule of programming is online and tickets are available for purchase.

Open Up, PAF is both the title of the opening event on June 5, 2018 in Kreuzberg's legendary club SO36 and the motto of the day. The entire team and all participating artists, together with Berlin's Senator for Culture, Dr. Klaus Lederer, will jointly kick off a week full of performing arts made in Berlin. From northern Pankow to southeastern Neukölln, from Köpenick to Wilmersdorf, Berlin-based artists and groups will perform work in the fields of theater, performance, dance, children's and youth theater, puppet and figure theater, circus and music theater on stages large and small within the city's independent performing arts community or claim unusual locations within the city for themselves. The festival presents established dance groups and young, emerging performance talents, rediscovered classics and imaginative children's productions: from Wagner's Siegfried to Rio Reiser, world history or family drama, political content on a high wire act, Dadaism and quite tones.

A permanent part of the festival calendar is the *Introducing* programming where, this year as well, exciting young artistic positions are presented that Berlin's independent performing arts community can look forward to in the future. Selected from a multitude of applications, Elektro Kagura, Lina Gómez, Andrew Karton, Przemek Kamiński, Romuald Krezel & Monica Duncan, Lulu Obermayer, Marlies Pahlenberg, Emmilou Rößling and Kasia Wolińska comprise nine new voices that will be presented over four days of the festival at Ballhaus Ost, HAU Hebbel am Ufer, Sophiensæle and Theaterdiscounter – as the highlights of tomorrow today.

Directors, actors, dramaturgs and other artists within Berlin's independent performing arts community offer their expertise over the course guided tours. In small groups, an average of three productions within the festival are attended together – and time for exchanges between the events is guaranteed. "Hiking trails" suggest thematic routes for exploring the festival's schedule of programming and the city on your own.

This year, the Berlin Performing Arts Festival will make its temporary home in aquarium at Kottbusser Tor. Alongside events for national and international visiting industry professionals, the festival center in aquarium offers information for all questions surrounding the festival and offers a lounge atmosphere at night with concerts and additional late night events. Tickets for all festival events can also be purchased here in advance as well as at the four outposts located throughout the city which are designed and operated by artists and groups in close collaboration with their neighborhoods.

The complete schedule of programming, further information and tickets are available at: www.performingarts-festival.de

The Berlin Performing Arts Festival is organized by LAFT – Landesverband freie darstellende Künste Berlin e. V. in cooperation with the performance venues Ballhaus Ost, HAU Hebbel am Ufer, Sophiensæle, and Theaterdiscounter and is supported by the State of Berlin - Senate Department for Culture and Europe from funds of the European Fund for Regional Development (EFRE) within the program "Promoting the Innovation Potential in Culture II (INP II)".



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