

## Dance in the backyard

After last year's festival had to be cancelled, its time has finally come again on 26 May 2021. TanzArt ostwest will revive the backyard of the Alter Schlachthof in Eupen at 8 PM with contemporary dance on the illuminated outdoor stage.

TanzArt ostwest conceptually promotes stage dance and the networking of Eastern and Western European dance companies. The aim of the festival is to make the different artistic developments in different regions of Europe visible to artists and audiences. TanzArt has its origins in a network to which the Stadttheater Gießen, the Theater Koblenz and the Compagnie Irene K. belong. The partners strive for a creative exchange between the artists and offer them an exchange format from which new connections and collaborations constantly emerge.

In order for the festival to take place in Eupen this year, the organiser Chudoscnik Sunergia has developed a differentiated concept together with the Compagnie Irene K. The backyard of the Alter Schlachthof in Eupen will be transformed into an illuminated stage and a theatre feeling adapted to the situation will be created. This year's concept also focuses on the regional character, strengthening regional networks and offering regional artists a stage once again after a long time.

With the support of TanzFaktur Köln, the choreographer and dancer Saskia Rudat will be on board. Her piece *BRAINJOGGING* invites the audience to a mental fitness session in which she constantly and unexpectedly transforms from one image to the next. The piece is reminiscent of the autoplay feature on YouTube, scrolling down a Social Media timeline or randomly zapping through television channels. Be ready for some mental gymnastics!

In *DON JUAN - DIE ILLUSION DES EWIGEN*, Tarek Assam, artistic director of the Tanzcompagnie Gießen, questions the identity of the man from today's perspective. The main character becomes a sensitive and insecure man who must realise that he no longer possesses himself the "privilege" of active desire: a sensual process of maturing.

The Tchekpo Dance Company, in collaboration with Elisabeth Masé, presents *DER MANTEL / THE CLOAK*. A work of art that builds bridges between different cultures and societies. The actors gather around a table and embroider a coat made of heavy red linen. Through self-designed texts and ornaments, they define what protection means to them.

With *EMPREINTES*, the Compagnie Irene K. takes up the dialogues that feet and traces leave behind. Every step is a journey, an (un)conscious departure. Depart - often connected with conflicts and separations but also with harmony and joy. Where does our journey lead to? Have we already reached the end?

The TanzArt Festival will take place on 26 May 2021 at 8 PM in the backyard of the Alter Schlachthof in Eupen and will last 75 minutes. Seats are very limited and entrance is open fifteen minutes before the start of the event. Tickets can be purchased online on the website of the Alte Schlachthof at [www.alter-schlachthof.be](http://www.alter-schlachthof.be). Attention is drawn to the fact that this is an outdoor event.

