

## Press release

### Raimund Hoghe to receive the German Dance Award 2020

Raphael Hillebrand, Antje Pfundtner and Friedemann Vogel to be honoured for outstanding artistic developments

Berlin/Essen, 27 May 2020

The German Dance Award – the highest distinction in the field of dance in Germany – will be presented on Saturday, 17 October 2020, at the Aalto Theatre in Essen.

The German Dance Award honours outstanding personalities on the German dance scene – regardless of whether they have been or are making dance-related contributions on stage or behind the scenes, in education, journalism, science or other areas of dance. The award also honours performers, ensembles and projects in the dance sector for future-oriented initiatives, exemplary concepts or extraordinary productions.

The jury selected the awardees for 2020 on 19 February. Choreographer **Raimund Hoghe** will receive the German Dance Award 2020, which includes prize money of 20,000 euros.

Raimund Hoghe has been among the most leading international choreographers of dance theatre for years, setting both aesthetic and political standards. He has been developing his own theatre works for various dancers and actors since 1989. In 1994, he realised the first solo he had created for himself, "Meinwärts", which was followed by "Chambre séparée" (1997) and "Another Dream" (2000), forming a trilogy about the last century. He received the "Prix de la critique Francaise" in 2006 for "Swan Lake, 4 Acts" in the "Best foreign production" category and was appointed "Officier de l'ordre des Arts et des Lettres" by the French Minister of Culture in 2019.

Dancer and choreographer **Raphael Hillebrand** (Berlin) will receive the German Dance Award for outstanding artistic developments in dance. Hillebrand uses his training and artistic background in urban dance to implement visions of hip-hop dance theatre, including crossover works with ballet and contemporary dance.

**Antje Pfundtner** will receive an award for outstanding impulses in contemporary dance. In her productions, which she has been developing with a very young audience in mind in recent years, the Hamburg choreographer addresses social issues and focuses on a social-communal approach with her team "Antje Pfundtner in Society".

Dancer **Friedemann Vogel** will be honoured as an outstanding performer. Few male ballet dancers of his generation can pride themselves on such a consistent artistic

career as Stuttgart native Vogel, or look back on an international career comparable to his. He has been a member of the Stuttgart Ballet for over 20 years and is now a global star.

Each of these awards includes prize money of 5,000 euros.

Detailed information on the awardees – jury statements and biographies – can be found at [www.deutschertanzpreis.de](http://www.deutschertanzpreis.de)

**The award ceremony will take place on Saturday, 17 October, 6 p.m. in Essen's Aalto Theatre as part of a dance gala.**

In view of the COVID-19 pandemic, we want to make responsible use of the opportunities that arise from the re-opening of theatres and the regained ability to hold cultural events. Therefore, we wanted to create a programme that brings artists and audience together in experiencing the power and vitality of dance, and, if necessary, include video projections.

This year is the third year the German Dance Award will be presented by the Dachverband Tanz, the national voice for artistic dance. The German Dance Award is funded by the city of Essen, the Ministry of Culture and Science of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia and federal funds. As in previous years, Prof. Norbert Lammert, former President of the Bundestag, will act as the patron of the German Dance Award.

**"POSITIONEN: TANZ" ("POSITIONS: DANCE") symposium**

The Dachverband Tanz DEUTSCHLAND will host a symposium entitled "POSITIONEN: TANZ" ("Positions: Dance") on 16/17 October at ChorForum Essen to run alongside the event. The focus will be on the social significance of dance and its appreciation as well as the social situation of dance artists.

**Programme information and ticket sales**

Details of the programme for the dance gala will be announced during the summer. Tickets are not yet available for purchase. **Reservations** can be made at [tickets@theater-essen.de](mailto:tickets@theater-essen.de) / Tel. 0201/81 22-200. [www.theater-essen.de](http://www.theater-essen.de)

Current information is also available at [www.deutschertanzpreis.de](http://www.deutschertanzpreis.de)

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## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **The German Dance Award**

The German Dance Award was first presented in 1983. On the initiative of Ulrich Roehms, the Deutsche Berufsverband für Tanzpädagogik e.V. (DBfT) used the award to honour people who had made outstanding contributions in the field of artistic dance in Germany. From 2004 to 2016, the Förderverein Tanzkunst Deutschland e.V. took over the awarding of the prize and as of 2017, the Dachverband Tanz Deutschland e.V. (DTD) has been responsible for the award, which is presented annually in Essen. Previous awardees include Gret Palucca, Tatjana Gsovsky, John Neumeier, Márcia Haydée, Hans van Manen, Maurice Béjart, Pina Bausch, Gregor Seyffert, William Forsythe, Susanne Linke, Heinz Spoerli, Bertram Müller, Martin Puttke, Nele Hertling and Gert Weigelt.

### **Main sponsor**

Dachverband Tanz Deutschland e.V.; Nationwide association for artistic dance, supported by the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media

### **Patron**

Prof. Dr. Norbert Lammert, former President of the Bundestag

### **Advisory board**

The advisory board consists of the City of Essen, the State of North Rhine-Westphalia, the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media, Dachverband Tanz Deutschland, the Deutscher Berufsverband für Tanzpädagogik and Theater und Philharmonie Essen GmbH as well as personalities from the world of culture and public life.

### **Jury**

#### **Prof. Nik Haffner**

(Artistic Director, Inter-University Centre for Dance, Berlin)

#### **Nina Hümpel**

(Curator of the Munich DANCE Festival and tanznetz.de editor)

#### **Kathleen McNurney**

(Artistic Director, Tanz Luzern)

#### **Tim Plegge**

(Ballet Director, Staatstheater Wiesbaden)

#### **Brit Rodemund**

(Dancer)

#### **Prof. Dr. Patrick Primavesi**

(Dance and theatre scholar, University of Leipzig)

#### **Gisela Peters-Rohse**

(Dance instructor)

#### **Helena Waldmann**

(Freelance choreographer) – Chairwoman of the jury

**Current information: [www.deuschartanzpreis.de](http://www.deuschartanzpreis.de)**