



GERMAN DANCE AWARD 2023

Malou Airaud, Josephine Ann Endicott, Lutz Förster und Dominique Mercy

Short biography - Lutz Förster

Lutz Förster, born in Solingen in 1953, began his dance career late in his early 20s, receiving his dance training at the Folkwang University of the Arts in Essen, with Hans Züllig and Jean Cébron, among others. Until 1978, he danced with the Folkwang Tanzstudio under the direction of Susanne Linke and Reinhild Hoffmann. At the same time, he came to the attention of Pina Bausch, and Förster eventually joined the Tanztheater Wuppertal, where he danced in Pina Bausch's most celebrated works.

A scholarship from the José Limon Dance Company brought him to New York in 1981/1982. In 1984, he accepted the invitation from the José Limon Company to become deputy artistic director, and danced for another two years in choreographies from José Limón, Lucas Hoving, Meredith Monk and Anna Sokolov, among others. Despite several long stays abroad, he remained loyal to Pina Bausch's Tanztheater and continued to perform in the company's repertory pieces.

In 1988, Lutz Förster began teaching at the Folkwang University of the Arts in Essen. From 1991 to 2012, he was director of the dance program and professor of contemporary dance at the Folkwang University until 2019. He also taught the ensembles from choreographers Reinhild Hoffmann, Susanne Linke/Urs Dietrich, Joachim Schlömer and Daniel Goldin, among others.

In 2009, he created the solo "Lutz Förster - Portrait of a Dancer" for the Spring Dance Festival in Utrecht, with guest performances in Germany as well as in Warsaw, Ferrara, Brussels, Oslo, Zagreb, Seoul, Beirut, among others. The piece soon became a loving obituary for Pina Bausch, who died the same year. Altogether, Lutz Förster danced with Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch for 40 years and was artistic director of the company from 2013 to 2016.

Press contact

Dachverband Tanz Deutschland

Rosi Steinbrück | presse@dachverband-tanz.de | Telefon: 0176 86094561