

# 2018 DEUTSCHER TANZPREIS

## Meg Stuart / Damaged Goods

In addition to the German Dance Award, 2018 will also see Meg Stuart and her company Damaged Goods receive the Golden Lion in the dance category at the Venice Film Festival in recognition of her life's work. Stuart began in 1965 in New Orleans and California in a very musically-inclined home; from 1983 she studied dance in New York, familiarized herself with release techniques and created short pieces. "Disfigure Study", a work commissioned for the 1991 Klapstuk Festival in Leuven, Belgium, received a great deal of attention, while her 1993 piece, "No Longer Readymade", received even more notice in the form of guest performance invitations. Meg Stuart founded Damaged Goods in Brussels in 1994 as a structure for artistic work. The name comes from an early write-up that perceived failure as a motive and made the point that "everyone is shown as damaged goods". Instead of seeking virtuosity, her type of art sought and still seeks the questionable, the hidden, the vulnerable; she resisted the trends towards flows of speed and movement at the time and began to explore theatricality and ways of translating choreographic ideas or strategies into other media and forms.

Damaged Goods/Meg Stuart have created more than 30 productions, from solos such as the most recent one, "Hunter" (2014), to big stage plays such as "Alibi" (2001) and "Do Animals Cry" (2009). They created the piece about monuments "Built to Last" in 2012 and the politely excessive "UNTIL OUR HEARTS STOP" in 2015 as associated artists at the Munich Kammerspiele under the artistic direction of Johan Simons. Previous awards for Meg Stuart/Damaged Goods, both long associated with the Kaaithheater in Brussels and the HAU Hebbel am Ufer in Berlin, include the Flemish Culture Prize and the Konrad Wolf Prize of the Academy of Arts in Berlin.

Melanie Suchy