DEUTSCHER TANZPREIS 2026

Christian Spuck

Christian Spuck ©Marzena Skubatz

Biography - Christian Spuck
Intendant

Christian Spuck comes from Marburg and trained at the John Cranko School in Stuttgart. He began his dance career in Jan Lauwers' Needcompany and Anne Teresa de Keersmaeker's Ensemble Rosas. In 1995, he became a member of the Stuttgart Ballet and was the company's resident choreographer from 2001 to 2012. In Stuttgart, he created fifteen world premieres and worked with numerous renowned ballet companies in Europe and the USA, such as the Royal Ballet of Flanders, the Norwegian National Ballet Oslo, the Aalto Ballet Essen, the Grands Ballets Canadiens de Montréal, the Charlotte Ballet, USA, the Czech National Ballet Prague, Gauthier Dance at the Theaterhaus Stuttgart and the Stuttgart Ballet.

He has also staged operas: Gluck's Orphée et Euridice at the Stuttgart State Opera was followed by Verdi's Falstaff at the Wiesbaden State Theatre and Berlioz's La Damnation de Faust and Wagner's Flying Dutchman at the Deutsche Oper Berlin.

Christian Spuck was the director of Ballett Zürich from 2012 to 2023. He created fifteen choreographies here, which were also adopted into the repertoire of other international companies such as the Norwegian National Ballet Oslo, the Stanislavsky Theatre in Moscow, the Korean National Ballet in Seoul, the Bavarian State Ballet, the Adelaide Festival in Australia, Het Nationale Oper & Ballet Amsterdam, the Finnish National Ballet Helsinki and the Staatsballett Berlin. In 2021, he created his ballet Orlando based on Virginia Woolf for the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow.

He has received numerous awards and honours for his work: the production Poppea//Poppea was voted one of the ten most successful dance productions worldwide by the magazine 'Dance Europe' in 2010 and was awarded the German theatre prize 'Der Faust 2011' and the Italian 'Danza/Danza Award'. The ballet Winterreise was awarded the 'Prix Benois de la Danse 2019', Helmut Lachenmann's Das Mädchen mit den Schwefelhölzern was honoured as 'Production of the Year' by the magazine "tanz" in 2019 and Ballett Zürich was named 'Company of the Year' and 'Highlight of the Year' in 2020.

Christian Spuck has been artistic director of the Staatsballett Berlin since the 2023/24 season and created the dance piece Bovary based on the novel Madame Bovary by Gustave Flaubert in his first season. The critics of the magazine tanz voted soloist Weronika Frodyma 'Dancer of the Year' for the title role of Emma Bovary and the Staatsballett Berlin 'Company of the Year 23/24' for its overall performance.

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