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Jury 28. Internationales Solo-Tanz-Theater Festival Stuttgart



Cassi Abranches (Brazil), Choreographer

Cassi Abranches was born in São Paulo, Brazil and performed with some of the country's leading companies, including Grupo Copo until 2013.

Alongside her work for dance companies, Cassi has choreographed for films, commercials and music videos, including the "pas de deux" from the movie "Rio, I Love Yo".

She was Director of Movement and Choreographer for the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games opening ceremony.

Her choreography includes Suite Branca (2015) for Grupo Corpo, the award-winning „Agora“ (2019) and „Respiro“ (2020) for São Paulo Dance Company. In 2021, Cassi was appointed the Artistic Director of São Paulo City Ballet in Brazil and remained there until 2023. Her work "Motriz" won the São Paulo Arts Critics Association Award as the Best Dance Show of 2022. In 2023 she created 'Black Sabbath The Ballet' act 2 for Birmingham Royal Ballet and is producing a new creation for the Chilean National Ballet.



Claudio Kogon (Israel), Deputy Director of the Suzanne Dellal Centre for Dance and Theatre - Tel Aviv

Claudio Kogon is the Deputy Director of the Suzanne Dellal Centre for Dance and Theatre in Tel Aviv, Israel. A graduate of the Academy of Music and Dance in Jerusalem, he danced both in the professional and commercial field.

After twelve years of teaching and community arts, he joined the Suzanne Dellal Centre team in 2006.

He is a member of dance juries and committees, both in Israel and abroad, in the past and present, among them 10 Sentidos Choreography Competition Valencia (Spain), Choreography Competition at MASDANZA International Contemporary Dance Festival of The Canary Islands (Spain), permanent member of the High Committee for Dance at the Israel Ministry of Education, and others.

In 2023, the Government of Spain, in name of His Majesty King Felipe VI, awarded him the Cross of Officer of the Civil Merit Order.

In 2019 he was awarded the Third Prize at the Tel Aviv Innovation Competition.

In 2002 he was awarded the Lones Matoub Prize for Conflict Resolution Initiatives (Paris, France), in collaboration with a Palestinian colleague.

During 2013-2015, Claudio was a fellow at the DeVos Institute of Arts Management at the Maryland University / Kennedy Center in Washington DC (USA).

In 2003 he completed his MA in Peace and Development Studies, Goteborg University, which focused on youth arts programs as a tool for conflict resolution.

In 2022 he published his first poems book 'Metronome'.



Roman Novitzky (Slovakia), Artist in Residence Stuttgarter Ballett

Born in Bratislava, Slovakia

- 1995 - 2003 Dance Conservatory of Eva Jacz in Bratislava
- 2003 - 2009 Slovak National Theater - Principal Dancer
- 2009 Joined The Stuttgart Ballet
- 2011/12 Promoted to Demi-Soloist
- 2013/14 Promoted to Soloist
- 2015/16 Promoted to Principal Dancer of The Stuttgart Ballet From September
- 2023 - Artist in Residence

In addition, Roman Novitzky is also one of the official photographers of the Stuttgart Ballet. His photos have been published in international dance magazines, books, programs and German newspapers, as well as for ad campaigns for the Stuttgart Ballet. In the summer of 2018 his first book *The dancing view. Roman Novitzky's Stuttgart Ballet* was published by Edition Cantz.

Since 2012 Roman Novitzky choreographed 4 pieces for Noverre-Society's *Young Choreographers* evening :

- 2012 *The Hours*
- 2013 *Are you as big as me?* – the piece was so successful that it was taken into the Stuttgart Ballet repertory immediately where it has become a cult hit.
- 2014 *..wie zwei Finger an der Hand*
- 2016 *Cello contra Bass* - taken into the repertory of the Stuttgart Ballet

And since 2018 he created pieces for The Stuttgart Ballet and other Companies and projects:

- 2018 *Under the Surface*
- 2019 *Impuls*
- 2020 *Everybody Needs Some/Body* - awarded as 'Best Premiere for 2020' in Dance Europe's Critics Choice
- 2020/ 2021 *Solo for Tonatiuh*, as part of the project "Creare para Crescere"
- 2022 *A Dance/Jazz fusion Vol. 3, Extravaganza, Reflection/s*
- 2023 *A Dialog* - winner of the choreographic contest at the Erik Bruhn Prize international Competition in Toronto 2023



Foto: Martin Krcmar

Emreca Tanış (Turkey/Finland), Choreographer and Dancer of the Finnish National Ballet

Emreca Tanış is a Turkish choreographer based in Finland, where he currently works as a dancer and a freelance choreographer with the Finnish National Ballet. His latest co-recreation of Swan Lake attained notable success, characterised by six consecutive sold-out performances at Helsinki's Aleksander's Theater.

Tanış created "Fragment" for Ballet Finland in the spring of 2022, later on the piece was selected to compete in the Rotterdam International Duet Choreography Competition. His creation, "Rise" which premiered at the Hannover Staatstheater, comprised part of an evening that also included the legendary choreographers Hans van Manen and Marco Goecke.

He has created several works for the Finnish National Ballet and the Finnish National Ballet School. Tanış has created for the Young Choreographers Platform of Stuttgart Ballet. Emreca's short dance film "H-ome," inspired by the COVID-19 pandemic, was chosen from a field of 520 applicants to receive funding from the Finnish Institute. It had its world premiere in June 2020.

Tanış created 'An Incident of Closeness' for Pori Dance Company in 2018, which has been performed in Finland and Switzerland.

Emreca won the second place award at the Stuttgart Choreographic Competition in 2017. He also won an award that provided for a professional video to be made of his solo, 'Separation Among Us'. After the results of this competition, the piece toured seven different cities in Germany and Brazil in 2017-2018. In 2014 Emreca was selected to participate in the Hannover Choreographic Competition with his piece 'Step closer', which was also performed at the opening Gala of Kuopio Dance Festival the same year. He is a recipient of the Talented Young Dancer Award of the Varna Ballet Competition in 2007 and a finalist of Helsinki Ballet Competition in 2012.



**Stephanie Thiersch (Germany), Director,
Choreographer, Founder and Artistic Director of
MOUVOIR - Tanztheater Köln**

Regisseurin und Choreografin Stephanie Thiersch ist Gründerin und künstlerische Leiterin von MOUVOIR. Sie sieht ihre choreografische Arbeit in einem weiter gefassten Verständnis von interdisziplinärer Bewegungsforschung, die zunächst neue Medien und bildende Kunst und aktuell vor allem Musik in das choreografische Denken miteinbezieht. Sie arbeitet eng mit den Tänzer*innen ihrer Kompanie zusammen, die in ihrer Herkunft und ihren Tanzstilen ein weites Spektrum abdecken. Da die Beziehung von Musik zu Bewegung bei der Entstehung ihrer Stücke eine grundlegende Rolle spielt, geht sie intensive künstlerische Allianzen mit Komponist*innen und Musiker*innen ein (Brigitta Muntendorf, Asasello Quartett, Les Siècles Orchester oder DJ Elephant Power, Dodo NKishi). Ihre visuelle choreografische Sprache schließt konkrete Ideen zu Bühne, Kostümdesign und Lichtdesign in die szenische Umsetzung mit ein.

Die konsequent hybride Machart der Stücke findet in weltweiten Tourneen Anklang. So gastierten ihre Stücke bereits bei maßgebenden Festivals und in Theaterhäusern in Südamerika, Ost-Asien, Japan, Afrika und verschiedenen europäischen Ländern. Regelmäßig wird ihre Arbeit unter anderem im tanzhaus nrw, beim Festival Tanz im August Berlin oder am Théâtre de Nîmes gezeigt. Die Produktionen wurden vielfach ausgezeichnet, u. a. mit dem Deutschen Tanzfilm Preis und dem Förderpreis des Landes NRW sowie dem Leipziger Bewegungskunstpreis.

Im Jahr 2000 gründete Stephanie Thiersch in Köln die Kompanie MOUVOIR, mit der sie bis heute über 50 Bühnenstücke, Filme und Installationen entwickelt hat. Seit 2011 stehen zudem kross-kulturelle Arbeiten im Fokus, die sich der postkolonialen Gesellschaft und der Dekolonialisierung des Alltags mit Künstler*innen aus Afrika/Subsahara widmen. Das weltweit tourende Happening „MITUMBA“ 2011, produziert durch die Akademie der Künste der Welt, und „Chombotrope“ 2017 (Int. Koproduktionsfonds Goethe Institut) wurden u. a. zum Theatertreffen nach Berlin eingeladen und gewannen den Kölner Tanzpreis.

2016 realisierte sie den „City Dance Köln“ mit über 600 Akteur*innen und 10.000 mitwirkenden Bürger*innen als politisch motivierte Kunst-Manifestation, ihr letztes transdisziplinäres Stück „Bilderschlachten“, koproduziert u. a. durch das Beethovenfest Bonn für eine Gesellschaft aus Tänzer*innen, Streichquartett und Orchester, verschob erneut die Grenzen der Genres.

Stephanie Thiersch war Gastprofessorin u. a. am Institut für Angewandte Theaterwissenschaft in Gießen und lehrte an der HfMT Köln und der HfMDK in Frankfurt. Sie hält Vorträge und ist Mitglied des deutsch-französischen Kulturrates.