

Performing Arts Festival Berlin 25 — 30 Mai 2021

Programm + Information
www.performingarts-festival.de



The 2021 Berlin Performing Arts Festival and the 58th Theatertreffen: Series of Talks about the Situation of the performing Arts in the Context of the Pandemic

For the first time, Theatertreffen (May 13 to 24, 2021) and Performing Arts Festival (May 25 to 30, 2021) will host a joint series of talks under the title of “What are we waiting for?”. Four online debates featuring artists, politicians and culture professionals including Nada Abdelwahab, Carsten Brosda, Margarita Tsomou, Franziska Werner and Torsten Wöhlert will focus on the conditions of artistic work since the beginning of the Corona pandemic and try to develop possible future prospects for the theatre sector.

The pandemic has an impact on all areas of our individual and collective reality. It serves as a catalyst to reveal inequalities in our social lives, including those within the German-language theatre scene. This series of talks intends to focus on the current working conditions of theatre makers, highlighting the status quo – both at subsidised municipal and state theatres and in the independent performing arts sector – in order to identify and question deficits and gaps. Our aim is to develop prospects and formulate demands for cultural policy making together.

The series will present four talks, beginning as part of this year’s Theatertreffen. **On 17 May 2021**, Carsten Brosda (President of the German Stage Association) and Lisa Jopt (Chairperson of ensemble-netzwerk) will look at the **situation of German theatres and discuss the structural and financial responsibility** which organisations such as the German Stage Association should assume.

On 21 May 2021, Nada Abdelwahab (curator), Yara Bou Nassar (performer, theatre maker) and Stefan Schmidtke (director of the festival Theater der Welt) will focus on **international theatre work** with moderator Margarita Tsomou (cultural scholar), asking to what extent the pandemic may be seen as a point of departure for ecologically sustainable international cooperation.

The talks will presumably take place at Haus der Berliner Festspiele and will be broadcast live on www.berlinerfestspiele.de.

On 27 May 2021, during the Performing Arts Festival Berlin, participants including Fatima Çalışkan (freelance curator and adviser) and Thomas Schmidt (Frankfurt University of Music and Performing Arts) will discuss **issues of power and diversity in the performing arts** and examine which kinds of experience of discrimination are exacerbated by the pandemic. **On 28 May 2021**, Rose Beermann (freelance choreographer), Janina Benduski (programme director at LAFT Berlin), Franziska Werner (artistic director of Sophiensaele Berlin) and Torsten Wöhlert (State Secretary for Culture of the State of Berlin) will look at **the development of the performing arts in Berlin** and what the people working in this field can expect once this exceptional state has ended.

The talks will be transmitted from the Performing Arts Festival Berlin’s festival centre and live via www.performingarts-festival.de.

You will soon be able to find more detailed information on the websites of both festivals.

www.performingarts-festival.de
www.berlinerfestspiele.de/de/theatertreffen

We look forward to intense conversations and the shared debate!

The team of the ancillary programming of the Berlin Performing Arts Festival and the Theatertreffen team

You can find more information about the Berlin Performing Arts Festival at: www.performingarts-festival.de

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LAFT Landesverband freie darstellende Künste Berlin e.V.
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