

# Tanztheater Wuppertal

## Pina Bausch

### Press Release

06.09.2021

**Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

**On the start of the 2021/2022 season (September to December 2021)**

**New touring partners in Clermont-Ferrand and St. Petersburg, the world premiere of Ectopia by Richard Siegal at the Forum Leverkusen, Schlafende Frau by Rainer Behr at Dach Kino Nordbahntrasse (“the rooftop cinema without a roof”), inspiring collaboration with the Düsseldorf dance company Ben J. Riepe at the Schauspielhaus, new dancers in the ensemble**

The ensemble of the Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch is delighted to be able to perform for a live audience again, here in the region and all over Europe.

The most important event on 6<sup>th</sup> November is the premiere of Richard Siegal’s new work Ectopia, which was due to open in the 2020/2021 season but had to be postponed. Unfortunately, it will not take place in the opera house in Wuppertal as planned but at the Forum Leverkusen.

The situation was and still is very serious and it was not clear for a long time when the Tanztheater Wuppertal would be able to dance in front of an audience again. First the catastrophic effects of the coronavirus pandemic, then the temporary closure of the Wuppertal opera house due to devastating flood damage. Nevertheless, the ensemble of the Tanztheater returns to the stage after a long absence, during which it embarked on an intensive rehearsal process. It does so with an absolute commitment to the necessary safety and hygiene measures. In order to ensure that our Wuppertal audience can experience the premiere in Leverkusen, a shuttle service will operate between the opera house and the Forum Leverkusen.

The ensemble will also resume its touring activities with performances of Wiesenland in **Clermont-Ferrand (France)** and Full Moon in **Saint Petersburg (Russia)** in September, performances of Kontakthof as part of the **Ludwigsburger Schlossfestspiele** in October and further appearances at the **International Dance Theatre Festival in Lublin (Poland)**.

“We are overjoyed to be able to realise our planned tours – this is the first time that the ensemble will visit both Saint Petersburg and Clermont-Ferrand. With the Forum Leverkusen we have found an ideal venue close to Wuppertal, allowing us to perform for an audience despite the temporary closure of the opera house in Wuppertal.” says Bettina Wagner-Bergelt, artistic director of the Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch. “We are very impressed and more than pleased with the expressions of solidarity from the team at the Forum Leverkusen, who have sprung into action to support us during this difficult time and make the performances that had originally been planned for Wuppertal possible at such short notice.

# Tanztheater Wuppertal

## Pina Bausch

### Press Release

06.09.2021

The performances of Palermo Palermo, which were also planned to take place in Wuppertal in November 2021, have had to be postponed.

#### World premiere

#### Ectopia

Choreography Richard Siegal 2021,  
performed with SHOOTING INTO THE CORNER (2008-09) by Anish Kapoor.

Since 2015, the Tanztheater has been presenting new creations by various guest choreographers alongside pieces from Pina Bausch's repertoire. A new world premiere by the American choreographer Richard Siegal had been planned for 2020/2021 but had to be postponed until the 2021/2022 season. In a creation process led by Siegal, the dancers of the ensemble exposed themselves to a self-generating sculpture by the world-renowned British Indian sculptor Anish Kapoor, accompanied by the composer alva noto and the lighting designer Matthias Singer. **Richard Siegal**, who was awarded the Faust-Preis several times over, danced with the Ballet Frankfurt under William Forsythe and then became an associate artist with The Forsythe Company. In 2016 he founded the Richard Siegal Ballet of Difference and has been the artistic director and choreographer of his own company BoD, based at Schauspiel Köln, since 2019/2020. The sculptor **Anish Kapoor** is world famous for his dramatic pieces made of colour pigments, his monochromatic installations and monumental public art made of unusual materials. Sir Anish Kapoor's works have been shown at Tate Modern in London, at the Frauenkirche in Dresden, in Chicago and Berlin, at the 2012 Olympic Games in London and currently at the Pinakothek der Moderne in Munich. His 2008-09 work *Shooting into the corner* consists of a cannon that shoots pellets of wax into a corner of the room, initiating a physical and sensory dialogue. The resulting choreography is a clash of extremes and of different artistic languages.

Supported by the City of Wuppertal, the Ministry of Culture and Science of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia, the Kunststiftung NRW and the Dr. Werner Jackstädt Foundation.

Booking for the performances in Leverkusen opens on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 10:00 a.m. on pina-bausch.de and the ticketing service Kulturkarte 0202 563 7666.

A place on the shuttle service between Wuppertal and Leverkusen can be booked at the same time.

**FORUM LEVERKUSEN** Am Büchelster Hof 9 - 51373 Leverkusen

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November 19:30

Additional performances:

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> November 18:00

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 19:30

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November 19:30

#### Dach Kino (ohne Dach): Schlafende Frau by Rainer Behr

On 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> September 2021, WUPPERwerft and the Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch jointly present the film version of Rainer Behr's piece "Schlafende Frau" (Sleeping Woman) at the open-air cinema Dach der

# Tanztheater Wuppertal

## Pina Bausch

### Press Release

06.09.2021

Stadt Open Air on the Nordbahntrasse. The world premiere of the stage version of the piece is planned for January 2022.

24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at DACH KINO (ohne Dach) in Wuppertal. The festival is located opposite Juliusstr. 9, 42105 Wuppertal and can be reached from there as well as from the Nordbahntrasse.

Admission is from 6:30pm, film starts at 7:30pm. Tickets are available from the box office and online at [Wuppertal-Live.de](http://Wuppertal-Live.de), 5 euro and 7 euro.

### **Live-premiere of CREATURE by Ben J. Riepe with dancers of the Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch at the future Pina Bausch Centre/Schauspielhaus Wuppertal, concluding the summer school project “Senses, Science & Sessions”**

A performance parcours has been installed in the foyer of the former Schauspielhaus, covering several interior and exterior spaces, which the audience tours in small groups in sessions lasting about half an hour.

Performative dance elements by dancers of the Tanztheater – Emma Barrowman, Ekaterina Shushakova, Oleg Stepanov, Christopher Tandy, Tsai-Wei Tien – and dancers from Ben J. Riepe’s team alternate with accounts of memories narrated by Nayoung Kim, Nazareth Panadero, Héléna Pikon, Julie Shanahan and Michael Strecker. CREATURE reflects a transitional phase – a threshold to a new era, between climate crisis and pandemic.

Bettina Wagner-Bergelt: “I am very happy that we are now continuing the collaboration with Ben J. Riepe’s ensemble that we began in March, and that it is resulting in a live performance. The piece with its various stations fits perfectly into the architecture of the Schauspielhaus, the future Pina Bausch Centre. It proves that even today, the building provides fertile ground for collaborations with contemporary choreographers.”

For further information, visit [benjriepe.com](http://benjriepe.com), [pina.bausch.de](http://pina.bausch.de)

Schauspielhaus Wuppertal, Bundesallee 260, 42103 Wuppertal

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021

18:00–22:00

Tickets available from the box office on the day only

10 euro, concessions 5 euro

Masks must be worn. Please provide proof of vaccination, immunity or a negative test in the last 24 hours! Expect waiting times.

### **Welcome to Wuppertal!**

### **Nicholas Losada, born in the USA, and Reginald Lefebvre, born on Corsica, joined the ensemble of the Tanztheater Wuppertal at the beginning of the 2021/2022 season**

**Nicholas Losada** completed his dance training at the New World School of the Arts in Miami and San Francisco Ballet School. He danced with the Bavarian State Ballet, where he was cast in Pina Bausch’s “For the children of yesterday, today and tomorrow” in 2015. Most recently he was a member of Gauthier Dance in Stuttgart.

**Reginald Lefebvre** trained at the Conservatoire de musique et de danse de Bastia and the École supérieure de danse de Cannes Rosella Hightower. In 2012, he graduated from Rudra Béjart and moved to Madrid for a year

# Tanztheater Wuppertal

## Pina Bausch

### Press Release

06.09.2021

to study at the Conservatorio Superior de Danza Maria de Avila. His first professional engagement as a dancer was with the youth company IT Dansa in Barcelona in 2013. He then danced with Project Sally Maastricht in the Netherlands before joining Gauthier Dance in Stuttgart for five seasons.

Jonathan Fredrickson, Stephanie Troyak and Ophelia Young left the ensemble at the end of the 2020/2021 to pursue new challenges, but they will continue to perform in several of the Tanztheater's pieces as guest dancers.