

Press Release from March 15, 2022

The Berlin Performing Arts Festival Will Celebrate the Diversity of the Independent Performing Arts Community from May 24 to 29, 2022

Under the motto “TOGETHER”, the seventh Berlin Performing Arts Festival (PAF) will showcase the diversity of the performing arts in the city from May 24 to 29, 2022. The festival offers a representative cross-section of the independent performing arts community with some 50 productions from different genres. The *Programming from the Community*, the heart of the festival, takes place in collaboration with numerous performance venues, stages as well as artists who perform in public space. The participating artists include She She Pop, FRZNTÉ, Costa Compagnie, RECLAIM Kollektiv, Novoflot, Ensemble Mosaik and many others.

From performance, dance and spoken word theater, contemporary circus and children’s and youth theater to shared walks and ancillary programming, the festival organized each year by LAFT – Landesverband freie darstellende Künste Berlin e.V. offers a diverse schedule of programming for a wide audience over the course of six days. The performance venues include both established stages of the independent performing arts community like HAU Hebbel am Ufer and Ballhaus Ost as well as circus tents, churches and clubs located all over the city. Events in public places serve as invitations for encounters as well as to (re)discover Berlin. Digital and hybrid formats round out the programming on stage which, following two digital audiences, will once again be performed for a live audience attending physically.

In this year’s *Programming from the Community*, only performances of productions that have premiered since 2019 were taken into consideration in order to be able to present a wide spectrum of analog and digital work as well as to provide more space to productions that were not able to be performed due to the pandemic. In this way, the festival is bringing artists, venues and the audience back TOGETHER – for greater visibility and the celebration of artistic variety and diversity. Amongst other topics, the productions examine the ranges of experience between belonging and exclusion, inclusion and discrimination, the role of bodies in the digital age, (female) processes of aging and their meaning in society, queer feminism and contemporary performative types of resistance. The list of all participating artists will be published along with the start of advance ticket sales in the middle of April.

With the format *Introducing...*, the festival provides a platform for newcomers to Berlin’s independent performing arts community. Together with the cooperating performance venues Ballhaus Ost, HAU Hebbel am Ufer, Sophiensæle and TD



May 24 – 29, 2022
Various Locations in Berlin

Website
www.performingarts-festival.de

PR
Hendrik v. Boxberg & Leonie Hahn
Berlin Performing Arts Festival / Press
Office von Boxberg
Tel.: +49 (0) 177 7379207
hendrik.vonboxberg@performingarts-festival.de, leonie.hahn@performingarts-festival.de

Organizer
LAFT Landesverband freie darstellende Künste Berlin e.V.
BERLIN

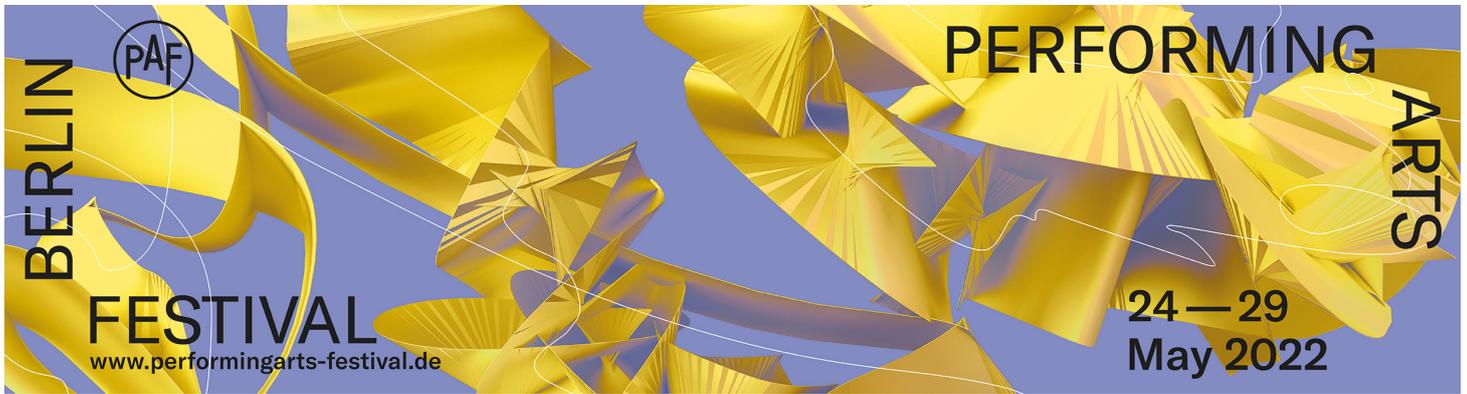
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Berlin, four selected productions are presented, and the emerging artists and their work are supported by opportunities to network and receive advisement. The selection will be announced at the end of March.

The first live edition of PAF in two years will be celebrated with a special **Opening** on 24 May and **Closing** on 29 May at club and art locations in Berlin with musical and performative programming in cooperation with numerous artists. For the first time, the **Closing** event this year will bring together multiple short performance by artists and collective, curated by the festival team. Alongside this, the **Wandering Festival Center** will be the guest of four different event and performance locations in Berlin's independent performing arts community from Wednesday to Sunday. The community as well as the Berlin audience are warmly welcomed to take advantage of the diverse workshop, networking and communication opportunities featuring different perspectives on the topic TOGETHER as well as to enjoy the festival bar in the evening. On **Day of Open House(s)** on 28 May, many of the venues involved in the festival will open their houses to the public and offer a look behind the scenes. **PAF Radio** and the **PAF Blog** round out the programming report every day about events and experiences at the festival.

In addition, the **IETM Campus** event will provide a group of international emerging artists and producers the opportunity to get to know the independent performing arts community of Berlin. The **FESTIVALFRIENDS** will also once again be guests at PAF. The association consists of a total of seven different regional festivals of the independent performing arts. The goal is to share knowledge and experience as well as to strengthen and expand the festival structures. In doing so, a central goal is to bring the artists and their positions from their local areas of activity into new regions and contexts.

The press accreditation will begin with the publication of the schedule of programming and the start of advance ticket sales in the middle of April.

More information is available at www.performingarts-festival.de

The Berlin Performing Arts Festival is organized by LAFT – Landesverband freie Darstellende Künste Berlin e.V. and is funded by the State of Berlin, Senate Department for Culture and Europe.



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