



# TANZPAKT STADT LAND BUND

Eine gemeinsame Initiative von Kommunen,  
Bundesländern und der Beauftragten der Bundesregierung  
für Kultur und Medien zur Exzellenzförderung im Tanz

## PRESS RELEASE

Berlin, 13th of October 2021

### **The jury has decided - TANZPAKT Stadt-Land-Bund is funding 13 projects in the 3rd funding round with around 2.5 million euros.**

After the 3rd round of calls for renewed applications closed on August 20, 2021, the TANZPAKT Stadt-Land-Bund jury met to discuss the 26 applications on hand. In their meeting on October 5, 2021, the jurors Lisa Besser, Matthias Quabbe, Cornelia Walter, Yoreme Waltz and Katharina von Wilcke recommended 13 projects for funding.

TANZPAKT Stadt-Land-Bund supports the selected projects with a total of around 2.5 million euros and matches with this amount the co-financing funds of around 3.5 million euros provided by municipalities, federal states and other sponsors.

Since the launch of TANZPAKT Stadt-Land-Bund four years ago, 82 projects have been conceived and applied for nationwide that structurally develop dance in cities, states, regions and in some cases across federal states. To date, 15 projects have been funded under TANZPAKT Stadt-Land-Bund, and eight of these pilot projects have been extended. At the same time, a new appreciation for various qualities of artistic work in dance has emerged, e.g. for education, inclusion and social dialogue. From Heidelberg to Bad Oldesloe, the 13 new projects strengthen the dialog between dance art and cultural policy.

The Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media, **Minister of State Prof. Monika Grütters** welcomes the development of the funding program:

*"Even after the end of the lockdown, the dance scene still has to live with restrictions in rehearsals and performances. That's why TANZPAKT comes at exactly the right time because it makes it possible to continue forward-looking projects and partnerships, especially in this phase. After the Corona aid, which was in great demand, the federal government continues to support professional dance with various measures, as it did before the pandemic. These include TANZPAKT, with which we are sending a positive signal for the future of dance as an art form in Germany."*

### **Statement of the jury:**

*"The wide range of content of the applications has shown very impressively how diverse contemporary dance is positioned in Germany and with what great commitment the artists work in their respective contexts. At the same time, however, it is also clear that the structural and financial conditions for dance in Germany continue to vary greatly from region to region. The applicants are responding to this with many innovative ideas and strategically clever cooperation approaches that are making a sustained effort to create new, sustainable structures for dance. For many of the projects submitted, an enormous amount of work was done in advance to convince local and regional funding partners. This made the jury's selection all the more difficult. With 13 projects from nine federal states, half of the applications submitted could be funded for the first time. A special focus is on inclusive artistic approaches and educational projects that are closely linked to artistic production or actively involve the public. The projects supported include excellent ensembles with a special focus, major investment projects in dance houses, and model projects such as the dance residency in a hotspot school. With this selection, the jury hopes to give positive impulses to both the artists and the respective regions."*

### **Funded projects:**

Project: **"Jefta van Dinther"**

Applicant: **Jefta van Dinther, Berlin**

Co-financed by: **State of Berlin, Swedish Arts Council, HAU Hebbel am Ufer, Norrlands Operan Umeå, Dansens Hus-Stockholm and others**

Jefta van Dinther will expand the structure of his company and secure the artistic quality of his work. In addition to establishing a local and international production, PR and touring structure, a permanent ensemble of seven dancers will be created. The renting of a studio will enable a steady production and locate it firmly in Berlin. At the same time, a platform for knowledge transfer and networking with the local and national dance and art scene will be created, including the establishment of a mentorship program, regular open-studio visits and open training sessions. In addition, three new productions are planned for the project period, including two larger ensemble works.

Project: **"tanz(t)räume"**

Applicant: **LUNA PARK, Berlin**

Co-financed by: **State of Berlin, Gesundbrunnen elementary school**

"tanz(t)räume" aims to create a permanent spatial, personnel and cooperative structural basis for the synergetic connection of artistic production and educational work with children, adolescents and young adults in an environment that so far had little contact with contemporary dance. An artist in residence will be established at Berlin's Gesundbrunnen Primary School, a hotspot school in Berlin-Wedding, and the school will be developed into an open production space for contemporary dance. The emerging pieces will be created with the involvement of the students and their families as well as the community in the neighborhood. Open rehearsals, discussion formats, dance and movement courses, workshops, project weeks, vacation programs, excursions and theater visits are offered to these target groups.

Project: **"Geben-Nehmen-Brauchen"**  
Applicant: **Jenny Beyer, Hamburg**  
Co-financed by: **State of Hamburg**

Since 2014, Jenny Beyer has dedicated the format of the OPEN STUDIOS to the inclusion and involvement of audience members in artistic processes. With "Geben-Nehmen-Brauchen," she will now focus on expanding the concept of audience. The question that will be at the center of the next three years revolves around the multidirectionality of mediation with the aim of opening up new audiences. The OFFENEN STUDIOS will be more strongly networked through cooperation with Hamburg district centers. In addition, a residency program will be established, that offers interested parties the opportunity to get to know the perspectives of (international) artists. In exchange with dance makers, participants of the OPEN STUDIOS, students, future dance mediators and (educational) institutions, tools for audience development and especially audience involvement will be developed and shared from Hamburg.

Project: **"TANZPAKT in residence" (working title)**  
Applicant: **Villa Wigmann for TANZ, Dresden**  
Co-financed by: **State of Saxony, City of Dresden**

The Villa Wigman Association for DANCE, in cooperation with the TanzNetzDresden Association, is initiating an extensive residency program aimed at artistically strengthening dance professionals in Saxony. The residency program sees itself as a fundamental instrument to promote artists excellence by providing time-space for research and creating sustainable structures that enable the dance scene of the region to work professionally and continuously. The focal points "network and exchange", "knowledge gain and experience" and "mediation and participation" are envisaged. From 2022-2024, a total of 18 residencies will be made possible, and the award will be made by a jury. In addition, the funding will enable further investment measures for the expansion of Villa Wigman as a rehearsal and production venue for the local and regional scene.

Project: **"INTER-ACTIONS - more than a dance company"**  
Applicant: **Edan Gorlicki / INTER-ACTIONS, Heidelberg**  
Co-financed by: **State of Baden-Wuerttemberg, City of Heidelberg**

"INTER-ACTIONS - more than a dance company" is a sustainable structure for interdisciplinary collaboration in Heidelberg that provides dance artists with the necessary setting for free work. The starting point for the development is the THINKING-ACTIONS program, which creates a previously non-existent exchange platform for freelance local movement artists and diverse cultural actors. In addition to the search for new spaces for dance in Heidelberg, which is taking place in close cooperation with the Leitstelle für Kultur- und Kreativwirtschaft, the concept includes the interactive dance format "Moving Stories," interdisciplinary work presentations, a new production by Edan Gorlicki, and the festival "What if dance was fun?" with dance productions and collaborative projects between dance and other disciplines. The experiences from the three years of interdisciplinary work will be documented in a best practice at the end of the project.

Project: **"tanz.nord"**

Applicant: **City of Bad Oldesloe / Department of Culture**

Co-financed by: **State of Schleswig-Holstein, State of Hamburg, ArGE Stormarn kulturell stärken, Sparkasse Cultural Foundation Stormarn**

tanz.nord is a model-building structural measure with the aim of strengthening the dance scenes in Schleswig-Holstein and Hamburg, establishing a network of guest performances beyond central-urban areas and developing new audience structures. Selected by a jury of experts, 36 guest performances of productions from Hamburg and Schleswig-Holstein will take place in venues newly won for dance in cities beyond the metropolises. All performances will be prepared and followed up by an educational program in order to address and involve dance-inexperienced audiences. Over a period of three years, a model project will also be carried out to anchor dance in schools in Schleswig-Holstein. One Lab per year deepens the exchange between professional dance practitioners from both federal states. Parallel to the program activities, the project team supports dance professionals in the acquisition of project funding.

Project: **"UNIQUE@dance / Network for mixed-abled dance education"**

Applicant: **DIN A 13 tanzcompany, Cologne**

Co-financed by: **State of North Rhine-Westphalia, City of Cologne, Aktion Mensch, Kämpgen Foundation.**

"UNIQUE@dance" will create trend-setting conditions for opening up universities to enable students with physical disabilities to professionalize in dance. The goal is to establish the artistic examination of diverse bodies in their aesthetic diversity as a fixed component of the curriculum in the future and thus as an enrichment and expansion of German dance education. The central concern is the development of a network and the nationwide creation of sustainable cooperations with the participation of university representatives, experts for mixed-abled dance, associations, etc., who work together for access to professionalization for all. Supported by the competence of coaches, mediators and experts with disabilities for mixed-abled dance, concepts and strategies are developed to design the curricular subjects in such a way that they are accessible as formats for students with disabilities.

Project: **"Hebel für die Exzellenz"**

Applicant: **TanzFaktur, Cologne**

Co-financed by: **State of North Rhine-Westphalia, City of Cologne, Westwerk Immobilien GmbH, Annelie and Uwe Hoffmanns Foundation**

TanzFaktur is pushing ahead with its development into a dance house for the city of Cologne. With the help of funding from TANZPAKT Stadt-Land-Bund, the staff structure can be optimally strengthened and the conversion of the new performance venue WerksHalle can be initiated. The hall will have three floors and will not only have a large stage and an audience capacity of 200 seats, but also additional rehearsal rooms and lounges for the artists. In addition, the goal is to financially support and accompany up to three co-productions per year. This guarantees a high level of artistic work and gives the companies and artists planning security. A differentiated and strong program with three to four premieres per year should develop from the co-productions.

Project: **"MACHBARSCHAFTEN"**

Applicant: **Sebastian Weber Dance Company, Leipzig**

Co-financed by: **State of Saxony-Anhalt, City of Leipzig, City of Bernburg, City of Meißen, City of Staßfurt, Salzlandkreis**

"MACHBARSCHAFTEN" is a joint project of the Sebastian Weber Company, the Theater Bernburg, the Salzland Theater and the City of Meißen with the aim of creating international excellence from regional alliances. The result is a production and venue alliance that structurally anchors the company and at the same time becomes an impetus for cultural development in the region. The concept is based on guest performances, dance mediation and structural development under the special aspect of regional cooperation: the company's entire repertoire will be shown at the new partners' venues. A wide range of dance mediation formats complements the performances and focuses on different target groups and milieus: from schools to retirement homes, from dance parties to home visits. Continuity in the region allows both the company and its partner theaters to reach and engage new audiences. In addition, the entire independent scene in Leipzig benefits from the operation of a new rehearsal stage for professional dance.

Project: **"Consolidation and profiling of the FORWARD DANCE COMPANY - professional mixed-abled dance of LOFFT - DAS THEATER"**

Applicant: **LOFFT - DAS THEATER, Leipzig**

Co-financed by: **State of Saxony, City of Leipzig**

The LOFFT will consolidate the initiated work strands of the mixed-abled FORWARD DANCE COMPANY. A special feature of the company's work is that a permanent ensemble of dancers and artistic project directors realizes productions with various nationally and internationally active choreographers. With the support of TANZPAKT Stadt-Land-Bund, the work of the company will be consolidated through new dance productions, research and guest performance cooperations. Plans include the revival of two works from 2021 and new productions ranging from short pieces to full-length choreographies to a site-specific performance at the monument to the Battle of the Nations in Leipzig. In addition, research and workshops on the social anchoring of the company's work as well as further education mediation modules for dancers with normative physicalities and the audience will take place.

Project: **"Tanzhaus temporär - On the way to a dance house for Kassel"**

Applicant: **Tanzwerk Kassel**

Co-financed by: **State of Hesse, City of Kassel, Gerhard Fieseler Foundation, cdw Foundation, Kasseler Sparkasse**

"Tanzhaus temporär" implements a series of measures that strengthen contemporary dance in Kassel as an independent art form relevant to the culture of a city and make it more visible: In addition to research phases to develop sustainable perspectives, the professionalization of training offers for the local scene will be advanced and existing cooperations with other Hessian institutions will be expanded to promote mutual guest performances. The module "TANZHAUS temporär" regularly occupies the Kulturhaus Dock 4 for one week at a time and offers insights into the artistic and choreographic diversity of contemporary dance in Kassel. In 2023, the festival "TANZ\*WERKE" will offer a choreographic platform for short pieces by local and regional choreographers under the direction of external curators. In addition, an international symposium with the title "body. image. embodiment." will take place in 2024.

Project: **"Landerer&Company"**

Applicant: **Landerer&Company, Hanover**

Co-financed by: **State of Lower Saxony, City of Hanover, Foundation of Lower Saxony**

Landerer&Company will sustainably strengthen the Hanoverian and Lower Saxonian dance scene as a motor, stabilizer and important initiator through the further and new development of long-term synergies. Within the framework of the funding, an ensemble of four permanent dancers will be financed, with whom Felix Landerer will develop an annual production in cooperation with the Schauspielhaus Hannover. In addition, a piece by a Lower Saxon choreographer is created each year and shown in one of the independent venues in Lower Saxony. The "SHORTS" module also presents up-and-coming choreographers twice a year. The successful and award-winning format of open rehearsals is to be continued and supplemented by newly developed mediation measures.

Project: **"Tanzinitiative Brandenburg"**

Applicant: **fabrik Potsdam**

Co-financed by: **State of Brandenburg, City of Cottbus, City of Potsdam**

The "Tanzinitiative Brandenburg" will create significant impulses for the further development of the state's dance scene, which is still only sporadically active and visible, strengthen the actors in their self-image as an essential part of the Brandenburg cultural landscape, and network them more intensively with each other and with the national and international dance scene. Building on existing collaborations with the TANZwerkstatt Cottbus, the Bürgerhaus am Schlaatz Potsdam and the Brandenburgisches Landesmuseum für Moderne Kunst Cottbus, the fabrik Potsdam is pursuing the goal of gaining new partnerships for dance in cooperation with other actors in the Brandenburg dance scene and helping to maintain or expand structures for dance in the region. Of central importance are the expansion of information networking, residency modules in the area, ongoing research and work meetings, programs for artistic development, qualification and the development of new fields of work for dance professionals.

TANZPAKT Stadt-Land-Bund is a joint initiative of municipalities, federal states and the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media to promote excellence in dance. The aim is to support substantial projects that contribute to the artistic and structural development, strengthening and profiling of dance as an art form in Germany.

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