

2017 PROGRAM

# EXPAT EXPO IMMIGRANT INVASION FESTIVAL

A Showcase of  
*Wahlberliner*



**ENGLISH  
THEATRE  
BERLIN**

International Performing Arts Center

**ETBERLIN.DE**



# WELCOME TO THE 2017 EXPAT EXPO IMMIGRANT INVASION FESTIVAL

## Dear visitors,

I can hardly believe that this year is the fifth edition of the annual festival *Expat Expo | Immigrant Invasion: A Showcase of Wahlberliner!*

Over the last half decade, the Expo has presented well over a hundred performances of new work by hundreds of international artists who have made Berlin their adopted home and served as the first step in a long-term artistic relationship with English Theatre Berlin | International Performing Arts Center (ETB | IPAC).

Following the excellent reception of its introduction last year, this year's festival kicks off with *ExpLoRE*: the format for newcomers, shorter performances and work-in-progress. On Sunday, April 2, twelve different performances are on offer on stage, in dressing rooms and all over the venue. Doors open at 1pm and food, drink and music by Berlin-based international musicians and bands provide a festive backdrop for this journey of discovery.

Two performances are offered over the six evenings from Monday through Saturday, one at 7:00 pm and one at 8:30 pm. Ranging in genre from puppet theater for adults to circus theater, dance theater, postmodern performance, traditional theater and everything in between, the unifying principle is artistic excellence.

The international *Freie Szene*, Berlin's English-language independent performing arts community, is ETB | IPAC's most valuable resource as an institution dedicated to using English not as a native language but as a working language, indeed, as Berlin's *lingua franca* for the 21st century.

This year, you can experience the work of nearly 60 *Wahlberliner* originally from 23 different countries during the seven days of the Expo. It is a distinct pleasure to welcome you to Fidicinstraße to participate in a week of exploration and exchange.

Daniel Brunet

## THE 2017 EXPAT EXPO | IMMIGRANT INVASION TEAM IS:

### Daniel Brunet

Concept and Curation

### Ralf Arndt and Torsten Litschko

Technical Direction and Production Management

### Jenny Eyer

Stage Management

### Daniel Boden, Charlotte Hook and

### Simona Klaniute

Festival Assistants

## Ticket Information

Admission to the twelve performances that make up *ExpLoRE* on April 2 costs 15 € (9 € students)

Admission to an individual evening performance from Monday – Saturday costs 10 €

Admission to both performances on a single calendar day costs 15 €

An Expo Pass for all twelve evening performances from Monday – Saturday costs 60 €

The Expo Pass does not include *ExpLoRE*

# EXPAT EXPO CALENDAR

Sunday, April 2 – Saturday, April 8

ExpLoRE  
EVENING PERFORMANCES

2 Sun	<b>A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY</b>
2pm	<b>ExpLoRE</b> Twelve short performances all around the venue
3 Mon	<b>LIFE OUTSIDE THE BOX</b>
7pm	<b>WHEN I SEE YOU I THINK OF...DENTIST</b> By Dawn Patricia Robinson aka. I am not the copacabana
8:30pm	<b>RINGSIDE IN G MINOR</b> A symphony of fight by EX-teater
4 Tue	<b>DYSTOPIC DICHOTOMIES</b>
7pm	<b>A DINNER OF SHADOWS: THE POLITICS OF BEING</b> A dance theater performance by Erber and Seeger
8:30pm	<b>INTIME FREMDE</b> A performance by Welcome Project. The Foreigner's Theatre
5 Wed	<b>BREAKING BOUNDARIES AND MOVING FORWARD</b>
7pm	<b>#MANIFESTO</b> A circus theater performance by Andrej Tomše
8:30pm	<b>THE FACE REALITY DESERVES</b> A performance about memory by Divas Iludidas/Deluded Divas
6 Thu	<b>CLOSER THAN YOU THINK</b>
7pm	<b>LAUTA</b> An interdisciplinary performance by Aliina Lindroos and Susie Yugler
8:30pm	<b>OUT OF THE DARK</b> An interdisciplinary and interactive performance by BirdMoon
7 Fri	<b>WHAT YOU SEE IS NOT WHAT YOU GET</b>
7pm	<b>MEME - I SEE. AH!</b> A video dance performance by Olivia Hyunsin Kim
8:30pm	<b>SHLOMO'S FRIENDS</b> A performance created by Shlomo Lieberman
8 Sat	<b>EXPECTING THE UNEXPECTED</b>
7pm	<b>L'ART ET LA MANIÈRE   PLANTING MEMORIES</b> Dance theater performances by Marie Chabert and Paula Rechtman
8:30pm	<b>CLOWNS' HOUSES</b> A puppet performance for adults by Merlin Puppet Theatre



2:00

### A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY

This format opens the festival and is dedicated to newcomers, shorter performances and work-in-progress. Spend an entire afternoon taking in twelve performances on stage, in dressing rooms and all around the theater. In between the performances, you can enjoy fantastic food, luxurious libations and magnificent music by international, Berlin-based musicians.

**AHNENAMT/MINISTRY FOR ANCESTORS** by **Club Real** (Austria) | This long-term project about a new aesthetic practice of elective kinship is a scenic installation – a parallel reality which needs to be entered by visitors to come to life. It examines a new cultural practice: the possibility to adopt an ancestor.

**CARLOS WHISPER** by **Katie Lee Dunbar** (UK) | A one-on-one performance in which individual audience members are whisked off into a sonic wonderland, all centered around a table of seemingly random objects. The connections are only made clear once you put the headphones on.

**EPILOGUE** by **Noemi Berkowitz** (USA/Poland) | What might life after death look like... and what implications would that have for life before death? In this two-woman play, a girl finds pieces of herself in stories from across the world and across time. A performance about the ways we develop in our journeys forward.

**HYO (효)** by **Haenny Park** (South Korea) | This piece was inspired by a famous Korean folktale, very often told to the artist by her father as a child. It tells the story of a son who digs up a grave to steal a human leg, which he will use to save his dying mother.

**I DON'T WEAR SKIRTS BECAUSE I NEVER LEARNED TO CROSS MY LEGS** by **Angela Millano** (Spain) | This performance is a protest against the normalization, legislation and control of our bodies and the need to fulfill standards perceived as natural. It is a rebellion by a vulnerable and violent body that feels beyond the social, professional and personal limitations imposed on it.

**INTIMATE ARSENAL (A QUARTET)** by **Claudia Grigg Edo** (UK/Catalonia) | Sit down at the table. On the other side of the table is HER. Stay with her as she navigates one of four situations. If you like, you can watch it loop round again in this interactive video projection.

**LATENT DREAMS** by **Katrine Turner** (Scotland) | This performance is about the Apocalypse. About the rising sea waters, and the invisible plagues. About when Cillian wakes up from his coma, and there's no one about so he breaks into a vending machine for a can of coke. About the futures we allow ourselves to envision.

**MOUTH CONTROL** by **MILK** (USA) | Sometimes it's easier to be honest when no one is around. We are more open in text messages and status updates than we are in face-to-face interactions with others. In *Mouth Control*, we ask the audience to test the limitations of distance and vulnerability in real time. We invite you to play a game with us.

**SKEWED** by **Shanti Suki Osman** (UK) | A solo performance using song, storytelling and sound. Using live and prerecorded voice and field recordings, Shanti Suki Osman presents 4 songs documenting her exploration of self-fetishization as a means for empowerment.

**SWEETS FOR A STORY** by **Bees Knees Sweets** (Canada) | An exploration of connecting with strangers and their stories using food as a catalyst. Food is universal. It's something we all want and need as human beings, and therefore is something that unites us as people. Food can tell our stories, as well as inspire them.

**THE FOURTH UNITY** by **Renan Itzhaki** (Israel) | A room. A bookshelf. A small group of people. They walk in circles. They are all one. They read a book. Sometimes out loud. Sometimes they stop. Sometimes a memory.

**THE WHEEL** by **Connecting Fingers** (UK/Italy) | From the script by philosopher Sara Fortuna, inspired by *Dogville* from Lars von Trier, four dancers explore a circular conceptual space organized in several steps in this work-in-progress showing: sleep/pre-birth/origin, child-like openness to the adult world in its tensions, contradictions, competitions, failures and eventual coming back to the starting point.



# LIFE OUTSIDE THE BOX

2017 EXPAT EXPO | IMMIGRANT  
INVASION FESTIVAL | Performances

Monday, April 3

7:00



Developed and Performed by Dawn Patricia Robinson aka. I am not the copacabana (UK/Germany)

## WHEN I SEE YOU I THINK OF...DENTIST

### A search for identity

Life is weird, mine is too. My passport says I'm British. But I was born here. My parents are British. My name is as well. My first language is German. I think it's easier than English. People in the UK call me "the German". People in Germany call me "the English girl". I'm confused. What am I? Where do I belong? And where am I?.....ahh, no I know where I am. Leeds. West Yorkshire. England. But what does it take to be British? To become British?

This theater performance deals with the feeling of belonging somewhere – or not.

8:30



Directed by Hrstina Vasić Tomše (Serbia) | Translation, Libretto, Performance and Body Percussion by Natália da Silva Perez (Brazil) | Composition, Piano, Accordion and Percussion Performance by Slobodan Ivanović (Montenegro) | Clarinet, Piano Performance and Body Percussion by Theresa Seits (Germany) | Double Bass Performance by Thierno Diallo (Slovenia)

## RINGSIDE IN G MINOR

### A symphony of fight by EX-teater

Live music, storytelling and body percussion interweave to create a sound-based performance to be watched through the ears. It is inspired by Daniel Veronese's dramatic poem *Ringside*, in which women brutally fight for the privilege of having a very unique prize. In the story, this year's trophy is a bridegroom, the offspring of the union between a female sailor and a shark. From one round to another, the fight gets louder and fiercer, but the prize seems well worth the suffering. Witnesses carefully follow the fight, blinded by the whiteness of the ring. They beg their children not to look at it, but the children can still listen. They listen to cruelty, they listen to stories.

# DYSTOPIC DICHOTOMIES

2017 EXPAT EXPO | IMMIGRANT  
INVASION FESTIVAL | Performances

Tuesday, April 4

7:00



Choreographed and Performed by Liz Erber (USA) and Sven Seeger (Germany)

## A DINNER OF SHADOWS: THE POLITICS OF BEING

### A dance theater performance which deconstructs our cultural norms of behavior, revealing suppressed aspects of both the individual and collective shadows

The two performers/choreographers investigate how the relentless drive towards consumption, getting, needing and exploiting of the contemporary Western world plays out in the attitudes and responses of the individual body and mind. In the process, they create a highly physical piece that is also culturally relevant.

8:30



Directed by Chiara Elisa Rossini (Italy) | Performed by Aurora Kellermann (Italy), Serfiraz Vural (Germany), Lina Zaraket (Germany) | Lighting Design by Alessio Papa (Italy)

A Teatro del Lemming production in collaboration with TATWERK I Performative Forschung Berlin

## INTIME FREMDE

**"When I was a child my mother used to tell me that I am a citizen of the world. Of course I believed her, she was my mother. But the older I got, the more I understood that this was just my mother's dream."**

This performance by Welcome Project. The Foreigner's Theatre is dedicated to a reflection on the idea of borders, identity, the concept of nation, and country of origin. The European Union got us used to low-cost travel and making ourselves at home in every country of the EU. Now, the old world is running scared and putting itself on lockdown: the Mediterranean Sea now seems to be made out of barbed wire. Borders exist hidden in plain sight everywhere.



# BREAKING BOUNDARIES AND MOVING FORWARD

2017 EXPAT EXPO | IMMIGRANT  
INVASION FESTIVAL | Performances

Wednesday, April 5

7:00



## #MANIFESTO

**"My name is Heidi Blumenfeld and I'm a transnational artist."**

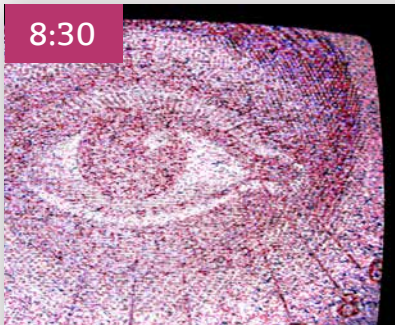
She breaks borders between kitsch and high art, between funny and serious, between masculine and feminine. Her art is her juggling. But how to make art? How to be an artist in a time when everyone wants to be an artist?

A transdisciplinary performance which puts circus into a theatrical universe, the piece proposes an art manifesto for our era. And at the same time, however ironic and witty it may be, *#Manifesto* is also a celebration of art (so that people don't forget what it's all about).

Written and Performed by Andrej Tomše (Slovenia) | Directed by Hristina Vasić Tomše (Serbia) | Music Composed by Slobodan Ivanović (Montenegro)

In coproduction with Theaterhaus Mitte, Mini Teater & Zavod Vitkar

8:30



## THE FACE REALITY DESERVES

**A performance about memory or the lack of it**

"Sometimes I feel this planet is nothing but a giant loop machine. Going 'round and 'round and around we go. And here we are, going 'round, doing the same old stupid things, over and over again. In love, relationships, in politics, with our thoughts, with our beliefs, with fashion..."

Created and Directed by Divas Iludidas/ Deluded Divas (Portugal) | Performed by Ana Ribeiro (Portugal) and António Duarte (Portugal) | Music by António Duarte

# CLOSER THAN YOU THINK

2017 EXPAT EXPO | IMMIGRANT  
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Thursday, April 6

7:00



## LAUTA

**A physical exploration of the hysterical joys and melancholia of youth**

What adolescent events, personally and politically, shape the performance of gender as 20-somethings? At a young age, dance artists Aliina Lindroos and Susie Yugler were both called *lautas* (or ironing board, i.e., "she's flat as a board [lauta]").

*LAUTA* aims to understand how childhood heart-break, trauma and loss echo in the body. The work investigates the female gaze and the implications of a feminized body in multiple modes of performance.

Created and Performed by Aliina Lindroos (Finland) and Susie Yugler (USA)

8:30



## OUT OF THE DARK

**A meditation on freedom, loss and grief**

The artistic duo BirdMoon - Stephen Mooney and Dorothy Bird - invite artists Aude Gouaux Langlois, Nadine Milzner, Natasha Jaffe and Michael Haeflinger to join an artistic interdisciplinary and interactive "conversation" by means of music, dance, poetry, visuals and soundscape.

The performance piece *Out of the Dark* explores the desire to escape from darkness, both physical and mental, and its propensity to linger and echo into the light as repetition or distortion of memory. Within these loose parameters, the artists work to create clarity out of chaos, harmony out of passion and create light within the dark.

Stage Design, Visual, Spoken Word, Guitar by Stephen Mooney (UK) | Compositions, Songwriting, Vocals, Keyboard by Dorothy Bird (Germany) | Cello by Natasha Jaffe (USA) | Dance by Nadine Milzner (Germany) | Live Sampling and Soundscape by Aude Gouaux Langlois (France) | Poetry and Prerecorded Spoken Word by Michael Haeflinger (USA)

# WHAT YOU SEE IS NOT WHAT YOU GET

2017 EXPAT EXPO | IMMIGRANT  
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Friday, April 7

7:00



## MEME - I SEE. AH!

**About the moment in which ANYthing becomes SOMETHing and again something ELSE.**

When do we think as spectators that we understood something (I see. Ah!)? When does this kind of understanding manifests itself in a fixed notion, a clichéd image of the (yet still unknown) Other and its “traditional” performing arts? When does our gaze even claim the seen as general knowledge about the Other (Asia!)? What kind of gap exists between the seen (I see. Ah!) and the claimed (Asia!)? This stream of questions came up when Hyunsin, initially trained in Western Contemporary Dance and Theater, started to learn Traditional Korean Dance, a dance form which builds a different body on stage than the Western counterpart she was familiar with.

Choreography, Performance, Sound and Video by Olivia Hyunsin Kim (Germany/South Korea) | Sound Support by Baly Nguyen (Germany/Vietnam) | Video Support by Jee-Ae Lim (Germany/South Korea)

Supported by ada Studio, Hessian Theater Academy (HTA) and Giessen Kulturamt

8:30



## SHLOMO'S FRIENDS

**Every immigrant has to form new relationships.**

So did Shlomo Lieberman when he came to Berlin. In this performance, he invites new friends to present ancient texts related to his name twin, King Solomon. These texts deal with love, desire, decency, morality and posing disturbing questions about the meaning of life.

Friends are asked to choose from these texts, to perform them as they see fit and to offer a new understanding of them.

The mission is to create a new emotional landscape on the background of an old one in which people can become friends.

Created by Shlomo Lieberman (Israel) and performed by his friends

# EXPECTING THE UNEXPECTED

2017 EXPAT EXPO | IMMIGRANT  
INVASION FESTIVAL | Performances

Saturday, April 8

7:00



## L'ART ET LA MANIÈRE PLANTING MEMORIES

**Two dance theater performances**

*L'art et la manière* explores the relationship between everyday movements and artistic actions in an engaging, fun and critical way. Through this interactive dialogue with the audience, Marie questions her identity as an interpreter, a woman and the role artists have in society.

*Planting Memories* is a dance duet that explores the concepts of personal space and identity. Drawing inspiration from their own lives, Marie and Paula relate personal memories through text and images. By plunging into a surreal world, this piece guides the audience through a personal journey in which the unfolding of the past enables the present.

*L'art et la manière* | Choreography and Interpretation by Marie Chabert (France) | Lighting Design by Pascal Bonnet (France)

*Planting Memories* | Choreography and Interpretation by Marie Chabert and Paula Reichtman (France and Mexico) | Choreography and Dramaturgy Mentoring by Jean Abreu (Brazil) | Music by Michael Picknett (UK) | Lighting Design by Jéssica Elizondo (Mexico)

8:30



## CLOWNS' HOUSES

**Puppet theater for adults by Merlin Puppet Theatre**

One building, five apartments, six characters. The audience watches them live their conventional lives in a dark, claustrophobic setting, with their fears, obsessions and loneliness.

Merlin Puppet Theatre dramatizes and demonizes their obsessions until they finally punish and liberate them in the most violent manner. They do not attempt to do existential analysis through their work. Instead, they examine modern way of living in its current form. The loneliness of modern humanity is displayed through the dark rooms of *Clowns' Houses*; prison-like houses, people trapped in their routines and habits, far from their dreams.

Directed by Dimitris Stamou (Greece) | Puppet and Costume Design by Dimitris Stamou, Demy Papada (Greece) | Puppetry by Demy Papada, Dimitris Stamou | Stage Design by Merlin Puppet Theatre | Composed by Achilles Charmpilas (Greece) | Lighting Design by Merlin Puppet Theatre | Narration by Chris Androvitsaneas (Greece)



# ENGLISH THEATRE BERLIN

## International Performing Arts Center

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English Theatre Berlin was founded by Bernd Hoffmeister in 1990.

We thank all our supporters and sponsors:  
Berlin Senate Department for Culture and Europe



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