

EXPAT EXPO IMMIGRANT INVASION FESTIVAL

2018 PROGRAM

A Showcase of
Wahlberliner



**ENGLISH
THEATRE
BERLIN**

International Performing Arts Center

ETBERLIN.DE



WELCOME TO THE 2018 **EXPAT EXPO** **IMMIGRANT INVASION FESTIVAL**

Dear visitors,

Welcome to the sixth edition of the annual festival Expat Expo | Immigrant Invasion:
A Showcase of *Wahlberliner*!

Over the last six years, the Expo has been able to present more than one hundred performances of new work by international artists who have made Berlin their adopted home. Even more excitingly, participation in the Expo has served as the first step in a long-term artistic relationship with English Theatre Berlin | International Performing Arts Center.

The festival kicks off on Sunday, April 22, with ExpLoRE: the format for newcomers, shorter performances and work-in-progress. This year, we have six different performances taking place on stage and a durational performance taking place backstage in our dressing room. 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.

An additional ten full-length performances await you from Monday through Saturday, each night featuring one or two productions. From documentary theater to a participatory performance with live soundscape and everything in between, the festival presents an exciting selection of the brand new work being created in Berlin right now and the issues these international, Berlin-based artists are choosing to examine.

The international *Freie Szene*, Berlin's English-language independent performing arts community, is our most valuable resource as an producing and presenting 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 25 different countries during the seven days of the Expo. It is a distinct pleasure to welcome you to Fidincinstraße to participate in a week of exploration and exchange.

Daniel Brunet

Concept & Curation

Ticket Information

Admission to the seven performances that make up ExpLoRE on April 22 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 ten evening performances from Monday – Saturday costs 60 €

The Expo Pass does not include ExpLoRE

April 2018

22 Sun 2pm **ExpLoRE** Seven short performances:
BRUNCH LADY by Katie-Rose Spence
DANCING WITH THE SHADOWS by Julia Vandehof & Company
GRUESOME MANIFESTO by Cher Nobyl
INTEGRATE 'ER by Iva Topolovec and Salber Williams
THE HEARING TEST by Shanti Suki Osman
THE LIVING AND OUR GHOSTS by Noirphiles (Adrian Marie Blount)
WE CAN DO IT MOANING by ABA NAIA Collective

23 Mon 8pm **NORALAND**
By LeinzLieberman & Orlando Rodriguez

24 Tue 7pm **WHEN I WAS OLD/WHEN I GET YOUNG**
By Lucy Ellinson

8:30pm **WOMEN WHO CHANGED THE WORLD**
By Opera Chaotique

25 Wed 8pm **WE JUST MOVED YOU**
By Alissa Rubinstein and Sylvia Avery

26 Thu 7pm **LANDSCAPES OF MY INNER DIASPORA**
By Rosalie Wanka

8:30pm **UNFOLDING UNIVERSE**
By Heiner&Lindsig

27 Fri 7pm **FIREWATER**
By Tape Version

8:30pm **MENU**
By Ethan Folk and Ty Wardwell

28 Sat 7pm **SKIN DEEP IN ZARANIYA**
By //slasheverything

8:30pm **STAR CAPTAIN: THROUGH THE DARK YOU'LL FIND THE LIGHT**
By Miss Natasha Enquist



EXPLORE

2018 EXPAT EXPO | IMMIGRANT
INVASION FESTIVAL | ExpLoRE

Sunday, April 22

2:00

This format opens the festival and is dedicated to newcomers, shorter performances and work-in-progress. Spend an entire afternoon taking in seven different performances. In between the performances, you can enjoy fantastic food, luxurious libations and magnificent music by international, Berlin-based musicians.

BRUNCH LADY

by **Katie-Rose Spence** (Australia), Costume Design by **Rachel Nielson** (USA) | An interactive solo clown act pondering (whilst sipping a mimosa) the pressures of keeping up appearances. We parade about with delusions of grandeur, in a climate where we are willing to overlook the cost, both personal and societal, for the appearance of having everything now. It's official, brunch has been condemned as an extravagant excess, but here we are happily munching away our hangover on Sunday morning anyway, unable to afford our lives, but content in our denial. Until today. *Brunch Lady* will ensure your late morning meal will never be quite the same again... pray it wasn't you who ordered the avocado on toast.

DANCING WITH THE SHADOWS

by **Julia Vandehof** (Austria), **Niall Fallon** (UK), **Ainhoa Hevia Uri** (Spain), **Angharrad Matthews** (UK) and **Berta del Ben** (Italy) | The performance is a descent into the realm of mythical ghosts and phantoms inspired by the story of Persephone. The unexplored shadows hidden within this narrative are shown through non-linear storytelling. The audience will be taken into the House of Hades with Persephone, the Queen of the Dead. The story alludes to the cyclical nature of life, death and resurrection while questioning what it means to embrace death-in-life. It is a deeply atmospheric world encountered through movement, sound and light.

GRUESOME MANIFESTO

by **Cher Nobyl/Cătălin Jugravu** (Romania), with **Andrei Raicu** (Romania), **Syrtha** (Lithuania) and **Yasmin Keany** (Australia) | An alternative drag performance conceived as a spiritual leap into the meta-physical space where subjects such as a dystopian existence, the present time and the ratio of cause to effect in wars worldwide are molded through spoken word, dance and video projection into arguments which favor the total nuclear destruction of humanity as Salvation. It's total demagoguery disguised in holy garments under the shape of none other than Cher Nobyl, The High Priestess of our Atomic Rebirth.

INTEGRATE 'ER

by **Iva Topolovec** (Croatia) and **Salber Williams** (Portugal/Zimbabwe) | Two women. A bonfire of baggage. This performance is a broken experiment of identity and compromise. Using bodies and household items, we reach for ways to integrate- ...scratch that. What is integration, anyway?

THE HEARING TEST

by **Shanti Suki Osman** (UK/Germany) | This is an interactive sound performance which asks the audience to scrutinize habits in their auditory perception. Upon entering the room they hear a continuous set of instructions prompting them to interact with the objects in the room: "Choose an object that best describes my voice", "Write a postcard to a person who would like this sound." Playing with the ideas of privilege, prejudice and positioning, this piece is very simple in its demand for a critical ear to be turned towards ourselves, in the hope to excavate what lies behind our tendencies and tastes.

THE LIVING AND OUR GHOSTS

by **Noirphiles/Adrian Marie Blount** (USA) | Film, music, song and dance are used to bear witness to the marginalization of LGBTQIA people of color. How can we be witnesses for the marginalized? How do the ancestors guide us to become witnesses? What can be learned in listening to those who exist within the margins of the past, present and future? This piece holds space for those spaces of uncertainty, ugly, undefined and intangible.

WE CAN DO IT MOANING

by **ABA NAIA Collective**, directed by **Kysy Fischer** (Brazil), performed by **Rafuska Marks** (Brazil) and **Teija Vaittinen** (Finland) | This is a performance of breathing and sound. Different actions of moaning are created by three women for a construction of a human moan-machine, a text, a dialog or a song. But we are specific: we produce a symphony of moaning. We treat the moan as a matter. As physics. As anthropology. Not as biology. We moan as a sport. We moan as an acoustic experience. We moan in hysteria. Hysteria? We moan because someone has commanded us to moan. We moan because we can. We moan because it is ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY. We moan because it moves us and we keep moving just because we moan.





Monday, April 23

8:00



LeinzLieberman & Orlando
Rodriguez

Direction: Shlomo Lieberman (Israel)
Dramaturgy: Ulrich Leinz (Germany)
Performance: Orlando Rodriguez
(Venezuela)

NORALAND

The freedom of darkness

A long fascination with Ibsen's *A Doll's House* sends Orlando and Shlomo on a journey to *Noraland* by searching after their own reflections in the play.

Are we trapped in our own perception of our lives? Could we really ever follow Nora's footsteps and achieve independence? Are we willing to pay such a high price? Is it possible for a male performer to step into Nora's shoes?

A colorful interpretation of the exciting yet fearful moment when one is standing in the darkness behind a closed door without knowing where to go.



Tuesday, April 24

7:00



Lucy Ellinson

Lead Artist: Lucy Ellinson (UK) | Movement:
Don Mabley-Allen (USA)

WHEN I WAS OLD/WHEN I GET YOUNG

**A 100-year-long life span
of who we are, here, right now**

A special community performance, where a small group of local residents (from Berlin, but not from Berlin) will step out onto the stage.

From newborn baby to senior citizen, the project weaves together personal reflections and ambitions, past and future lives; to create a story of a lifetime.

When I Was Old/When I Get Young was originally conceived in response to William Shakespeare's "Seven Ages of Man" speech and captures what we've come to understand about being human.

8:30



Opera Chaotique

Voice, Narration, Piano: George Tziouvaras
Tenorman (Greece) | Drums: Chris
Koutsogiannis *Voodoo Drummer* (Greece)

WOMEN WHO CHANGED THE WORLD

A surreal cabaret duet

Opera Chaotique and their utterly unique crossover cabaret show pay homage to the lives of Camille Claudel, Nina Simone, Isidora Duncan, Sarah Kane and many others which are interrelated with the *Voodoo Drummer's* governess and *Tenorman's* psychiatrist in an exciting and as always revealing post-surreal humorous show!



Wednesday, April 25

8:00



Alissa Rubinstein

Writer and Producer: Alissa Rubinstein (USA) | Direction: Sylvia Avery (New Zealand) | Assistant Direction: Shaleah Dawnyel (USA) | Dramaturgy and Movement Direction: Dineke Rieske (Netherlands) | Costumes, Designer: Marcella Gersh (USA/Germany) | Original Music and Sound Design: Andrew Fox (USA) | Performance: Steve Greenfield (Hong Kong/UK), Carolin Kipka (Germany), Rose Warner Miles (USA), Joseph Raisi-Varzaneh (UK), Yael Rozanes (Israel) and Lydia Shoup (USA)

WE JUST MOVED YOU

Documentary theater

We Just Moved You is a new documentary play about moving in Berlin - from *WG Zimmer* to *WG Zimmer*, from relationship to relationship, from studying to working (maybe), from job to job (if you can get your hands on one) - and the families-by-choice we cobble together to help us get through it all.



Thursday, April 26

7:00



LANDSCAPES OF MY INNER DIASPORA

Fantasy and memory are combined in the attempt to define one's own identity, or, more fittingly, the attempt to create it...

This performance uses music, text, movement and visuals to externalize the most inner, the most intimate, the so-called "immigrants of identity". The audience is taken on a journey through the jagged paths and landscapes between physical and psychic diaspora. The contradiction and abstraction created when one listens a little bit to everything without actually really listening to anything is made palpable, dreamy, oniric landscapes are created where the alienation extends to space, time, material, body and psyche.

Rosalie Wanka

Idea, Artistic Direction and Choreography: Rosalie Wanka (Germany/Austria) | Concept: Rosalie Wanka, Paola Evelina | Live Cello, Arrangements, Soundscape: Ana Topalovic (Serbia) | Photography, Lighting Design, Stage Design, Direction of Visuals and Graphic Design: Paola Evelina (Italy/Argentina) | Visuals: Giorgio Cordeschi (Italy)

8:30



UNFOLDING UNIVERSE

A soundscape performance of everyday objects

Heiner&Lindsig assemble on stage a multitude of cups which they found on breakfast tables, in flea markets and in display cases. In scenarios ranging from everyday life, sensuality and obsessive misuse, the performers elicit hypnotizing soundscapes and images from their collection - creating a universe that follows laws of an inscrutable logic.

Heiner&Lindsig

Concept and Performance: Veronika Heisig, Manuel Lindner (Germany) | Outside Eye: Saskia Rudat (Germany) | Mentor: Angie Hiesel (Germany)

Veronika Heisig and Manuel Lindner are the founders and protagonists of Heiner&Lindsig. The duo began their collaboration in a short film project and created performances for stop motion films with everyday objects. They work playfully between different media and explore the magic in everyday life.



Friday, April 27

7:00



FIREWATER

An experimental theater piece about a woman's escape to 'Firewater' – a soap opera with an uninvited guest

Jane drinks.

In certain religions and spiritual beliefs, when one consumes alcohol their body becomes vulnerable; an open receptacle for bad spirits. This weakened state leaves the body defenseless to becoming demonically possessed. Jane, the new-comer to 'Firewater', is one of the unlucky ones that happens to fall victim.

A compilation of confessions and delusions, *Firewater* is a twisted nightmare of insatiable desires.

Tape Version

Writer, Director, Performer: Michelle Myers (Australia) | Co-Writer, Sound Designer: Andrew Stark (Scotland) | Assistant Director, Dramaturg: Jahman Davine (Australia)

8:30



MENU

On the Menu:

**a dance that eases our guilt
a navel-gazing friendship portrait
a creamy dreamy crowd-pleaser
or nothing.**

And although we enjoy some options more than others, we make you choose, and then at least we feel better about the whole thing.

Ethan Folk & Ty Wardwell

Created and performed by Ethan Folk (USA) and Ty Wardwell (USA)

Ethan Folk and Ty Wardwell are art partners based in Berlin. They make experimental performances and films which probe masculinity, queerness and privilege.



Saturday, April 28

7:00



//slasheverything

Performers/Collaborators: Sarah Grether (USA), Nikolas Schreck (USA), Dominik Feistmantl (Austria), Angela Lamprianidou (Greece), Qadria Oechsle-Ali (India/USA/Germany), Shalmon Abraham (Israel/Germany)

SKIN DEEP IN ZARANIYA

**A participatory performance
with live soundscape**

An international ensemble enact performative tasks in a live soundscape bringing participants into a deeper understanding of the immigrant phenomenon and the universal human impact of sound and movement.

In this age of immigration anxiety, cross the threshold to the unexplored land of Zaraniya, immersing yourself in an interactive transformative music, movement and theater encounter rousing you from the sleep of the familiar.

8:30



Miss Natasha Enquist

Created and performed by Miss Natasha Enquist (Canada)

STAR CAPTAIN: THROUGH THE DARK YOU'LL FIND THE LIGHT

**A theatrical concert performance by Miss
Natasha Enquist, Electro-Accordion Chanteuse**

Put your suit of glamour on, this ride is a bumpy one... this journey of self-discovery follows our dear adventure-hungry Star Captain, who leaves her home planet to discover a new world and the struggles she faces while there. Using multimedia and the songs from Miss Natasha Enquist's debut album, *MNE*, this story is played out before you with the help of her mighty accordion and projected visuals for you to experience all that comes from connecting to the indomitable spirit within.



ENGLISH THEATRE BERLIN

International Performing Arts Center

English Theatre Berlin International Performing Arts Center
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Günther Grosser (Artistic Director)
Bernd Hoffmeister (Managing Director)

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Communication: Sarah Rosenau (PR & Communication Director), Casey Tower (Digital Communication), Heiko Orłowski (Communication Assistant), Charlotte Hook (Communication Assistant) | *Venue:* Torsten Litschko (Technical Director), Ralf Arndt (Technician), Minna Partanen (House Manager), Anya Kinneavy (House Manager), Paul Netzer (Graphic Design)

English Theatre Berlin was founded by Bernd Hoffmeister in 1990.

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