



## TANEC PRAHA 2022 festival will get the whole country dancing!

Prague, 5 May 2022 – June is all about dance! The traditional, nationwide TANEC PRAHA 2022 festival will take place from 28 May to 28 June 2022. This year marks the 34<sup>th</sup> year of the festival. In 25 cities and towns in the Czech Republic, the festival will offer a varied selection of the most interesting productions from the domestic and foreign dance scene. The TANEC PRAHA Festival is one of the most important cultural events in the Czech Republic, and this year's projects enjoy extraordinary support from the EU's Creative Europe and Perform Europe programs.

This year, the TANEC PRAHA Festival is trying to be as close to the audience as possible. And not only in terms of the selected performances, but literally physically. As a result, the performances are often a multi-sensory experience. Each year of the festival has a unique and strong visual identity, and this year the main motif is "Within reach of your senses." The connection of the senses also takes place between spectators and dancers. The purpose is to emphasize the increasingly popular participatory projects, i.e. public involvement in the festival's performances themselves. "Already in the preparation process, emphasis was placed mainly on the female element of strong personalities, which results from the composition of this year's program," explains director and founder of Tanec Praha Yvona Kreuzmannová. "It is also reflected in the dancers chosen for visual and in its colourfulness."

Among this year's guests are big foreign names. For example, **Ann Van den Broek with the performance Joy Enjoy Joy**, a pulsating celebration of life that does not cease. Her performance celebrates joy, but with a melancholy sense of insecurity, combining lighting effects, video, movement and text. And with the proviso that no party can last forever.

Another of the "strong women" of this year's festival is the mature performer **Louise Lecavalier**. A prominent figure in contemporary dance who, in addition to her career with La La La Human Steps, has collaborated with pop music stars such as David Bowie, Frank Zappa, including on her own work. The music forms a significant part of her performance **Stations**, which she brings to Prague. The four parts of her performance are accompanied by four songs by Canadian rock band SUUNS, Teho Teardo & Blix Bargeld (a combination of Italian film music composer and singer Einstürzende Neubauten), and original compositions by Antoine Berthiaume and Colin Stetson.

The third major personality of this year's festival is the French dancer and choreographer **Maguy Marin**, one of the most important icons of the French New Wave. With his performance *Umwelt*, he will close the festival on the New Stage of the National Theatre thanks to the festival's collaboration with Laterna magika ND. At the time of its launch in 2004, *Umwelt* was described as one of the most important creative works on the world dance scene. Even today, however, the work cannot be more current! Together with nine performers, we are caught in a chilling game called life during seemingly everyday activities. In the reflection of dozens of ruthless mirrors, we watch with concern the "Umwelt" – the world around us – and our endless, exhausting struggle to live in it... and survive.

The festival is open to all age groups and a program will be prepared for children, schools, families with children and seniors. TANEC PRAHA Junior will offer selected performances by artists from Italy (Masako Matsushita) and the Czech Republic, which will be presented at schools and for the public. The festival will also include a presentation of the Dance for Schools project.

Two festival co-productions will support the international cooperation of our artists, namely Viktor Černický and Tereza Ondrová with Silvia Gribaudi. Two dancers from Dimitris



Papaioannou will also return to Prague with their own duet, and after a three-year hiatus we will resume our collaboration with performers from Africa. In any case, there is plenty to look forward to.

"Every year we give space to beginning and lesser-known artists," Yvona Kreuzmannová said. "We are trying to greatly support collaboration between Czech and foreign creators, which has gained strength this year thanks to the strong support of the Creative Europe and Perform Europe programs." The festival also opens to the public through discussions and debates with artists and offers many workshops as well as an extensive program in public spaces, on the street, in squares, in parks and galleries.

Organizer: Tanec Praha z.ú.

TANEC PRAHA – the festival has long enjoyed the patronage and support of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic and the City of Prague, as well as support for individual productions from embassies in the Czech Republic.

For support: Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic, City of Prague, Creative Europe, Perform Europe and others

Main media partner: Česká televize

A complete list of festival partners and supporters can be found at [www.tanecpraha.cz](http://www.tanecpraha.cz).

Thank you to everyone for your support!

Please direct requests for more information or photographs to:

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The **TANEC PRAHA** International Festival of Contemporary Dance and Movement Theatre is one of the largest events on the Czech cultural calendar. Since 1989, every year in June (and during the pandemic in autumn), the festival presents the diversity and quality of the current international and domestic dance scene, gives space for experimentation and cross-over into other genres, and supports the creation of new works as a co-producer. Currently, the festival program is presented in 25 cities and towns, both indoors and outdoors.

The TANEC PRAHA Festival was the motivation for the establishment of the Tanec Praha NGO in 1991 and remains the main activity of this NGO.

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