



**Performing
Arts
Festival
Berlin
@home**
19 – 24 Mai 2020

From May 19 to 24, 2020, the fifth edition of the Berlin Performing Arts Festival, the first edition to be realized digitally, will open its digital doors. Audience members from around the world are invited to discover the diversity of the independent performing arts in Berlin in the *PAF Documentary Miniseries*, in the *Digital Showroom* and during *PAF Show & Tell*. In-depth discussions and future-oriented (political) talks round out the schedule of programming.

While the cultural landscape, especially the theater landscape, has been brought nearly to a complete standstill under the current restrictions, the Berlin Performing Arts Festival@home opens digital spaces for encounters to audience members, artists and (visiting) industry professionals and access points to the independent performing arts community of the city and places the new formats and forms of the performing arts arising out of them in its primary focus.

The festival kicks off on May 19 in the form of a digital get-together with opening remarks by Florian Bücking for the board of LAFT – Landesverband freie darstellende Künste Berlin as the entity responsible for organizing the festival as well as by the festival directors Sarah Israel and Tessa Hartig.

On the second day of the festival, the *Digital Showroom* provides an invitation around the clock to audience members to discover the works of artists, groups as well as a multitude of theaters and performance venues that make up the Berlin Performing Arts Festival this year as well. They provide insight into their work that had originally been scheduled for the festival, present new versions for the @home edition or provide glimpses behind the scenes.

On the evening May 20, following the awarding of the Tabori Prize of Fonds Darstellende Künste e.V., the first part of our multipart *PAF Documentary Miniseries*, which was created in collaboration with the artists of the festival, will celebrate its world premiere. Following this, Hans Unstern will perform two songs from his new album *DIVEN* live as an additional highlight of the second day of the festival.

The three episodes of the PAF documentary miniseries collect artistic voices on the current situation and make them audible and tangible to us all. In doing so, basic questions regarding the uses of performing arts in times of crisis, the reciprocal relationship and opportunities of the performing arts and the internet will be discussed and the future of the performing arts after the current restrictions will be examined. Conversations with selected artists and guests who will delve into the questions of the films in a more in-depth manner and further discuss them will follow each of the episodes. Following the *PAF Documentary Miniseries* on May 23, the *Library of Voices* will be opened, which provide the festival visitors with access to the unedited contributions to the film in their full length: raw & uncut.

In 2020 as well, the festival uses its platform *Introducing...* to pay special attention to artistic newcomers. The selected artists use *Instructions for those at home* to invite the audience to become active themselves and provide the audience with audio and / or video tutorials in which the newcomers give practical knowledge about their performances in order to make the digital theatrical experience analog and tangible in a multisensory way as well. During the showcase and networking format *PAF Show & Tell* on May 23, ten selected artists will digitally present new ideas, concepts and production in short presentations and enter into conversation with the audience during speed networking. On two separate days, *From Venue to Venue* offers a digital trip and glimpses behind the scenes of performance venues in Berlin.

This year as well, (inter)national visiting industry professionals and interested audience members will again find a comprehensive selection of discussion and networking formats in the form of talks and presentations round out the schedule of programming of the Berlin Performing Arts Festival@home; amongst many others, the Berlin Performing Arts Program will launch a new series exploring the issue of sustainability and independent artistic productions. The festival will close with a discussion featuring Janina Benduski (LAFT Berlin), the Berlin State Secretary for Culture Dr. Torsten Wöhlert, Franziska Werner (Rat für die Künste Berlin, Berlin's artistic advisory council) and Stephan Behrmann (Allianz der freien Künste, the German National Alliance of the Independent Arts), exploring the question of *The independent performing arts and the cultural landscape following the coronavirus pandemic*.

There is no cost for admission to any of the events in the festival.

The complete schedule of programming and additional information will be available from now:

www.performingarts-festival.de

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

LAFT Landesverband freie
darstellende Künste Berlin e.V.
BERLIN

Senatsverwaltung
für Kultur und Europa

be **min** **Berlin**

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#WeStayAtHome: In order to do our part to slow the coronavirus pandemic, the PAF team has restricted their everyday work in the office to only the most essential tasks. The best way to reach us is via email.

Schedule of Programming of the Berlin Performing Arts Festival @home May 19 to 24, 2020

May 19, 2020

7:00 pm

Opening ceremony and digital get-together with Florian Bücking (LAFT Berlin) as well as Sarah Israel and Tessa Hartig (Berlin Performing Arts Festival)

May 20, 2020

10:00 am

Opening of the Digital Showroom: Here, the artists, groups as well as a multitude of the theaters and performance venues that make up the Berlin Performing Arts Festival each year will present themselves.

4:00 pm

Berlin Performing Arts Program: Networking meeting Bridging the Scenes with the four partner festivals Malá inventura (Prague), Selected Works (Copenhagen), ACT Festival (Sofia) and the Berlin Performing Arts Festival (Berlin).

5:00 pm

Meet & Greet for visiting industry professionals from throughout Germany and abroad

7:00 pm

Award ceremony for the Tabori Prize of Fonds Darstellende Künste e. V.

7:30 pm

World premiere: The first episode of the PAF documentary miniseries examining the question: Why do we need the performing arts in times of crisis? Followed by opening remarks by Sarah Israel and a more in-depth analysis of the question with Olympia Bukkakis and Siegmund Zacharias, followed by a live stream musical performance by Hans Unstern. Moderated by Yael Sherill.

May 21, 2020

All-day

Digital Showroom

10:00 am

Presentation: Introducing... - artistic newcomers to the Berlin Performing Arts Festival present Instructions for Those Stuck at Home

11:00 am

We're Not Here To Talk About Trees! Sustainability, Cultural Policy and Independent Artistic Production – discussion format of the Berlin Performing Arts Program about sustainability in the independent performing arts with guests from the fields of arts and politics, with Daniel Wesener (Fraktion Bündnis 90/Die Grünen) and others.

5:00 pm

From Venue to Venue: Representatives of the Berlin performance venues Theater o.N., Theater im Delphi, TATWERK | PERFORMATIVE FORSCHUNG, Berliner Ringtheater and Ballhaus Ost present their institutions.

7:00 pm

World premiere: Second episode of the PAF documentary miniseries examining the question: What can the internet and the performing arts learn from each other? This will be followed by a panel discussion with Anke Schiemann and Marcel Karnapke on the topic: Virtual insanity: A conversation about narratives in expanded realities (in VR)!. Curated and moderated by Fernanda Parente.

May 22, 2020

All-day

Digital Showroom & Instructions for Those Stuck at Home by the artists of the newcomer's platform Introducing...

11:00 am

Producing Sustainably! The Role of Associations, Initiatives and Funding Institutions. – Discussion format of the Berlin Performing Arts Program about sustainability in the independent performing arts with, amongst others Prof. Susanne Keuchel (Deutscher Kulturrat, the German Cultural Council), representatives from Bundesverband Freie Darstellende Künste and Dachverband Tanz, moderated by Andreas Kohn (environmental expert and theater maker).

5:00 pm

From Venue to Venue: Representatives from the Berlin performance venues Theater Expedition Metropolis, Centre Français de Berlin, SOX Berlin, Polymedialer Ponyhof and Sophiensæle present their institutions.

7:00 pm

World premiere: Third episode of the PAF documentary miniseries examining the question: How can we use the performing arts to help us envision a hopeful future? Followed by Tessa Hartig in conversation with Noa Winter, Dr. Azadeh Sharifi and Lara-Sophie Milagro on the topic: (Re)-imagined – intersectional perspectives for the future from the independent performing arts.

May 23, 2020

All-day

Digital Showroom & Instructions for Those Stuck at Home by the artists of the newcomer's platform Introducing...

10:00 am

Opening: Library of Voices – Artistic contributions to the PAF documentary miniseries: raw & uncut

5:00 pm

PAF Show & Tell: Berlin-based artists present their works in video chat.

May 24, 2020

All-day

Digital Showroom, Instructions for Those Stuck at Home by the artists of the newcomer's platform Introducing... & **Library of Voices** – artistic contributions to the PAF documentary miniseries: raw & uncut

12:00 pm

Keynote speech on opportunities for action in times of extreme openness. Closing discussion with guests: Sarah Israel in conversation with Raul Zelik (political scientist, journalist and translator), Melanie Jame Wolf (artist and performer) and Tina Pfurr (co-artistic director, Ballhaus Ost).

2:00 pm

Corona Update # 1001 - The independent performing arts and the cultural landscape following the coronavirus pandemic Janina Benduski (LAFT Berlin) in conversation with Berlin's State Secretary for Culture Dr. Torsten Wöhlert, Franziska Werner (Rat für die Künste Berlin, Berlin's artistic advisory council) and Stephan Behrmann (Allianz der freien Künste, the German National Alliance of the Independent Arts).