

Press Release

20 June 2022

Tanzkongress 2022 – Sharing Potentials

16–19 June 2022, Mainz

www.tanzkongress2022.de

The Tanzkongress 2022, presented by the German Federal Cultural Foundation in cooperation with the Staatstheater Mainz, ended on Sunday. Over 950 dance professionals from more than 70 countries – including dancers, choreographers, rehearsal directors, company and theatre directors, educators and producers – came together in and around the Staatstheater Mainz in the spirit of sharing potentials.

For four days Mainz was the dance capital of the world. Alongside the specialist programme for congress participants there was also a varied artistic programme on the theatre stages and outdoors for everyone interested in dance. More than 3,500 tickets were sold for the stage programme. Free performances in the city's public spaces delighted hundreds of Mainz residents and visiting congress participants.

The impetus from a younger generation of dance professionals and the opening up of the Tanzkongress to a wider international base were clearly felt at the closing discussion with participants on Sunday afternoon. It was primarily dancers who made their way to Mainz, and they were enthusiastic about the programme, the diversity of its voices, the intercommunication and the hospitality. The discussion conveyed their wish for a continuation of the Tanzkongress format, which was revived by the German Federal Cultural Foundation under its director, Horensia Völckers, on the lines of the legendary dancers' congresses of the 1920s and 30s, and has taken place every three years in different cities since 2006.

On the invitation of the programme director Honne Dohrmann and the dramaturge Ingrida Gerbutavičiūtė, 19 curators from Germany and abroad developed the content of 12 thematic modules, mostly events in discursive formats: panel discussions, lectures, open spaces, fishbowl and table talks, workshops and interviews. An additional 21 projects were incorporated into the programme from a total of 115 suggestions originating in the dance scene itself in response to open calls. Six specialist advisors provided input on inclusion, diversity and sustainability.

The congress modules played through the central theme of sharing potentials from various perspectives. In *Dancers as Experts*, dancers shared experiences of their changing role in working contexts and creative processes; *Co-Creating with Communities* looked at forms and models of collaboration with young people; *Dance and Digital Space* examined the potentials of digital media for the working reality of dance. The congress's numerous and many-voiced events put familiar structures under the microscope, as well as the new bridges between repertory theatres and the independent scene.

The website www.tanzkongress2022.de continues to provide access to the archive of events and contributors after the congress. Selected content from the Tanzkongress 2022 are permanently available on demand at the Tanzkongress.NITEhotel, which can be entered via the website.

TANZKONGRESS '22 | MAINZ | SHARING POTENTIALS

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