

# PRESSinfo

## **A new director at tanzhaus nrw Düsseldorf Bettina Masuch replaces Bertram Müller in 2014**

Bettina Masuch (47) takes on her position as the new director of the tanzhaus nrw in January 2014. The artistic director of the renowned Springdance Festival in the Netherlands and an experienced dance dramaturg and curator at theatres like the Berlin Hebbel am Ufer, replaces Bertram Müller (66) who after more than 30 years bids farewell to the function of director of the tanzhaus nrw at the end of 2013.

Featuring two stages and eight dance studios the tanzhaus nrw is an international center for contemporary dance as well as performance venue, production place and acknowledged educational center. The supporting organization of the tanzhaus nrw is a non profit association.

Headed by chairman of the board Peter Knobloch the finding committee's decision fell unanimously for Bettina Masuch. Members of the finding committee were Hans-Georg Lohe, Düsseldorf's Head of Cultural Affairs, Marianne Schirge, Head of the Cultural Office of Düsseldorf, Bettina Milz, Head of unit theater and dance at the Ministry for Families, Children, Youth, Culture and Sports of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia, Janet Archer, director of the Dance Arts Council England in London, Gabrielle Staiger, instructor for contemporary dance and choreographer from Frankfurt/M., as well as Dieter Buroch, former director of the art center Mousonturm Frankfurt/M., who also acted as chairman of the committee. The tendering procedure for an artistic and managing director of the tanzhaus took place in the autumn of 2011.

**Bettina Masuch**, born in Solingen and graduate of Applied Theatre Studies in Gießen, has shaped the Springdance Festival in Utrecht as artistic director since 2009. Initially working as dance dramaturg at the Kaaitheater in Bruxelles and the Theaterhaus Jena among others, she moved in 1998 as dramaturg to the Volksbühne am Rosa-Luxemburg-Platz for productions by Castorf, Schlingensiefel and Pollesch among others, and worked in 2002 and 2003 at the same time as production dramaturg with choreographer Meg Stuart in Zurich. From 2003 until 2008 she worked as dance curator for the newly founded Theater Hebbel am Ufer in Berlin, headed by Matthias Lilienthal, making crucial contributions to the program. Until 2008 she was a member of the artistic direction of the Berlin festival "Tanz im August". She is the publisher and author of diverse specialized publications and has received various teaching assignments, currently at the Folkwang Hochschule Essen and the School for New Dance Development Amsterdam among others; she is also a much-in-demand jury-member.

**Bertram Müller**, born in Baden-Württemberg, is the director of the tanzhaus nrw Düsseldorf, as well as co-founder and head of the tanzhaus precursor "Die Werkstatt e.V.", the fate of which he steered since 1978. The graduate philosopher, theologian and psychologist has initiated a number of projects since "Die Werkstatt" evolved into the "tanzhaus nrw" in 1998. He was among others founding member of the EU dance section European Institute of the Arts (ELIA), as well as the training programme European Dance Development Center (EDDC) in Arnheim and Düsseldorf (1993 to 2001) and since 2003 Chairman of the international Arts Commission of Delphic Games. He initiated and oversaw the dance-plan Germany project "Take-off: Junger Tanz. Tanzplan Düsseldorf" (2006 to 2010), the EU-sponsored dance network "Chin-A-moves" (2008) as well as the follow-up "Kore-A-moves". In 2008 he was founding president of the European Dance House Network and is since 2010 board member of the "Dachverband Tanz Deutschland". He initiated and has overseen since 2009 the "International Dance Artist Service NRW" (iDAS). He also is a much-in-demand jury-member.

I will be gladly available for any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Angela Vucko