



Press release

9 March 2018 Prague

---

## 30th Anniversary Year of the TANEC PRAHA Festival to be Opened by Jiří Kylián!

The international festival of contemporary dance and movement theatre will take place in Prague from **1 to 25 June 2018** and from the end of May will also travel to 20 other cities and towns in the Czech Republic. In January, advance tickets went on sale for the main event, which crowns the conclusion of the festival: *SUNNY* by Emanuel Gat (FR/IL) and *Dancing Grandmothers* by Eun-Me Ahn (KR). Now it can be definitely confirmed that the audience and the festival itself will receive a beautiful gift at the opening: the historic return of Jiří Kylián (CZ/NL), this time with his chamber production of *East Shadow* in the PONEC Theatre (1 – 3 June 2018).

At the jubilee TANEC PRAHA Festival, seasoned figures of the dance world will prove that age never mattered less, in the spirit of the motto "Dance against Prejudice!" More on the new website: [www.tanecpraha.org](http://www.tanecpraha.org).

"I can't describe what an honour it is for us to collaborate with Jiří Kylián, the most renowned figure of Czech origin in the world of dance," said Yvona Kreuzmannová, the founder and director of Tanec Praha. "His generosity de facto got our festival started even before the fall of the Iron Curtain, making his return for this event after 30 years all the more symbolic. For us it is a major co-production collaboration with Kylián Productions BV."

*East Shadow* is an unusual work offering a dialogue between several genres – first-rate live piano music, film and performance. It deals with themes raised by Samuel Beckett, the selected artist of Japan's Aichi Triennale 2013, as well as help for the victims of the tsunami in 2011. Jiří Kylián has been an admirer of Beckett's absurd world since his youth. There is a shocking element that returns us to the simplest things in life, placing before us the question of life and death. This is transferred to the stage, then film and live performance.

"I am painfully aware of the fact that whatever we do or achieve is condemned to extinction," said Kylián.

For this work he approached two dancers very close to his heart, Sabine Kupferbergovou, his wife and long-time muse, and the American Gary Chryst, forming a well-coordinated and mature pair. To join them he invited Japanese pianist living in Holland Tomoko Mukaiyama.

"In a spirit of existential vanity and tragicomic absurdity, we are carried away by waves of nostalgia, poetry and powerful images, which we hope won't end," adds Kreuzmannová.

Sale of tickets to these Kylián evenings starts this week!

Trailer for the Event of the Season – Opening: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tXVt-JhXofY>

Tickets have also gone on sale for the African and Mexican performances at TANEC PRAHA 2018, which will thrill audiences with their live and authentic energy, while challenging them to serious reflection. Ladji Kone (BF) in perfect harmony with the



musician points to and searches for a way to bring tradition and modernity together. **Foco alAire** (MX) develop the fragments of their tragicomedy in a nostalgic musical set piece of the post-war years with immense precision and detachment. No less enticing is the performance for adults and children by **kabinet k** from Flanders, which fascinates with its mix of musicians and performers with children right on stage. Big and small alike share a sense of delight and wonder, but above all an unshakeable trust in each other.

Other performances will go on sale soon too. The main program in Prague shows that there is plenty to look forward to. Many artists will also travel to the regions!

### **Program of the 30th annual TANEC PRAHA Festival 2018 – Main program in Prague**

**Fri–Sun | 1 – 3.6 | 20:00 | PONEC | Event of the Season – Festival Opening**

**Jiří Kylián | *East Shadow* | CZ/NL**

**Mon | 4.6 | 20:00 | DOX | Festival co-production**

**Farm in the Cave / Viliam Dočolomanský | *Refuge* | CZ | *world premiere***

**Tue | 5.6 | 20:00 | PONEC | Dance NEWS**

**László Fülöp | Timothy and the Things | *Waiting for Schrödinger* | HU**

**Thu | 7.6 | 20:00 | PONEC**

**Germaine Acogny & Mikaël Serre | *Somewhere at the Beginning* | SN**

**Mon | 11.6 | 20:00 | PONEC | Festival co-production**

**Karine Ponties | *SAME SAME* | BE FR CZ | *world premiere***

**Tue | 12.6 | 20:00 | PONEC**

**Ladji Koné | *Lego de l'ego + Maa Labyrinthe* | BF**

**Thu | 14.6 | 20:00 | PONEC**

**Foco alAire | *Idea de una pasión* | MX**

**Mon | 18.6 | 20:00 | PONEC | Festival co-production**

**Jiří Pokorný, Radim Vizváry | *Sunday Neurosis* | CZ/NL**

**Wed | 20.6 | 20:00 | PONEC**

**Louise Lecavalier / Fou Glorieux | *So Blue* | CA**

**Sat | 23.6 | 17:00 | Forum Karlín | Event of the Season**

**Eun-Me Ahn | *Dancing Grandmothers* | KR**

**Sun | 24.6 | 17:00 | PONEC | TANEC PRAHA FOR CHILDREN**

**kabinet k | *HORSES* | BE**

**Sun | 24.6 | 20:00 | Forum Karlín | Event of the Season**

**Eun-Me Ahn | *Dancing Grandmothers* | KR**

**Mon | 25.6 | 10:00 | PONEC | TANEC PRAHA FOR CHILDREN**

**kabinet k | *HORSES* | BE**

**Mon | 25.6 | 20:00 | Forum Karlín | Event of the Season – Festival Closing**

**Emanuel Gat / Awir Leon | *SUNNY* | FR/IL**

***The program is subject to change. Tickets to underlined performances already on sale!***

**Long-standing support:** Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic, City of Prague

**Main media partner:** Czech Television

**With the support of:** Aerowaves, Creative Europe, Be SpectACTive!, Flemish Representation in the Czech Republic, French Institute in Prague, KAMS, FONCA and many



others.

More information: [www.tanecpraha.org](http://www.tanecpraha.org), <https://www.facebook.com/tanecpraha/>,  
<https://www.instagram.com/tanecpraha>

Please direct requests for more information or photographs to:

**Kateřina Kavalírová**, media relations

Mobile: +420 603 728 915

E-mail: [katerina.kavalirova@tanecpraha.eu](mailto:katerina.kavalirova@tanecpraha.eu)