**Press release Prague 20 May 2021**

**TANEC PRAHA: world-class stars on the way!**

**The grand opening of the 33rd TANEC PRAHA International Festival is on Wednesday, 2 June 2021. This year's festival will take place in two phases, in June and September. The summer part will be opened by the Italian choreographer Silvia Gribaudi, who will present the gently humorous work *GRACES* three times in a row at the PONEC Theatre in Prague. The highlight of the June program will be the historically first guest appearance of Greek choreographer Dimitris Papaioanna, whose performance will take place on the New Stage of the National Theatre in collaboration with Laterna magika. TANEC PRAHA has the honour of presenting his work *Transverse Orientation* right after its world premiere, on June 15, 16 and 17. The summer phase of the festival will take place in Prague and 21 other municipalities in the Czech Republic and will last until July 1.**

"We believe that after the lockdown period, audiences are longing for powerful artistic experiences," said **Yvona Kreuzmannová**, founder and director of Tanec Praha, z. ú. "TANEC PRAHA 2021, whose new motto is "touch your senses", promises such experiences, offering exclusive events of the season in summer and autumn, as well as a tour of domestic artists around the regions and, last but not least, their involvement in a number of international projects."

"We bear huge risks associated with uncertainty," she added, "whether the development of the situation will be favourable, whether the capacity of indoor performances will be increased above 50%, whether there will be problems with the arrival of foreign artists, but we are convinced that it's worth it. The historically first guest appearance of Dimitris Papaioanna in June will surely set the tone with its indelible images, imagination and courage, as well as the great energy and intelligent humour of Silvia Gribaudi."

Two weeks after the Opening with **Silvia Gribaudi**, audiences can look forward to icon of Greek contemporary choreography **Dimitris Papaioanna**. One of the world's leading figures in the field, and originally a visual artist himself, his powerfully visual physical work asks questions about the nature of humanity and the direction of our civilization.

"Dimitris Papaioannou is one of the most progressive and inventive contemporary choreographers and I am very pleased that we can participate in his first performance in Prague and the Czech Republic," said **Radim** **Vizváry**, artistic director of Laterna magika. "Audiences definitely have plenty to look forward to. I see the collaboration with the TANEC PRAHA Festival as one of the many steps towards making Laterna magika a platform open to new contacts and partnerships."

Foreign artists in the summer phase of the festival will be joined by the Italian duet ***HARLEKING***, a chilling satirical interpretation of the Harlequin character that profoundly examines the themes of the historical connection between communication, violence and power based on the classic comedy dell’arte.

The diverse range of **domestic works** will be enjoyed by audiences in the regions, but also in the capital in several projects by Czech artists involved in European cooperation (Dancing Museums, Be SpectACTive, Big Pulse Dance Alliance). And also in the original site-specific project "**Žižkov in Motion**" or a new adaptation of **POCKETART** works for outdoor space.

There will also be two premieres co-produced by the TANEC PRAHA Festival 2021 (**Tereza Ondrová & Francesca Foscarini** and **Marie Gourdain & coll.**) and another program including a month-long exhibition of the Prague City Gallery in Troja Chateau as the culmination of the Dancing Museums project, which is also related to ***Silent Mob*** by Czech artist Tereza Ondrová. Many of these projects work with active viewers, involving non-professional audiences of various ages. Another such work is ***Nibiru III – LOUD RING*** by Hungarian artists working with local teenagers. Marie Gourdain chose to work with the same age group for the September premiere of ***Icarus***.

Audiences will also be involved in the open rehearsal for the 2022 premiere of **Viktor Černický's *PRIM***. Another festival co-production by **Silvia Gribaudi with Tereza Ondrová *Insectum in Prague*** is also postponed to 2022 due to Covid-19-related complications, but we will at least get a peek into the creative process.

One of the most anticipated performances rescheduled from last year is **William Forsythe's *A Quiet Evening of Dance***, which was created in collaboration with Sadler's Wells London Production. The festival managed to secure the performance on September 11, in cooperation with the Karlín Musical Theatre.

**More information at:**

[www.tanecpraha.cz](http://www.tanecpraha.cz)

<https://www.facebook.com/tanecpraha>

<https://www.instagram.com/tanecpraha>

**Trailers for the Event of the Season summer phase**:

**Dimitris Papaioannou** *Transverse Orientation:* <https://vimeo.com/500021788>

**Silvia Gribaudi** *GRACES:* <https://vimeo.com/319207882>