

PRESS RELEASE – 11.11.2019

Anne-Hélène Kotoujansky from Strasbourg wins the competition “Das beste deutsche Tanzsolo” (“Best German dance solo”) 2019

Last night the theatre and dance festival **euro-scene Leipzig** ended with a guest performance by the **Ballet Preljocaj** from Aix-en-Provence. They presented three dance pieces by Angelin Preljocaj, one of France’s leading choreographers, at the sold-out Schauspielhaus, which met with enthusiastic applause and standing ovations.

The festival’s final night was followed by the final round of the **competition “Das beste deutsche Tanzsolo”** (“Best German dance solo”), which took place for the 14th time on the by now legendary round table. **Anne-Hélène Kotoujansky from Strasbourg** won the **first prize** for her solo “siebenundzwanzig – was ich mit dem Tanzen bis jetzt gelernt habe” (“twenty-seven – what I have learned from dancing so far”). The Frenchwoman completed her dance training at the conservatory in her hometown and at the Folkwang Universität der Künste, Essen.

The **second prize** was awarded by the 5-person jury to **Shao-Yang Hsieh** for his solo “j(us)”. Born in Taiwan, the dancer currently studies contemporary stage dance in Linz. The **third prize** went to **Elisabeth Kindler-Abali** from Berlin for her solo “Quotenfrau” (“Token woman”), who graduated from the Palucca Hochschule für Tanz Dresden.

The **audience award** received **Alina Belyagina** from Munich for her solo “Pure.Image”. The prize includes a free stay of several days during the next euro-scene Leipzig. Further sponsors of the prizes are Konsum Leipzig eG, LONG HORN Lipsk Dry Gin, Leipzig, and the IntercityHotel Leipzig.

The **Jury** was comprised of Katja Erfurth, dancer, choreographer and board of Villa Wigman für TANZ e. V., Dresden / Prof. Dr. Claudia Jeschke, dance scholar, Munich and New York / Hermann Heisig, choreographer and dancer, Berlin / Martin Künanz, head of communication, Dresdner Musikfestspiele / Christian Watty, expert consultant at internationale tanzmesse nrw, Dusseldorf.

euro-scene Leipzig organises the competition “Das beste deutsche Tanzsolo” since 1997 according to a concept by the well-known Flemish choreographer **Alain Platel** from Ghent. Anyone was able to apply, regardless of age, training, style and nationality. In an internal pre-selection the festival director Ann-Elisabeth Wolff and René Reinhardt, artistic director of the competition, chose **20 dancers**, who danced their 5-minute soli during the festival. The competition was once again a crowd-puller and sold out on all three nights.

Ann-Elisabeth Wolff
Festival Director

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