

INTERNATIONALES THEATERINSTITUT

German Centre

Press Release

THE ITI GERMANY PRIZE 2022 IS AWARDED TO MONIKA GINTERSDORFER

Monika Gintersdorfer receives the ITI Germany Prize 2022. This selection decision was made by the members of ITI Germany based on a list of suggestions from this year's jury, consisting of ITI executive board members Almut Wagner, Jan Linders and Maria Rößler, as well as ITI members Helge-Björn Meyer, BFDK, and Annette Dabs, FIDENA.

Since 2005, theatre director Monika Gintersdorfer has been working with Gintersdorfer/Klaßen, a German-Ivorian team, as well as numerous international guests, between the worlds, between Europe and Africa and between municipal theatres and the independent performing arts. She works with European and African performers, who contribute their own stories, experiences and imprints. Numerous works in the fields of theatre, dance and performance, were staged in Asia, Africa, Australia and Europe. In 2016, she founded together with the performer and choreographer Franck E. Yao the group La Fleur, which works in the field of dance and theatre between France and Germany. In 2004 she was also co-founder of the Hamburg-based performance group 'Rekolonisation'.

The jury states:

"In Monika Gintersdorfer's works, an intercultural multiplicity emerges from differentiation and diversity. In her work, making visible, probing and bridging cultural differences imply a struggle to allow different points of view to coexist. These confrontations take place collectively and transnationally. Long-term cooperation and collaboration are part of her artistic DNA.

Despite the successful constellation in the duo Gintersdorfer/Klaßen, she is vehemently committed to improving working conditions, allowing participation, and changing funding structures. For her, the continuous confrontation with the issues of postcolonialism and racism, as well as with the art and climate debate beyond eurocentric perspectives means constant structural adjustments and an act of solidarization. She uses her personality, her publicity and her experiences to call for artistic work without the pressure of competition and production, without the dictates of topicality and authenticity, without the stress of generation or globalisation."

Monika Gintersdorfer studied German language and literature and theatre, film and television sciences in Cologne and direction in Hamburg. She is a member of the Akademie der Künste der Welt (Academy of the Arts of the World, ADKDW).

The award ceremony will take place on 25 June as part of the Politics of Invitation event series at the Forum Freies Theater (FFT) in Düsseldorf.

The prize is endowed with 3,000 € and is awarded annually to artists working transnationally. Winners of the last years were: Jetse Batelaan (2020), the ensemble of "Mittelreich" and its director Anta Helena Recke (2019), Viktor Bodó (2018), Yael Ronen (2017) and Milo Rau (2016). In 2021, the prize was used as a donation for the Zoukak Theatre in Beirut (Lebanon).

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