

# Press release

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From: Nicola Schwarz	Date: 10.06.2022
Telefon: 0711/1873-714	E-Mail: nicola.schwarz@vhs-stuttgart.de

## Winners of the 26. International Solo-Dance-Theater Festival Stuttgart 2022 have been chosen

On Pentecost Sunday, the 26th International Solo-Dance-Theater Festival Stuttgart ended with a grand finale and the award ceremony. “Hope4us” is the title of an award-winning play and the hope of winning a prize was fulfilled for eight winners, all coming from Europe this year. The spectators also voted for the two audience awards, each worth 500 Euros. The most popular piece from the preliminary rounds was “Hope4us” by Adrian Popa. For this work the Romanian dancer was able to take home the Public's First Choice Prize. The Public's Final Choice Prize went to the play “ATLAS” by Edoardo Deodati (Italy) and Ana Van Tendeloo (Belgium).

**The winners are:**

### **1st Prize Choreography:**

Zsófia Safranka-Peti (Hungary) with „Layers“

A piece about the question of what happens when we (have to) change from one phase of our life to the next. How does it feel to come back to yourself after perhaps painful changes? The Jury states: „Zsófiás choreography is sharp, intelligent, demanding and reveals already a strong signature. Her piece shows the power of changes in life.“

### **2nd Prize Choreography:**

Isaiah Wilson (Luxembourg) with „FÉVRIER“

A ritual dance about the need to break through established patterns.

The Jury states: „Isaiah has an authentic and strong personality and honest connection between his body, ideas and music. His sensitive and poetic work is without filters.”

### **3rd Prize Choreography:**

Noah Oost (Netherlands) with „last archive“

A very personal piece about disappointed expectations and the difficulty of finding yourself.

The Jury states: „In his work, Noah Oost provides an exceedingly delicate, precise and articulated language. “Last archive” is a very complete and consequent piece.”

### **1st Prize Dance:**

Flavio Quisisana (Italy) with „QUARANTELLA“

Quarantella is the fusion of “quarantine” with the southern Italian folk dance Tarantella. The dancer wants to shake off the bad feelings of the pandemic and counteract them with positive emotions (choreography: Valeria Marangelli).

The Jury states: „Flavio is definitely a complete dancer. With countless skills and artistic qualities. In “QUARANTELLA” he showed a very interesting and precise theater work and an amazing versatility.”

### **2nd Prize Dance:**

Ana Van Tendeloo (Belgium) with „ATLAS“

In Greek mythology, the hero Atlas is doomed to carry the universe on his shoulders. The play shows him torn between pride and weakness, fulfillment of duty and exhaustion (choreography: Edoardo Deodati).

The Jury states: „Ana Van Tendeloo is a dancer with an extraordinary stage presence, excellent technique and great musicality. With her powerful, focused and precise type to move she succeeds in capturing the audience’s imagination and interpreting the topic impressively and expressively.”

### **3rd Prize Dance:**

Letizia Ferlito (Italy) with „Yes, I am“

In his piece, the choreographer deals with his grandfather's illness, who suffered from a dissociative identity disorder (choreography: Marco Laudani).

The Jury states: „Yes I am” reveals a very strong performer in a piece that reaches us as audience. Through a versatile and strong technique and a powerful presence Letizia invites us into her unique world.”

**Jury members:**

**Marco Cantalupo** (Choreographer and Co-Director Compagnie Linga)

**Katja Erdmann-Rajski** (Choreographer, Dancer and Teacher)

**Roberta Ferrara** (Artistic Director Equilibrio Dinamico Dance Company)

**Lotte Sigh** (Choreographer, Artistic Director Copenhagen Dance Arts, Copenhagen Contemporary Dance School)

The prizes for the categories dance and choreography are worth between 1.500 Euros and 3.500 Euros. They have been sponsored by the City of Stuttgart and the Ministry for Science, Research and Art, Baden-Württemberg.

The Linga Award RESIDENCY WORKSHOP by Compagnie Linga went to Letizia Ferlito for “Yes, I am” and the Copenhagen International Dance Prize of the Copenhagen International Dance Festival to Valeria Marangelli and Flavio Quisisana for “QUARANTELLA”. Roberta Ferrara presented two prizes: Isaiah Wilson received the Residency Award and Adrian Popa received the Scholarship for Equilibrio Dinamico Ensemble.

A new addition this year were three privately sponsored recognition awards for dance pieces. They were particularly popular with the public and went to Martina Ronchetti (choreography) and Elena Basso (performance) for “Clarissa”, to Johannes Blattner (choreography) and Elias Bäckebyörk (performance) for “Prepost Avatar” as well as to Isabella Accorsi for “From Cocoon to Butterfly”.

**Moderation:** Leonie Wagner

**Festival director:** Gudrun Hähnel

**Artistic director:** Marcelo Santos

**More Information:** [www.solo-tanz-theater.de](http://www.solo-tanz-theater.de)

For the anniversary festival last year, an interactive anniversary brochure was created with exciting insights and reviews of 25 years of festival history.

<https://www.unserebrochuere.de/international-solo-dance-theatre-festival-stuttgart/WebView/>