

# International Forum at Theatertreffen 2018 by Berliner Festspiele

## Open Call

This call is aimed at theatre makers up to the age of 35 from the fields of directing, acting, design, dramaturgy, writing, music, video, performance, choreography and other artistic disciplines. The International Forum is a 18 days scholarship programme organised by the Berliner Festspiele's Theatertreffen and sponsors theatre makers from all parts of the world.

We are especially interested in hearing from artists whose work addresses socially relevant issues, outlines new narratives and perspectives and seeks to connect with traditional theatre forms with the aim of developing them further and looking for new aesthetic idioms. The Open Call is aimed both at artists and actors employed by established theatre institutions and at artists and performers who work in independent contexts.

As a field for creative experimentation and a space for utopian thought, it provides performative and discursive exchange in an international context and endeavours to open hybrid spaces in which the boundaries between performing arts, visual arts and science become fluid.

The programme includes the presentation of the invited theatre makers and their aesthetic practice in lectures, workshops held by renowned artists, experts and scholars, attendance at performances and artists' talks of Theatertreffen and Stückemarkt, open space events and discussions on relevant topics of contemporary art as well as excursions into the varied cultural landscape of Berlin.

The creative and discursive spectrum of each edition of the International Forum results from their respective constellation of invited theatre makers and their specific experience and knowledge, from the artistic positions presented by the Theatertreffen and current developments in the contemporary art scene.

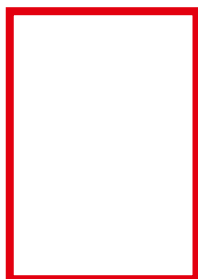
## Contact:

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Auskünfte und Informationen unter:  
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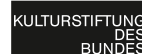
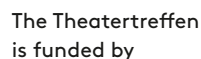
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[www.berlinerfestspiele.de](http://www.berlinerfestspiele.de)



## Our Partners

The International Forum is a project of the Theatertreffen, division Berliner Festspiele / Kulturveranstaltungen des Bundes in Berlin GmbH. It takes place with the cooperation of the Goethe Institute and the Swiss cultural foundation Pro Helvetia. It is supported by the German Stage Association and the regional association of the German Stage Association in Baden Württemberg. Further sponsors are the Federal Chancellery of the Republic of Austria (section: art), the regional Ministries of Culture of the Federal Republic of Germany, das Cultural Administration of the City of Munich and the Cultural Foundation of the Free State of Saxony and the German Stage Association and the regional associations of the German Stage Association in Bavaria and Baden Württemberg.



# INTERNATIONAL FORUM – THEATERTREFFEN

For 54 years, the support of young theatre makers in form of the International Forum has been a permanent feature, besides Stückemarkt and Theater-treffen-Blog, of the Theatertreffen of the Berliner Festspiele, which presents a showcase of the ten most remarkable theatre productions of each season from Germany, Austria and Switzerland. Outstanding quality of content and aesthetics is the deciding criterion for an invitation to the renowned Theatertreffen.

The Theatertreffen's International Forum is a focal lens for trends of contemporary development. With its 34 theatre makers from various nations and diverse aesthetic, cultural and political influences, it is a space for political thought and experience in art. One half of the participants are theatre makers from German-speaking countries, the other half come from all over the world. As an intercultural network, it facilitates transfer between socio-political knowledge and aesthetic practice. The variety of ways in which the artists produce and receive theatres in their home countries will contribute to a wide spectrum of points of view. In this sense, the foreign will become a way of challenging habitual perceptions and perspective, a difference from habitual social and aesthetic practice. Engaging in forms of international cooperation is a defining element of this congregation of fellows. The fellows of the International Forum will receive a scholarship for the duration of the festival.

## The Programme

The International Forum's programme is based on four elements:

**Attending performances** of the ten productions invited to the Theatertreffen as well as selected events of Stückemarkt and the international platform Shifting Perspectives.

**An exclusive programme of theatre practise** consisting of workshops headed by experienced artists, researchers and experts, lectures given by the fellows and task groups working on aesthetic and topical issues.

**A programme of theatre theory** consisting of an exchange of ideas with international theatre makers, expert audiences and external experts within the context of discursive events organised by the Theatertreffen (lectures, round tables, open spaces, artists' talks).

**Excursions** to Berlin's cultural scene and to performances at theatres around Berlin.

# Information on the Scholarship Programme

## 1. Dates

**Deadline for applications for the International Forum: 15 December 2017**

Announcement of selected participants: mid-February 2018

Jury decision on the guest performances of the Theatertreffen: 30 January 2018

The Theatertreffen takes place from 4 to 20 May 2018.

The International Forum opens on Friday, 4 May 2018, and ends on Sunday, 20 May 2018 (day of departure: Monday, 21 May 2018).

## 2. Programme

- Attendance at the Theatertreffen performances presentations as well as selected events of the Stückemarkt and the international platform Shifting Perspectives
- Workshops over several days headed by experienced artists, experts and researchers
- Lectures by scholarship holders
- Exclusive artists talks and presentations about the productions invited to the Theatertreffen, with input by participating artists
- Participation in the discursive programme of the Theatertreffen
- Discussion with the directors and jury members of the Theatertreffen
- Audience discussions and premiere parties at the Theatertreffen
- Working groups on overarching themes
- Exchange with international theatre directors and curators in cooperation with the Goethe-Institut
- Excursions and attendance at other performances in Berlin

A detailed programme of the International Forum will be announced in April 2018.

### 3. Benefits

The scholarship normally includes:

- All costs of participation for the programme
- Tickets to theatre performances of the Theatertreffen and selected events of the Stückemarkt and the international platform Shifting Perspectives
- Travel expenses (depending on the country of origin, the costs for the use of the cheapest travel option possible, will be completely or partially covered, or no travel costs will be covered at all)
- Hotel accommodation with breakfast (excluding fellows resident in Berlin)
- Per diem (according to the performance agreement, this depends on the country of origin and does not apply to fellows resident in Berlin)
- Catering

### 4. Conditions

Applicants should

- be no older than 35 years of age
- have several years of independent professional experience
- work in the theatre continually in a professional and creative capacity
- be available to participate for the entire period (4 to 20 May 2018)
- have an adequate working knowledge of German (at least B2, a certificate is necessary); Exceptions for non-German-speaking participants are possible exclusively at the suggestion of a Goethe-Institut
- have a good or very good knowledge of English, because a large part of the events will be held in English.

### 5. How to apply

Artists from all over the world may apply. You must apply via one of the following institutions. The main local focus of your work determines to which institution you should make your application.

**Deadline for applications: 15 December 2017**

## I. Germany - Austria

Artists with the main local focus of their work in Germany and Austria can apply directly to the Berliner Festspiele.

The application should include:

- the application form
- artistic curriculum vitae, reviews, links
- a portrait photo
- a letter of recommendation
- Motivational letter answering the following questions in writing (max. two A4-pages):
  1. What is your motivation for taking part in the International Forum?
  2. What distinguishes your theatre projects or your working methods?
  3. What are the influences of socio-political developments on your theatre work?

Please also send a digital version of the application to:  
[internationales-forum-bewerbung@berlinerfestspiele.de](mailto:internationales-forum-bewerbung@berlinerfestspiele.de)

We regret that due to the large number of applicants we cannot send individual notifications of rejection.

Please check our website to see who has been invited.

The information will be posted on our website by mid-February 2018.

## II. Applications from all non-German-speaking countries

Theatre makers apply via the Goethe-Institut in their country of origin.  
Please contact them before applying to get information about the procedure.

A full list of the institutes can be found here:  
[www.goethe.de/de/wwt.html](http://www.goethe.de/de/wwt.html)

Further information at:  
[www.goethe.de/internationalesforum](http://www.goethe.de/internationalesforum)

## III. Switzerland

Artists with the main local focus of their work in Switzerland can apply directly to Pro Helvetia.

Only applications submitted via [www.myprohelvetia.ch](http://www.myprohelvetia.ch) can be considered.  
Please attach the following documents to your online application:

- artistic curriculum vitae
- Motivational letter answering the following questions in writing (max. two A4-pages):
  1. What is your motivation for taking part in the International Forum?
  2. What distinguishes your theatre projects or your working methods?
  3. What are the influences of socio-political developments on your theatre work?
- a letter of recommendation

For further information: [www.prohelvetia.ch](http://www.prohelvetia.ch)  
Contact: [theater@prohelvetia.ch](mailto:theater@prohelvetia.ch)

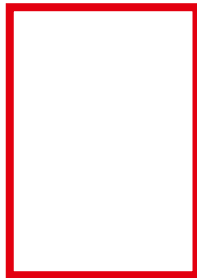
All applicants from Switzerland will be informed in writing whether or not they will be invited to participate in February 2018.

## 6. Invitations

Invitations will be issued to participants from mid-February 2017.  
The detailed festival programme will be published in April 2017.

The documentation of the International Forum 2017  
will give you a first impression:

[www.berlinerfestspiele.de/de/aktuell/festivals/theatertreffen/  
ueber\\_festival\\_tt/allgemein\\_tt/allgemein\\_tt\\_1.php](http://www.berlinerfestspiele.de/de/aktuell/festivals/theatertreffen/ueber_festival_tt/allgemein_tt/allgemein_tt_1.php)



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