

The **Kölner Tänzerinitiative e.V.** is an association of professional freelance choreographers, dancers, dance directors/producers and trainers, all of whom are based in Cologne, Germany. The Kölner Tänzerinitiative e.V. stands for the common good. It is understood as an effective means of promotion for contemporary dance and of communication for freelance dancers with the public. To this end, our work focuses on the following tasks:

Political promotion We are engaged in a multi-party effort to establish a permanent place for choreographic productions and professional performances in Cologne. We develop suitable concepts, conduct feasibility studies and talk to politicians and public promoters. In addition to this, we actively work to improve existing official support structures. **Festival TANZ|hautnah** is an annual festival organized by the Kölner Tänzerinitiative e.V.

The **membership** includes communication such as newsletters, reduction in rental fees for practice rooms and open professional dance training organized by Barnes Crossing in the Wachsfabrik in Cologne-Rodenkirchen. A "dancer ID" is accepted by most theaters in North Rhine-Westphalia for discounted ticket prices for dance performances.

TANZ|hautnah Festival – Productions from Cologne-based choreographers and ensembles have been presented regularly at the Bürgerhaus Stollwerck since 1996. TANZ|hautnah provides an artistically varied platform for contemporary dance available to both **established artists and newcomers**.

In addition to this, several special events such as site-specific performances, movie viewings, contact improvisation jams and photo exhibitions are presented each year. In the past few years, a **partnership network** has been established. Partners include the Internationales Soltanzfestival in Bonn, the short dances series k² in Freiburg and the Festival 638 Kilo Tanz in Essen.

Since 2006 TANZ|hautnah has been providing an opportunity to get to know the working methods of the artists in a **workshop setting**. The workshops offered range from Body Work, Ballet and Contemporary Dance to Improvisation and Dance Theater to name a few.

A permanent part of the festival consists of the **open discussion**, in which invited guests discuss topics related to dance politics and artistic approaches.



KÖLNERTÄNZER INITIATIVE E.V.

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