

CONTACT:  
Christina Kellogg 510.643.6714  
ckellogg@calperformances.org  
Joe Yang 510.642.9121  
scyang@calperformances.org

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**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS  
TANZTHEATER WUPPERTAL PINA BAUSCH  
IN THE LEGENDARY CHOREOGRAPHER'S *DANZÓN*  
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2 AND 3  
AT 8:00 P.M. IN ZELLERBACH HALL**

**Berkeley stop is the only U. S. appearance by the company this season**

**BERKELEY, November 10, 2011**—Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch, the brainchild of the late German choreographer **Pina Bausch**, makes its only U.S. appearance this season in Berkeley on **Friday and Saturday, December 2 and 3 at 8:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall. Tanztheater Wuppertal will perform *Danzón*, a 1995 work that takes its name from a lively Cuban dance and incorporates—as so many of Bausch's works do—elements of classical and modern dance, moving and still images, and theatrical props and costumes to create a rich dance theater experience overflowing with raw human emotion. “Tanztheater Wuppertal has become one of the most radical, influential and important forces in the world of dance, famous for works that seem to strip human nature bare” (*The Telegraph*, UK).

*Danzón* opens with a crawling diapered man and concludes with music from Camille Saint-Saëns' “Le Cygne” and a quote from Goethe. For more than 100 uninterrupted minutes in between, a dozen dancers present overlapping sketches of Adam and Eve, a mother reading to a child, nude women pushed about in wheelbarrows, people camping in the woods, and other scenes. These and other seemingly disparate images are set to music ranging from American jazz and Mexican pop, to international folk songs, to instrumental works of Mahler and Purcell. The scenery consists largely of translucent scrims with images and videos projected onto them, perhaps a comment on the role of illusion in life. The entirety of the experience in *Danzón* is intimate, bittersweet, strongly physical, and at times very funny. Pina Bausch traditionally performed in *Danzón*; her role will be danced by Aleš Čuček in Berkeley.

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This will be the first engagement of Tanztheater Wuppertal in Berkeley since the 2009 death of Pina Bausch. Bausch and her company first began coming to Cal Performances in 1996 with *Nur Du*, returning most recently in 2007 with *Ten Chi*.

### **TANZTHEATER WUPPERTAL PINA BAUSCH**

German choreographer and Dance Theater innovator **Pina Bausch** was born in 1940 in Solingen, Germany. Her parents ran a restaurant, and Pina (born Philippine) spent her youth observing customers in the restaurant and witnessing the horror of war firsthand. At age 14 she enrolled in the Folkwang School in Essen and studied dance with Kurt Jooss, an early German proponent of modern dance. Under Jooss, Bausch learned both techniques of free expression and respect for classical dance form, and at the Folkwang School she was exposed to other artforms including opera, music, drama, painting, and design. All of these influences came to color her groundbreaking work.

After several years in New York, training at The Juilliard School and dancing professionally, Bausch returned to Germany—first to dance and choreograph with Jooss' Folkwang Tanzstudio and then, in 1973, to lead the Wuppertal (Germany) Opera Ballet—which she promptly renamed **Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch**. This renaming was seen as a statement of Bausch's intent to emancipate the company from balletic routine and to instead explore the frontiers of dance theater. At Wuppertal Bausch created the very first dance operas; explored, through dance, various musical genres including popular song, folksongs, and operetta in addition to compositions written specifically for dance; and introduced drama and humor onto the dance stage. These myriad influences crystallized in 1978 with Bausch's dreamlike, poetic production of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, a work that looks unflinchingly at reality and emotion while allowing audiences to escape into fantasy. Bausch's *Macbeth* sparked an international choreographic revolution that continues to influence choreographers and dancers today.

In succeeding decades Bausch worked with and co-produced Dance Theater works in Italy, Spain, Austria, the United States, Hong Kong, Portugal, Hungary, Brazil, Turkey, Japan, South Korea, India, and Chile. Her work developed into a true world theater, incorporating all sorts of cultural influences and treating every audience member and dancer with respect. In

recognition of her work, Bausch received dozens of awards and prizes, including the Bessie Award, the German Dance Prize, the Berlin Theater Prize, Japan's Praemium Imperiale, Monte Carlo's Nijinsky Prize, the Golden Mask in Moscow, the Goethe Prize of Frankfurt, the Venice Biennale Golden Lion, the Laurence Olivier Award, and the Kyoto Prize. The German government honored Bausch with the Order of Merit, and the French government presented her with the Ordre de Arts et des Lettres and the Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur.

Bausch died in June 2009, just weeks after being diagnosed with cancer. Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bosch continues to perform Bausch's works worldwide under artistic directors **Dominique Mercy**, a longtime member of the Tanztheater ensemble, and **Robert Sturm**, the company's former assistant director. Berkeley is the only U.S. stop on its current tour. The cast for this production of *Danzón* consists of **Regina Advento, Andrey Berezin, Antonio Carallo, Mechthild Großmann, Barbara Hampel, Daphnis Kokkinos, Marigia Maggipinto, Dominique Mercy, Jan Minarik, Cristiana Morganti, and Aida Vainieri.**

#### TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch: *Danzón*** on **Friday and Saturday, December 2 and 3** in Zellerbach Hall are priced at \$30.00, \$48.00, \$60.00, \$70.00, \$82.00, and \$86.00. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at [www.calperformances.org](http://www.calperformances.org); and at the door. Half-price tickets are available for purchase by UC Berkeley students. UC faculty and staff, senior citizens, other students and UC Alumni Association members receive a \$5 discount (Special Events excluded). For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988, or visit the Cal Performances web site at [www.calperformances.org](http://www.calperformances.org).

For select performances, Cal Performances offers UCB student, faculty and staff, senior, and community rush tickets. Rush tickets are announced three hours prior to a performance and are available in person only at the Ticket Office beginning one hour before the performance; quantities may be limited. Rush ticket sales are limited to one ticket per person; all sales are cash only. Rush ticket prices are \$10.00 for UCB students; \$15.00 for UCB faculty and staff (UCB ID required) and seniors age 65 or older; and \$20.00 for all other community members. Information

is available on Cal Performances' Facebook page and at 510-642-9988; press 2 for the rush hotline, three hours prior to a performance only.

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Cal Performances thanks Wells Fargo, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and Bank of America for their major support of the Season.

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**CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**

**Friday & Saturday, December 2 & 3 at 8:00 p.m. Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus**  
Bancroft Way at Telegraph Ave., Berkeley

*Dance*

**Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch**

**Dominique Mercy**, co-artistic director

**Robert Strum**, co-artistic director

**Program:**

*Danzón* (1995), choreographed by Pina Bausch; set design by Peter Pabst; costume design by Marion Cito; set to music by Francesco Cilea, Umberto Giordano, Gustav Mahler, Henry Purcell, Camille Saint-Saëns, Ben Webster, Billie Holiday, Johnny Hodges, among others

**Tickets:** \$30.00, \$48.00, \$60.00, \$70.00, \$82.00, and \$86.00, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at [www.calperformances.org](http://www.calperformances.org); and at the door.

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