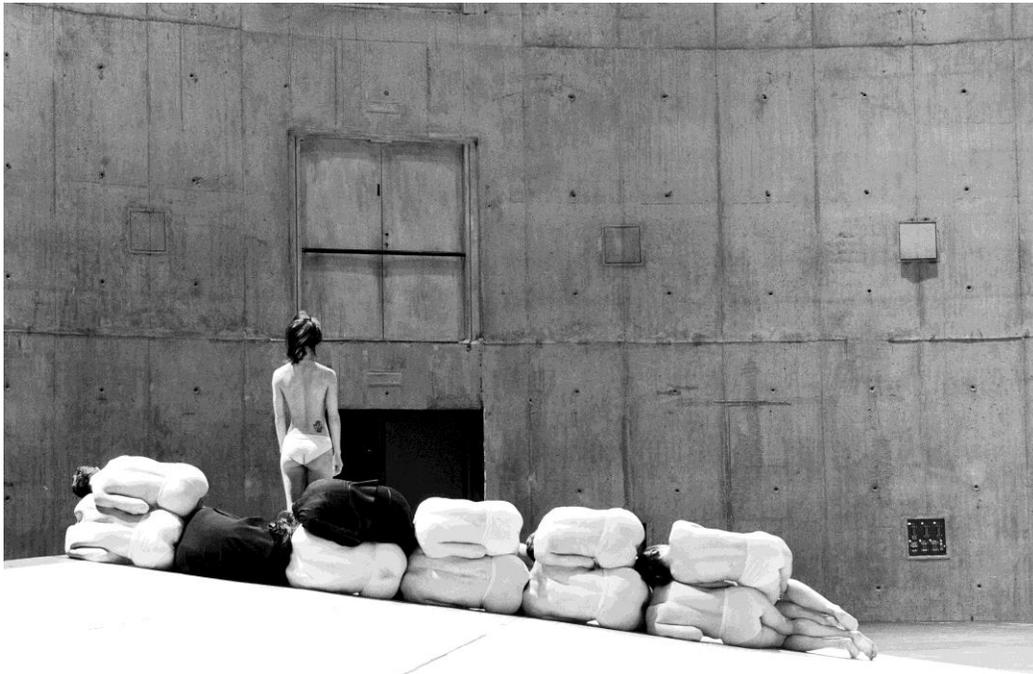


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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 19, 2018
[Press Room](#)



Images of Sasha Waltz & Guests are available for download from the Cal Performances [press room](#).

**CAL PERFORMANCES AT UC BERKELEY PRESENTS
SASHA WALTZ & GUESTS
IN HER SIGNATURE WORK, *KÖRPER*
SATURDAY–SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20-21**

Performances are part of Cal Performances' 2018–19 *Women's Work* thematic strand, which recognizes the distinct artistry of women as creators across a range of artistic genres

Residency activities include an Artist Talk with choreographer Sasha Waltz and *Catharsis Café* audience discussions following each performance

Berkeley, September 19, 2018 — Cal Performances at UC Berkeley continues its 2018–19 dance season with a revival of groundbreaking Berlin choreographer Sasha Waltz's signature work, *Körper* (*Bodies*), October 20–21 in Zellerbach Hall. Waltz premiered *Körper* in 2000 during her first

season as co-artistic director of the Schaubühne Berlin, and in Berkeley the company will celebrate the 200th performance of the piece. In a series of living tableaux, *Körper* explores how medicine, commerce, technology, politics, and reproduction make demands on the human body. The 90-minute work is set on 13 female and male dancers, who explore a visceral and often surreal emotional landscape against a stark black backdrop. Though *Körper* is abstract and non-narrative, much of the emotional content and movement vocabulary are drawn from Waltz's research on the Holocaust, conducted at the Jewish Museum in Berlin, where she first created sketches for the work.

The performances are part of Cal Performances' 2018–19 *Women's Work* thematic strand, which includes five programs across several genres, created or performed by trailblazing female theater artists, musicians, directors, and choreographers. Some of these works place traditional feminist thinking in conversation with a new wave of feminist thought, using imaginative narrative techniques and inventive blending of media. While Cal Performances has always presented women artists of the highest caliber, the *Women's Work* strand is a focused look at the extraordinary artistry of five women who are not only principal creators of works, but more broadly, are expanding the definition of what it is to be an artist in the 21st century.

These performances of *Körper* continue Cal Performances' nearly 20-year association with Waltz, who first visited UC Berkeley in 1999, when she was co-artistic director of the Schaubühne Berlin, alongside directors Thomas Ostermeier, Jens Hillje, and Jochen Sandig. For that Berkeley debut, the company performed the US premiere of Waltz's full-length *Zweiland (Two Land)*. She returned two seasons later, in 2001, with *Alee der Kosmonauten (Avenue of the Astronauts)*, performed against a "virtual" living room created by video installations by artist Elliot Caplan. The company returned to Berkeley most recently in the 2014–15 season with Waltz's *Impromptus*, an intimate and lyrical work set to Schubert's shimmering impromptus and lieder.

Choreographer, dancer, and director Sasha Waltz has created a singular body of influential and provocative work since the early days of her career, when she first began to combine the collaborative, cross-disciplinary spirit of the 1980s New York City dance scene with the dynamic and risk-taking arts environment of post-wall Berlin. Together with Jochen Sandig she founded Sasha Waltz & Guests in 1993, creating many significant works in the company's first decade, including *Travelogue* and *Körper*, as well as the immersive dance installation *insideout*. The company celebrates its

25th anniversary this year, and its more than 300 guest artists to date—architects, visual artists, designers, filmmakers, choreographers, musicians, dancers—are a testament to the company’s commitment to hybridity and collaboration. Waltz’s work also has explored ways of revitalizing historical opera and ballet through contemporary choreography, and she has created dances for productions at the Opéra national de Paris, the Mariinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg, and the Staatsoper Berlin. Recent works, often in nontraditional performance spaces, have probed the intersection of movement with architecture, politics, and history.

Public programs are planned in conjunction with the company’s residency. A post-performance Catharsis Café discussion and reception after each performance will take place in the Lobby Mezzanine of Zellerbach Hall, and is free to ticket holders. In addition, an Artist Talk with Waltz will take place at 5pm on Thursday, October 18 in the Geballe Room at Stephens Hall on the UC Berkeley campus, co-hosted by the UC Berkeley Departments of Comparative Literature and German (free and open to the public).

These performances contain nudity, smoking on stage, and loud music.

Ticket Information

Tickets for *Sasha Waltz & Guests in Körper* on Saturday, October 20 at 8pm, and Sunday October 21 at 3pm in Zellerbach Hall range from \$30–78 (prices subject to change). Half-price tickets are available for UC Berkeley students. Tickets are available through the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall, at (510) 642-9988, at calperformances.org, and at the door. For more information about discounts, go to calperformances.org/discounts.

The performances of Körper by Sasha Waltz & Guests are part of the German Year in the USA 2018-19 initiative and are supported by the German Federal Foreign Office.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Saturday, October 20, 8pm

Sunday, October 21, 3pm

Zellerbach Hall

Bancroft Way at Dana Street
UC Berkeley campus

Dance

Sasha Waltz & Guests

Körper

Program: In her signature work, *Körper (Bodies)*, Berlin choreographer Sasha Waltz explores the visceral tangle of humanity from the perspectives of history, science, and architecture. Waltz premiered *Körper* in 2000 during her first season as co-artistic director of the Schaubühne Berlin, and in Berkeley the company will celebrate the 200th performance of the piece. Set on 13 male and female dancers, the movement evokes a staggering range of embodied experience through a series of living tableaux, both epic and intimate; the dancers morph and converge, meld and squirm, join and are torn apart, creating a powerful and unforgettable emotional landscape. *Please note: this work includes nudity.*

Berkeley RADICAL: This performance is part of the *Women's Work* thematic strand, which shines a spotlight on remarkable female artists—directors, musicians, and choreographers—and explores the role of women creators in the arts and beyond.

Tickets: \$30–78 (prices subject to change)

Residency

Artist Talk: Sasha Waltz

Thursday, October 18, 5pm

Geballe Room, Stephens Hall, UC Berkeley campus

Cal Performances presents an artist talk with choreographer Sasha Waltz, presented in association with the UC Berkeley Depts. of Comparative Literature and German.

Free and open to the public.

Catharsis Café

Post-performance Discussion

Saturday, October 20 and Sunday, October 21

Zellerbach Hall Lobby Mezzanine

Ticket holders are invited to a (free) post-performance discussion and reception.

Refreshments will be served.