

# Open Call

**THEATER**  
**TREFFEN** Berliner  
Festspiele

## International Forum at the 2024 Theatertreffen of Berliner Festspiele

From 1 January 2024, Nora Hertlein-Hull will assume the directorship of Theatertreffen, which is considered to be the most important presentation platform of German-language theatre. The selection of productions invited to Theatertreffen is based on their outstanding quality of content and aesthetics. This tableau of selected works is regarded as representative of the state of the art of German-language theatre. The festival's accompanying programme will place a special focus on exchange and numerous debates on aesthetics, conditions of production and socio-political discourses, including international perspectives. The goal is to shape Theatertreffen as an exciting opportunity to analyse the status quo and the future of theatre making in the German-language region, both for the audience and for experts.

Beside the ten remarkable productions from the German-language region selected by a jury of seven critics, this year will mark the 60th time that Berliner Festspiele's Theatertreffen will invite artists from around the world to take part in the International Forum, an 18-day exclusive scholarship programme. The International Forum sees itself as a networking platform for young theatre makers, an interdisciplinary laboratory and a self-reflective aspect of Theatertreffen, enabling in-depth analysis of German-language theatre production. The variety of procedures employed by the artists to produce and perceive theatre within their respective working contexts informs the wide range of perspectives within the International Forum. Exploring forms of international co-operation is the basis of the fellows' congregation.

The International Forum's programme includes the presentation of the invited scholarship holders' creative practices, attendance at and analysis of the invited productions, workshops with renowned artists from various disciplines, artist talks, networking meetings with young arts journalists attending the TT-Blog and participants of the Open Campus and Open Spaces and discussions about current developments in the arts. The artistic and discursive spectrum of each edition of the International Forum results from the respective constellation of invited artists and their specific cultural and experienced-based knowledge, from Theatertreffen's artistic positions as well as from developments and debates within the contemporary art scene and the priorities defined by the heads of International Forum.

This Open Call for the International Forum is addressed at artists up to the age of approx. 35 years from all sectors of the Performing Arts, especially from the fields of directing, acting, set and costume design, dramaturgy, text production, music, video, performance, media, choreography, production management and theatre education.

The International Forum's scholarship is based on five pillars:

- **Attending performances** and other formats of the 2024 Theatertreffen
- **An exclusive programme of performing arts practice** consisting of workshops held by experienced artists, researchers and experts, presentations given by the fellows and task groups working on a range of different issues of content and aesthetics
- **A programme of performing arts theory** consisting of an exchange of ideas with international theatre makers, the expert audience and external experts in the context of discursive events organised by Theatertreffen (presentations, reflection rounds, artist talks)
- **Excursions** exploring Berlin's cultural scene, with opportunities to visit museums and see performances at various theatres in Berlin
- **Networking programmes** which will promote international connections, both between the artists and with cultural institutions (Work Café, Open Spaces, Goethe-Institut)

More information on Theatertreffen and the International Forum is available on:  
**[www.berlinerfestspiele.de/en/theatertreffen](http://www.berlinerfestspiele.de/en/theatertreffen)**

# Practical Information on the Scholarship Programme

## 1. Dates

**Deadline for Applications for the 2024 International Forum: 7 January 2024**

Announcement of the selected fellows: late February 2024

Online preparatory meeting in April 2024.

Theatertreffen will take place in Berlin from 2 to 19 May 2024.

The International Forum will begin on the afternoon of Thursday, 2 May 2024 and end on Sunday, 19 May 2024.

The day of departure is Monday, 20 May 2024.

## 2. Programme

- Attendance at performances and other formats of Theatertreffen
- Workshops with artists, experts and researchers
- Exclusive artist talks and events related to Theatertreffen
- Participation in the discursive programme
- Networking opportunities with the other supporting programmes for emerging artists and journalists (Open Campus, TT Blog)
- Discussions with the festival director and members of the Theatertreffen-jury
- Working groups on overarching issues
- Exchange with international theatre directors and curators in cooperation with the Goethe-Institut
- Attendance at audience discussions and opening night parties
- Excursions and attendance at additional performances in Berlin

The detailed programme of the International Forum will be announced in April 2024.

## 3. Benefits

In general, the scholarship includes all costs for participation in the programme:

- Tickets to Theatertreffen events
- Travel expenses (full coverage / partial coverage / no coverage – depending on country of origin, most economic travel option applies)
- Expenses for travel within Berlin on public transport
- Hotel accommodation including breakfast (excluding fellows who are residents in Berlin)
- Per diem or subsistence allowance (according to the performance agreement, this depends on the country of origin and does not apply to fellows who are residents in Berlin)
- Catering
- Travel and health insurance (for international scholarship holders)
- Visa fees (for international scholarship holders)

## 4. Conditions of Participation

Applicants should

- be up to approx. 35 years old
- have several years of autonomous professional experience
- be available to participate over the entire period of the International Forum (2–19 May 2024)
- have good or very good English language skills (common working language mainly English)
- Participation and active contribution to the entire programme is expected.

## 5. Application

When selecting fellows, we consider applicants' personalities and abilities.  
We welcome BiPoC -artists, people with a migration history,  
queer people and people with disabilities.  
We are not completely barrier-free, but strive to create individual solutions.

Artists from all regions of the world can apply.  
The applications are made via various institutions,  
**depending on your current main location of work.**

**Deadline for applications for the 2024 International Forum: 7 January 2024**

## I. Main Location of Work in Germany, Austria and Switzerland

Artists whose **current main location of work is in Germany, Austria and Switzerland**  
apply directly to Berliner Festspiele.

Please send us **only** digital applications which have to include the following documents:

- a filled-in application form (see website)
- an artistic curriculum vitae, reviews, links  
(including visual, sound and text media, max. 5 MB)
- a portrait photo (minimum size: 300 dpi at approx. 500 KB)
- contact data of two professionals from the areas of theatre or culture  
who can recommend your artistic work
- a confirmation of release from your employing theatre or institution for the entire period  
of the International Forum (this only applies to artists in permanent employment)
- a letter of motivation considering the following questions  
(max. three A4-pages):
  - What do you hope to gain from the exchange of ideas in the framework of  
the International Forum and the in-depth exploration of the invited productions?  
What is your interest in the German-language theatre scene?
  - What are the distinguishing features of your projects or your working methods and  
why would an international exchange be relevant to them?
  - How are socio-political developments included in your artistic practice?  
Which perspective would you contribute?

Applications from Germany, Austria and Switzerland should be sent per e-mail to:  
**[internationales-forum-bewerbung@berlinerfestspiele.de](mailto:internationales-forum-bewerbung@berlinerfestspiele.de)**

The selected applicants will be contacted by phone in late February 2024.  
Due to a large number of applications, we will be unable to send out  
individual notices of rejection.  
The final decisions can be accessed on our website  
**[www.berlinerfestspiele.de/en/theatertreffen](http://www.berlinerfestspiele.de/en/theatertreffen)** from late February 2024.

## II. International

Artists with a **current main location of work outside the German-language countries** should apply via the Goethe-Institut responsible for their main location of work. Please contact the respective Goethe-Institut, preferably before you apply, to enquire about the exact application procedure.

A full list of Goethe-Institut locations:

**[goethe.de/de/wwt.html](https://goethe.de/de/wwt.html)**

Further information on the application formalities:

**[goethe.de/internationalesforum](https://goethe.de/internationalesforum)**

## 6. Invitations

The invitations will be issued to selected applicants in late February 2024.  
The detailed festival programme will be announced in April 2024.

Information on Theatertreffen and on the International Forum is available at:  
**[www.berlinerfestspiele.de/en/theatertreffen](https://www.berlinerfestspiele.de/en/theatertreffen)**

### **Contact:**

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[berlinerfestspiele.de/forum](https://berlinerfestspiele.de/forum)  
[berlinerfestspiele.de](https://berlinerfestspiele.de)

# Our Partners

The International Forum takes place in cooperation with the Goethe-Institut and the Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia. It is supported by the German Stage Association.

Theatertreffen is funded by the  
German Federal Cultural Foundation



funded by



Minister of State  
for Culture and the Media

The International Forum is realised  
in cooperation with



swiss arts council  
**prohelvetia**

The 2023 International Forum was realised in May  
thanks to the support of our partners:



**Deutscher Bühnenverein**  
Bundesverband der Theater und Orchester



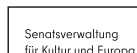
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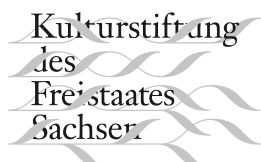


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für Wissenschaft und Kunst**



**Niedersächsisches Ministerium  
für Wissenschaft und Kultur**

Ministerium für  
Kultur und Wissenschaft  
des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen



This initiative is co-financed through  
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