

Stuttgart, May 17, 2024

The Stuttgart Ballet 2024/25 season

A dance journey between modern and classical - five full-length ballets and four mixed bills

Artistic Director Tamas Detrich announced the 2024/25 season today. This season, audiences can once again look forward to a world-class, wide-ranging spectrum of dance.

One highlight will be the premiere of John Neumeier's *Anna Karenina*. Neumeier, the great storyteller of the ballet world, transposes this tragic family drama based on Leo Tolstoy's world-famous novel into the present day. Simple, modern and deeply moving, he paints the picture of a strong woman who ultimately perishes due societal pressure and double standards. Further full-length ballets in our repertoire will offer romance [*Romeo and Juliet*], tragedy [*Swan Lake*], fantasy [*The Nutcracker*] and comedy [*Don Quixote*].

In four mixed bills, a total of 10 choreographic styles will show just how versatile ballet can be. In MAHLER X THREE MASTERS, Kenneth MacMillan, Maurice Béjart and John Cranko transform the music of Gustav Mahler into dance. A special highlight of the evening will be an excerpt from Cranko's last ballet *Traces*, a reconstruction of which was shown at the gala on the 50th anniversary of his death. FIVE FOR HANS celebrates the choreographer Hans van Manen and shows the extensive range of this versatile Dutch choreographer. The double bill NOVITZKY/DAWSON, which premieres in June 2024 in the opera house, will also be shown in the fall of 2024. In the Schauspielhaus, NIGHT/DREAMS presents darkly fascinating pieces by four choreographers of the younger generation.

Last but not least: after a long break, the Stuttgart Ballet resumes touring on a large scale: At the invitation of the Japan Performing Arts Foundation, John Cranko's *Onegin* and John Neumeier's *The Lady of the Camellias* will be danced in Japan. The season will open with the world premiere of a new feature film about John Cranko. Before Joachim A. Lang's moving biopic is released in cinemas, the film will be shown at the opera house. The numerous projects of the Stuttgart Ballet JUNG+ also offer a varied program for dance enthusiasts of all ages and all those who want to become one in the 2024/25 season.

New sales modality: On July 8, 2024, ticket for all published performance dates of the entire season will go on sale. Tickets are available online, by telephone and at the theater box office from 10 am. Advance bookings are no longer possible. Extras such as *Ballett & Brezeln* and *Behind the Scenes* are excluded. These performances go on sale two months in advance.

PREMIERES

Triple Bill

MAHLER X THREE MASTERS

Premiere - January 15, 2025 in the Opera House

Gustav Mahler's music allows us to look into the depths of the soul. The works of the famous German composer bear witness to a time of extremes: the world at the end of the 19th century, full of progress on the one hand and misery on the other. The triple bill MAHLER X THREE MASTERS brings the composer together with three masters of dance. In *Song of the Earth*, created for the Stuttgart Ballet in 1965, Kenneth MacMillan traces the cycle of life to Mahler's eponymous orchestral song cycle. Maurice Béjart's *Songs of a Wayfarer* follows a man on his travels. Always present at his side is a messenger of death - or is it his guardian angel? John Cranko created *Traces* during the Cold War in 1973; it was one of his last works before his untimely death at age 45. To Mahler's unfinished 10th Symphony, Cranko created his most political piece, depicting the struggle of a refugee - who has survived the horrors of an authoritarian regime and incarceration in its death camps - to acclimate to her new life in a free and modern society. More than 50 years after its world premiere, the piece has, sadly, lost none of its topicality.

Further Performances

January 16 / 18

February 1 / 6 / 14 / 19 / 26

March 2 [aft/eve] 2025

Anna Karenina

Premiere - March 14, 2025 in the Opera House

Leo Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina* is one of the great novels of world literature. In John Neumeier's 2017 dance interpretation, he breaks the plot down to its essentials and brings Tolstoy's masterpiece from the 19th century into the present day. To music by Peter Tchaikovsky, Alfred Schnittke and Cat Stevens / Yusuf Islam, Neumeier creates a modern portrait of society by means of three families' intertwining fates. With Anna Karenina as the proud woman at the center, the choreographer has created a narrative ballet that features a strong female protagonist who is ultimately destroyed by prejudice and double standards.

Further Performances

March 20 / 26 / 27

May 2 / 3 / 4 [aft/eve] / 10 / 15 / 17, 2025

THE STUTTGART BALLET

Mixed Bill

NIGHT/DREAMS

Premiere - April 17, 2025 in the Schauspielhaus

At night, the subconscious takes over. Between sleeping and waking, between yesterday and tomorrow, parallel worlds emerge under the cover of darkness. In recent years, several world premieres have been created for the Stuttgart Ballet which reflect on this unique state. In *Sospesi*, Vittoria Girelli immerses the audience in a breathtaking space and explores the border between heaven and earth. *La Jeune Fille et les Morts* by choreographic duo Simone Repele & Sasha Riva uses moving images to tell the story of a woman's life coming to an end. With *Nachtmerrie*, Marco Goecke has created a powerful pas de deux to the music of Keith Jarrett and Lady Gaga about separation and loss. In *Lost Room*, Fabio Adorasio explores the concept of memory: where do we store our recollections, what triggers them to return and what emotions does this elicit in us?

Further Performances

April 23

May 11 / 13

June 6 / 9 / 19, 2025

Mixed Bill

FIVE FOR HANS

Premiere - May 24, 2025 in the Opera House

Hans van Manen has built up an impressive oeuvre over the last 60 years: full of poetry, humor and musicality. Van Manen's plotless ballets tell intense stories about relationships, making us feel more than mere words can express. FIVE FOR HANS is an exemplary representation of van Manen's oeuvre, highlighting the musical spectrum covered by the Dutch master, but also the very different characters his ballets can have. *Adagio Hammerklavier* is permeated with tenderness, in *Two Pieces for Het* two dancers initially challenge each other harshly before they gently come together. *Trois Gnossiennes* is a sublimely musical interpretation of Eric Satie's music of the same name, its calm surface belying the strong emotions underneath. In the dizzyingly fast-paced *Solo*, three dancers compete with one another as if in a relay race. *Frank Bridge Variations*, on the other hand, is characterized by simmering tension. The dancers are in constant dialog - whether playful, reproachful or conciliatory.

Further Performances

May 27 / 29 [aft/eve] / 31

June 1 / 7 / 8 / 14 / 15, 2025

REVIVALS

Death in Venice

Revival - February 9, 2025 in the Opera House

Co-production of the Stuttgart State Opera and the Stuttgart Ballet

The writer Gustav von Aschenbach is in the midst of a mid-life crisis. His longing for something foreign drives him to Venice. There he encounters beauty, youth per se, in the form of an adolescent boy. Torn between desire and artistic asceticism, he loses his connection to reality and, ultimately, life. Benjamin Britten set Thomas Mann's famous novella to music in 1973 with a libretto by Myfanwy Piper. Demis Volpi, at that time resident choreographer of the Stuttgart Ballet, masterfully directed and choreographed the opera in 2017 and created an award-winning version. A co-production of the Stuttgart State Opera and the Stuttgart Ballet, additionally utilizing students from the John Cranko School, the singers and dancers come seamlessly together on stage to create a rollercoaster of emotions.

Further Performances

February 12 / 18 / 28

March 8 / 18, 2025

Don Quixote

Revival - July 4, 2025 in the Opera House

Although the famous dreamer and knight of La Mancha Don Quixote is traditionally in the title, the plot of this fast-paced ballet actually revolves around the beautiful innkeeper's daughter Kitri and the dashing Basilio, who want to marry against her parents' wishes. With the help of Don Quixote and his faithful servant Sancho Panza, the wedding finally succeeds. The world-famous novel has inspired numerous choreographers over the last 400 years. For the Stuttgart Ballet, Argentinian choreographer Maximiliano Guerra created a version full of technically challenging variations, thrilling pas de deux and large ensemble scenes. With breathtaking dance, colorful sets and costumes, lively humor and rousing music, Don Quixote is perfect for the whole family!

Further Performances

July 8 [Performance for School classes] / 10 / 11 / 12 / 13 / 15 / 25 / 26 [Ballett im Park] / 27 / 28, 2025

REPERTOIRE

Double Bill

NOVITZKY/DAWSON

Repertoire - as of September 29, 2024 in the Opera House

For the double bill NOVITZKY/DAWSON, two contemporary artists have created world premieres for the company upon the invitation of Artistic Director Tamas Detrich. For his new work *The place of choice* Roman Novitzky, Artist in Residence of the Stuttgart Ballet, was inspired by Dante's Divine Comedy. Deviating from Dante's original sequence, Novitzky's piece moves from paradise via an intermediate stage to hell, questioning where we as a society, based on our choices and actions are headed. David Dawson, one of Europe's leading dance artists, works with the Stuttgart Ballet for the first time. Looking at the disturbing conditions in the world today, Dawson sets out to create a dance counterweight: in his *SYMPHONY NO 2 "Under the Trees' Voices"* to music by Ezio Bosso, he brings pure beauty to the stage.

Further Performances

October 3 / 4 / 9, 2024

Swan Lake

Repertoire - as of October 16, 2024 in the Opera House

Swan Lake has fascinated audiences for over a hundred years. Especially its large corps de ballet, all in white, elegant and mysterious, exuding a magic as graceful and powerful as the winged creature the dancers depict. But *Swan Lake* is more than that. It is a story about love and fatal deception. John Cranko created his own version in 1963, which has all the charm of traditional renderings and yet sets new accents with its emphasis on the role of the prince and his unintentional betrayal of the vulnerable swan princess. Theater legend Jürgen Rose designed the stupendous sets and costumes: complete with white feathers and tulle but also featuring colorful folkloric costumes, a romantic moonlit lake and bombastic splendor of the royal court.

Further Performances

October 17 / 18 / 20 / 22, 2024

The Nutcracker

Repertoire - November 30, 2024 in the Opera House

The Nutcracker is a beloved Christmas tradition. Because of its fairytale story and endless possibilities for interpretation, this classic ballet has been danced in different versions for over a hundred years. In 2022, Edward Clug created a new, fantastical production for the Stuttgart Ballet set to the famous music of Peter Tchaikovsky. Working together with set and costume designer Jürgen Rose, Clug's Nutcracker is full of toys that come to life, a magic table that appears out of nowhere and gigantic walnuts full of surprises. Inspired by E.T.A. Hoffmann's tale *Nutcracker and Mouse King*, the creative duo have created a ballet fantasy for adults and children alike. The grown-ups are transported back to their own childhood, whilst children marvel at the many colorful characters and cheer the young heroine Clara throughout her amazing adventures in the land of toys.

Further Performances

December 1 [aft/eve] / 3 / 4 / 6 / 7 / 13 / 14 / 15 [aft/eve], 2024

Romeo and Juliet

Repertoire - December 21, 2024 in the Opera House

The lovers are granted one night only, after which fate separates William Shakespeare's famous couple forever. Romeo and Juliet's night of love may have been short-lived, but their story has made them immortal. John Cranko created his own version of the world-famous play for the Stuttgart Ballet in 1962. Set to Sergei Prokofiev's sweeping music, this became one of his most popular ballets, which delights young and old alike. Poignant pas de deux for the title couple, heated battles between the feuding families, pompous balls and spirited carnival scenes transform Shakespeare's verses into dance and bring the hustle and bustle of Verona to life. The choreography portrays the characters so clearly that the audience is drawn into the maelstrom of events. From the dizzying heights of new-found love, they plunge with the protagonists into the depths of senseless violence and death.

Further Performances

December 23 / 25 / 29 [aft/eve] / 31, 2024

July 29 / 30, 2025

FURTHER PROGRAM IN THE 2024-25 SEASON

CRANKO

Film Premiere - September 20, 2024 in the Opera House

John Cranko's life and death read like a Hollywood movie. To this day, his name stands for a chapter of dance history that is celebrated all over the world as the "Stuttgart Ballet miracle". He was a pop star of the ballet world who was torn from life at the height of his career at the age of just 45.

Now the story of this gifted South-African born, British choreographer is coming to the big screen - and to the opera house for an exclusive film premiere. In this sensitive film, titled simply *CRANKO*, director and author Joachim A. Lang depicts Cranko's ground-breaking work in Stuttgart in the 1960s as well as his turbulent private life. Ingeniously interweaving life and art, Lang provides insights into Cranko's sources of inspiration, into his choreographic process and his interactions with the dancers who loved him. In a stroke of casting genius, Lang was able to secure the British actor Sam Reilly (Control, Malificent) to play the title role.

The Stuttgart Ballet itself plays a leading role in this first feature film about the dance genius: the dancers of the 60's and 70's are portrayed - and danced - by current members of the Stuttgart Ballet, among others Elisa Badenes as Marcia Haydée, Jason Reilly as Ray Barra, Friedemann Vogel as Heinz Clauss, Rocio Aleman as Birgit Keil, Marti Paixa as Richard Cragun and Henrik Erikson as Egon Madsen. Filmed in the original ballet studios where Cranko worked and on the stage of the opera house in Stuttgart, the biopic also shows the small southern German city of Stuttgart as Cranko would have experienced it.

No place would be more suitable for the world premiere of the film than the opera house where Cranko created his masterpieces. The audience will be able to experience this extraordinary biopic in the presence of the artists involved before the official cinema release.

[Official Start in German Cinemas](#)

September 26, 2024

BEHIND THE SCENES

Behind the scenes shows the audience a side of the Stuttgart Ballet that is otherwise rarely revealed: hard at work, close up and certainly not yet perfect. In the intimate setting of the Kammertheater, visitors can watch the dancers rehearse, hone their technique or work on leading roles with the ballets masters and mistresses of the Stuttgart Ballet. The students of the John Cranko School also participate; dance fans can watch them as they train to prepare for a life as a dancer.

Performances

November 20 / 21 / 22 / 23 [aft/eve] / 24 [aft/eve], 2024

28. INTERNATIONALES SOLO-TANZ-THEATER-FESTIVAL STUTTGART

November 15 and 16, 2024 in the Kammertheater

The Stuttgart Ballet is delighted to enter into a cooperation with the Stuttgart International Solo-Tanz-Theater Festival. The gala of the award winners will be presented for the first time in the Kammertheater of the Staatstheater Stuttgart. What moves people inside and out is what drives the young dance creators who have been invited to the 28th Stuttgart International Solo-Tanz-Theater Festival. In March 2024, the winners not only impressed the international jury, which this year included Roman Novitzky from the Stuttgart Ballet, but above all the audience. Before going on tour, the six prizewinners, who come from South Korea, Brazil, Canada, Italy and France, will present their works once again in Stuttgart. Sometimes serious, sometimes humorous, but always emotionally captivating, the pieces immerse the audience in the trials and tribulations of life.

BALLETT & BREZELN

Take a look over the shoulders of the dancers of the Stuttgart Ballet during their daily class; get a close-up view of the sweaty start to the day with Plié, Tendu, Adagio and Petit Allegro. At *Ballett & Brezeln*, the audience learns about the meticulous work that goes into honing classical dance technique every day. When the dancers then head off to their rehearsals, the audience can fortify themselves with coffee and pretzels.

Performances

September 28 / November 16, 2024

January 4/ February 8 / March 22 / May 10, 2025

NOVERRE: YOUNG CHOREOGRAPHERS

Premiere - January 25, 2025 in the Schauspielhaus

Curtain up for the next generation! At *Noverre: Young Choreographers*, dancers from the ranks of the company and selected guests from all over the world are allowed to create their first works. They can experiment and realize their own ideas without any pressure to succeed. The pieces are created with limited resources and in their free time, but there are no limits to their imagination. The audience can therefore look forward to a varied mix of fresh choreographic styles with each new edition of *Noverre*.

With the kind support of



Partner of *Noverre: Young Choreographers*

Further Performances

January 26 [aft/eve], 2025

THE STUTTGART BALLET

BALLET IN THE PARK

July 26 and 27, 2025

For 18 years, the Stuttgart Ballet has been broadcasting a performance of the company and the John Cranko School respectively live from the opera house to the beautiful park in which the opera house is located. Thousands of spectators come together every year for this free public viewing event and enjoy the dancers of the Stuttgart Ballet and the students of the John Cranko School in action under starry skies. In 2025, the audience can look forward to a broadcast of Maximiliano Guerra's *Don Quijote*.

Don Quijote

July 26, 2025 at the Oberer Schlossgarten

Matinee der John Cranko Schule

July 27, 2025 at the Oberer Schlossgarten

Presented by

PORSCHE

THE STUTTGART BALLET ON TOUR

At the invitation of the Japan Performing Arts Foundation, the Stuttgart Ballet dances John Cranko's *Onegin* and John Neumeier's *The Lady of the Camellias* at the Bunka Kaikan Theater in Tokyo, Japan.

Onegin

Ballet by John Cranko after Alexander Pushkin

November 2 / 3 / 4, 2024

Die Kameliendame

Ballet by John Neumeier after Alexandre Dumas fils

November 8 / 9 / 10, 2024

COMPANY – NOTES

Promotions: As of the 2024/25 season, Soloist Henrik Erikson has been promoted to Principal Dancer. Corps de Ballet dancers Aiara Iturrioz Rico, Aoi Sawano, Irene Yang and Edoardo Sartori have been promoted to demi-soloists.

New to the Corps de Ballet for the 2024/25 season will be John Cranko School graduates Katharina Buck and Yana Peneva, as well as former apprentices Lilly Babbage, Farrah Hirsch, Macéo Gérard, Leon Metelsky and Anton Tcherny.

The new apprentices for the 2024/25 season are Annabelle McCarthy, Alice Pelizza, Adrien Hohenberg, James Platts, Carter Smalling, Serhii Zharikov (all graduates of the John Cranko School), as well as Isabela Souza from Brazil and Annalee V. Melton from the USA. The Apprentice program of the Stuttgart Ballet is supported by the Birgit Keil Dance Foundation and the Ferry Porsche Foundation.

The demi-soloists Elisa Ghisalberti, Alessandro Giaquinto, Moacir de Oliveira and Flemming Puthenpurayil, as well as the Corps de Ballet dancers Minji Nam, Anouk van der Weijde and Tristan Simpson will depart the company at the end of the 2023/24 season.

Director of Communications and Dramaturgy Vivien Arnold will leave the company at the end of the current season to pursue a new challenge. Dance scholar and journalist Lucy van Cleef joins the company as Head of Dramaturgy and Publications. Jennifer Schurr has been promoted to press officer; Alexandra Aschenbrenner will be responsible for Communication and Marketing.

THE STUTTGART BALLET

JOHN CRANKO SCHULE

Ballettschule des Stuttgarter Balletts / Staatstheater Stuttgart
und Staatliche Ballettakademie / Berufsfachschule

Under the direction of Tadeusz Matacz, the John Cranko School is one of the most important training centers for ballet, both nationally and internationally. Graduates of the John Cranko School can be found in impressive numbers as directors, dancers, choreographers and teachers in leading international ballet companies. Almost two-thirds of today's Stuttgart Ballet dancers are former students of the John Cranko School, including Principal Dancers Rocio Aleman, Anna Osadcenko, Agnes Su, Martí Fernández Paixà and Adhony Soares da Silva.

In the 2024/25 season, the students of the John Cranko School will demonstrate their skills in performances and guest appearances.

Aktion Weihnachten [Benefit Performance]

The John Cranko School and the Stuttgart Ballet
December 8 [mat], 2023 in the Opera House

Behind the Scenes with the John Cranko School

Insights into Class and Rehearsals
November 24. [mat/eve], 2024 at the Kammertheater

Ballet-Matinees

July 13 [mat] / 27 [mat / Ballet in the Park], 2025 in the Opera House

Admissions for the School Year 2025/2026 and Summer School 2025:

Information at www.john-cranko-schule.de

Contact

John Cranko Schule

Tel: 0711.2 85 39-0 / Fax 0711.2 85 39-34

www.john-cranko-schule.de / info@john-cranko-schule.de

Werastraße 27, 70182 Stuttgart

THE STUTTGART BALLET

GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONTACT FOR AUDIENCE

Tickets and reservation inquiries for all performances and events on-line under www.stuttgarter-ballett.de as well as under 0711.20 20 90.

[The Stuttgart Ballet online](http://www.stuttgarter-ballett.de)
www.stuttgarter-ballett.de
Follow us on Facebook and Instagram

Main Sponsor
Dr. Ing. h.c. F. Porsche AG

Partner of NOVERRE: YOUNG CHOREOGRAPHERS
EnBW

Press Contact

Jennifer Schurr
Public Relations Manager
Phone: 0711.20 32 593
jennifer.schurr@staatstheater-stuttgart.de