

ESCAPE VALSE – A DANCED CONCERT

[LINK TO WEBSITE](#) | [LINK TO TRAILER](#)

In **escape valse — a danced concert**, the latest production by the Stegreif Orchestra, the ensemble is expanded to include a new parameter: collaboration with dancers on stage.



Bild: Navina Neuschl

Waltz — ‘the idea of a fantastic whirl from which no one can escape’ — this is what **Maurice Ravel's ‘La Valse’**, which he composed in 1928 as the ‘apotheosis of the Viennese waltz’, stands for. Based on this work, Stegreif creates a dance-theatre concert in be:one (AT), framed by further recompositions of impressionist works, and creates choreographic images of individuals dancing in a frenzy, of a fine society spinning in step – an escapist gyrations in the face of social disruption. From the swelling din, improvising individual voices make themselves heard, utopian sounds and also proclamations of doubt. *And yet, despite their apparent incompatibility, music and dance combine to form a kaleidoscopic whole.*

In cooperation with the dancer and choreographer **Juan Kruz Diaz de Garaio Esnaola**, one of the most prominent artists for choreographic work with musicians, a production is created that fuses music and dance, musicians and dancers into a single entity and blurs the boundaries between concert and performance. **Stegreif acts as a moving, reacting stage for the dancers, in a space that is constantly re-forming.** At the same time, the moving orchestra creates a **three-dimensional listening experience**, with the aim of using the entire space of the venue to place the audience at the centre. Depending on the venue, unseated spaces are also desired, offering the audience opportunities for movement and interaction.

Musically, the recompositions by Mike Conrad, Lisa Morgenstern, Ralph Heidel, John Hollenbeck, and Maria Gstättnertner combine the genres of jazz, electronic/techno, experimental/neo-classical, and pop/alternative.

- Mike Conrad, recomposition of Maurice Ravel's “La Valse,” USA

- Maria Gstättnr, recomposition of Lili Boulanger's "D'un soir triste," Austria
- Ralph Heidel, recomposition of Claude Debussy's "Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune," Germany
- John Hollenbeck, recomposition of Johanna Müller-Hermann's "String Quartet in E-flat major, Op. 6" (movements 3 and 4), USA/Germany
- Lisa Morgenstern, recomposition of Lili Boulanger's "D'un matin de printemps," Germany

Premiere: April 10, 2026, Kühlhaus Berlin, with audio description

Stegreif under the artistic direction of **Lorenz Blaumer**.

Re-composition: Mike Conrad, Lisa Morgenstern, Ralph Heidel, John Hollenbeck, Maria Gstättnr

Musical direction: Marc Kopitzki | **Choreography, scenography, dance:** Juan Kruz Diaz de Garaio Esnaola

Project management, dramaturgy: Sarah Ströbele | **Costumes:** Lise Kruse | **Lighting design:** Arnaud Poumarat

Dance: Clémentine Deluy, Luc Dunberry, Gyung Moo Kim, Thusnelda Mercy

In this **concert in motion**, the audience is invited to move around in the unseated space with and between the orchestra. Seating is available if needed. Depending on the venue, the production can also be adapted to seated spaces.

For the first time, Stegreif is offering **performances with audio description** for blind and visually impaired audiences.

be:one is supported as part of the program *Exzellente Orchesterlandschaft*
by: The Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media.



Die Beauftragte der Bundesregierung
für Kultur und Medien

Duration: ca. 75 mins. without intermission

Participants (32 people in total):

- 26 musicians: (1.1.1.1.Sax - 2.1.1.0 - Timp, Drums, E-Guitar + Amplifier - Str: 3/3/3/3/3/1+amplifier - pi- ano) or
(1.1.1.1.Sax - 2.1.1.1.0 - Timp, Drums, E-Guitar + amplifier - Str: 4/3/3/3/3/1+amplifier)

5 dancers

4 Staff: production management, production assistant, stage director, light designer

Basic technical requirements (as of February 2026):

Backline: double bass amp, electric guitar amp, associated radio links and batteries, 2 timpani, drum set.

Room/stage ideally: unseated with scattered benches/islands of chairs (the production can also be adapted to seated rooms), stage size/free playing area of 12 x 12 m with dance floor (or sanded, smooth wooden floor), 2 roll risers measuring 2x2m, 3 black rolling stools.

Lighting equipment: - 8x Astera Titan Tube 100 with transmitter, 4x LED moving light profiles, e.g., Sola Frame 1000 or GLP Impression S350, or similar, 6-8 x LED moving light wash such as Martin Aura XIP, or JB Lighting Sparx 10 or similar, 6x Profile ETC Source Four, lighting console with at least 2 DMX outputs, e.g., Grand MA Lighting 2coder ETC EOS

Juan Kruz Diaz de Garaio Esnaola – Choreography & Scenography

Born in Legazpi (Spain), he first studied early music as a countertenor at the Academy of Early Music in Amsterdam. When choreographer Marcelo Evelin invited him to participate in his dance piece Muzot, a close artistic collaboration developed, prompting Juan Kruz Diaz de Garaio Esnaola to explore the body as a "total instrument" and means of expression. In 1996, he became part of the ensemble founded by Sasha Waltz. Starting with Allee der Kosmonauten, he accompanied the various stages of Sasha Waltz & Guests and became a key figure in the work and part of the core group as a dancer, performer, artistic and choreographic assistant, as well as in the areas of musical direction, composition, and rehearsal management. In his own work as a choreographer and director, he brings together his musical and dance background. His most recent works include Romances, a commission from the Bienal de Flamenco de Sevilla, for which he was awarded the Giralillo Award for best director. Juan Kruz Diaz de Garaio Esnaola teaches, gives regular workshops and master classes around the world, and is a visiting professor at the Folkwang University of the Arts in Essen.



CONTACT US:

www.stegreif.org

www.instagram.com/stegreif

www.youtube.com/@STEGREIForchester

ARTISTIC MANAGEMENT:

Lorenz Blaumer

lorenz@stegreif.org

+49 / 177 23 83 632

Stegreif e.V.

Marienburger Straße 29

10405 Berlin

MANAGING DIRECTOR:

Lorina Strange

lorina@stegreif.org

+49 / 157 32 481 410

BOARD:

Michael Riemer

Nuria Rodriguez Diaz

Konstantin Döben

Sebastian Caspar

Alistair Duncan

Tadashi Forck

Bartosz Nowak