



PRESS RELEASE

Dancing images: The groundbreaking work of Pina Bausch

The stars from Wuppertal in a book by Wim and Donata Wenders

With his award-winning film *Pina*, filmmaker Wim Wenders created a vivid cinematic monument to choreographer Pina Bausch (1940-2009) and her *Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch*. Now, our illustrated publication *Pina: The Film and the Dancers* brings together for the first time the film's unique images and behind-the-scenes photographs taken by Donata Wenders during the extensive filming process, as well as numerous portraits of the individual dancers in the world-famous ensemble. The book is a tribute to an extraordinary artist and her groundbreaking work, an aesthetic spectacle in photographic images bursting with energy.

Pina Bausch, who began studying dance at the Folkwangschule in Essen aged just 14, became a cult figure in the international dance scene with the *Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch*, which she headed from 1973. Bausch's choreographies were unusual and new – not only did her performers dance, they spoke, sang, and sometimes even cried or laughed. In her combination of classic dance with elements of performance, pantomime, acrobatics, acting and singing, Pina Bausch created a new artistic genre, which significantly influenced the future development of international dance theater.

Alongside the principle figures in the ensemble, the book's 153 plates show the key scenes from the four major pieces by Pina Bausch, including *Café Müller* and *Le Sacre du Printemps*. The shots in the book were taken in unusual settings, for instance, on the Wuppertaler Schwebebahn suspension railway, in the Waldfrieden sculpture park, Tony Cragg's studio building or at the Zollverein Coal Mine complex in Essen. Countless international guest performances made by *Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch* over the years are proof that a unique vision is enough to enable someone to reach out and inspire the entire world from the Ruhr region.

While the ensemble performs at the *London Cultural Olympiad*, Wim Wenders' *Oscar*-nominated film will premiere in Korea on August 30, 2012, and will soon be on show in Chinese cinemas.

In addition to the numerous color illustrations, the book contains Wim Wenders' touching congratulatory speech made on the occasion of Pina Bausch's acceptance of the Goethe Prize in 2008, plus a text with his personal recollections of his unforgettable collaboration with Pina Bausch. Even after her death, her existentially impressive work lives on – not only in pictures.

Wim & Donata Wenders

Pina

The Film and the Dancers

Text by Wim Wenders

Photographs by Donata Wenders

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and duotone plates

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