**Athens Epidaurus Festival 2021**

**Autumn events**

**Booking for Peiraios 260 autumn events is now available**

As the Peiraios 260 summer season gradually comes to a close, the Athens Epidaurus Festival is about to welcome a series of fascinating international productions coming this September and October, once again bringing the Festival in contact with the global performing arts scene.

International productions typically rank among the most anticipated events held as part of the Athens Epidaurus Festival programme, as they give audiences the opportunity to watch new works by world-renowned artists and keep up to date with emerging artistic trends, as reflected in the productions of up-and-coming artists and ensembles.

The performances that will be presented this September-October at Peiraios 260 explore new artistic “languages” and timely social and political themes. Gender issues and contemporary social contradictions and conflicts take centre stage, as these productions will collectively pose a crucial question for the Festival audience: in what future do we wish to live?

This year, shortly before the world premiere of Maja Zade’s take on *Oedipus* at the Ancient Theatre of Epidaurus, under the helm of director Thomas Ostermeier / Schaubühne, the Peiraios 260 venue will welcome 13 international productions of theatre, dance and performance, as well as concerts from 11 different countries (Germany, Belgium, Poland, Switzerland, Chile, Canada, Austria, Spain, Israel, Lithuania, Iceland), with 7 of them introducing artists and ensembles in Greece for the very first time.

The Festival autumn programme will be held across various Peiraios 260 halls (D, H, and E), in accordance with the health protocols ensuring the safety of audiences, artists, and the Festival staff.\*

You are all invited to book your tickets now as we look forward to seeing you there, sharing yet another uplifting Festival experience.

Book your tickets at aefestival.gr | tickets.aefestival.gr | [www.ticketservices.gr](http://www.ticketservices.gr), at +30 210 7234 567 at the Main Box Office (Panepistimiou 39) and the Public stores.

*All international theatre productions with Greek and English surtitles.*

*All Greek-language productions with English surtitles and Greek surtitles on opening night.*

*\*Audiences are required to present a valid vaccination certificate or COVID-19 disease certificate in accordance with the provisions of the Hellenic Government in order to be admitted to the Peiraios 260 performance venues. Audiences are required to keep their face masks on and maintain physical distancing both upon entering the venues and throughout the performances according to the instructions of the National Public Health Organization (EODY). Any refusal to present a relevant vaccination certificate or lack thereof entails that ticket holders will not be admitted to the venue and will not refunded for their purchased tickets.*

**PEIRAIOS 260**

**September – October 2021**

OPERA PERFORMANCE

GREEK DEBUT

*Golden Lion for Best National Participation, Venice Biennale 2019*

**Rugilė Barzdžiukaitė – Vaiva Grainytė – Lina Lapelytė**

***Sun & Sea***

**1 & 2 September / 20:00, 21:30, 23:00**

**HALL D**

A sunny day at a dreamy, sandy beach. A host of bodies sunbathing, singing, telling their stories, bringing their voices together and becoming a Chorus. At the crossroads of theatre, music, and visual arts, the visually stunning opera-performance *Sun & Sea* highlights the connection between realism and poetry in an emotionally moving manner.

*Runtime 4 hours*

LITHUANIA – GERMANY

[ <http://aefestival.gr/festival_events/sun-and-sea-an-opera-performance/?lang=en>]

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THEATRE

**TR Warszawa – Kornél** **Mundruczó**

***Pieces of a Woman***

**2, 3, 4 September / 21:00**

**HALL Η**

Following his performance *Imitation of Life*, a riveting experience for the 2018 Festival audience, internationally acclaimed theatre and film director Kornél Mundruczó and the TR Warszawa company deliver an absorbing family drama, based on a text by Kata Wéber, recently adapted by Mundruczó himself as a motion picture. The main heroine is a young woman in modern-day Warsaw. A traumatic experience marks a complete turnaround when 30-year-old Maja loses her baby shortly after giving birth. The performance is a combination of theatre and cinema, with the first 20 minutes of the labour being filmed.

POLAND

[<http://aefestival.gr/festival_events/pieces-of-a-woman/?lang=en>]

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PERFORMANCE

**9 & 10 September / 21:00**

**Florentina Holzinger**

***TANZ***

**HALL D**

How can the cult of beauty that is inextricably bound with dance tradition be reconciled with the cruelty to which women’s bodies are exposed through this art form? The third part of a trilogy that examines the human body as a spectacle and its disciplining, *TANZ* by Austrian Florentina Holzinger focuses on the legacy of classical dance. Performers between the ages of twenty- to eighty-years old, under the instructions of the first ballerina who danced Stravinsky’s *The Rite of Spring* naked back in 1972, undergo rigorous training in a ballet d’action. An operatic scenery comes alive through violent, parodic images.

*The performance contains violence and nudity. Cigarettes and stroboscopic effects are used.*

AUSTRIA

[<http://aefestival.gr/festival_events/tanz-choros/?lang=en>]

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DANCE

**Martin Zimmermann**

***Eins Zwei Drei***

**9 & 10 September / 21:00**

**HALL Η**

Museum: a seemingly neutral space with its own set of rules. However, what happens when three clowns show up and change everything? Three virtuoso performers display their skills to the sounds of pianist Colin Vallon, against the backdrop of an impressive set, composing a total work of art, a miniature of our times. A hilarious spectacle reflecting on the complexity, poetry, and violence of contemporary relations and power struggles. Above all, a clown performance for grown-ups!

SWITZERLAND

[<http://aefestival.gr/festival_events/eins-zwei-drei-ena-dyo-tria/?lang=en>]

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THEATRE

INTERNATIONAL PRODUCTIONS

**Nowy Teatr – Krzysztof Warlikowski**

***Odyssey. A Story for Hollywood***

**17 – 19 September / 20:00**

**HALL D**

Drawing on the Homeric theme of ‘return home’, renowned Polish director Krzysztof Warlikowski creates a brand-new performance revolving around a woman’s Odyssey of sorts during World War II, inspired by Homer’s epic and two works by Hanna Krall, *Chasing the King of Hearts* and *Story for Hollywood*. The main heroine, a modern-day Penelope, risked her life to ensure her husband’s return home; a story that could very well be adapted into a Hollywood movie, as the title suggests.

POLAND

[<http://aefestival.gr/festival_events/odyssey-a-story-for-hollywood/?lang=en>]

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DANCE

GREEK DEBUT

**La Veronal – Marcos Morau**

***Pasionaria***

**20 & 21 September / 21:00**

**HALL Η**

Pasionaria, by multi-award-winning Spanish choreographer Marcos Morau, refers to a passionless planet. An imaginary, dystopian world, imitating the human world, whose inhabitants move like robots or statues, seemingly oblivious to any feeling. A visually stunning production with a strong theatrical quality and an idiosyncratic choreographic style that draws inspiration from hip hop, popping and animation.

SPAIN

[<http://aefestival.gr/festival_events/pasionaria/?lang=en>]

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THEATRE

PERFORMANCE

GREEK DEBUT

INTERNATIONAL CO-PRODUCTION

**Infrarouge – Marie Brassard**

***Violence***

**24 & 25 September / 21:00**

**HALL D**

How is children’s innocence transformed by the darkness of adulthood? In her new, strikingly fairytale-like, dreamlike work, Canadian artist Marie Brassard contemplates the notion of time and humans’ gradual exposure to violence as they grow up. A hybrid performance, combining aspects of cinematic realism and expressionist theatre, sound arts and visual arts.

CANADA

[<http://aefestival.gr/festival_events/violence-via/?lang=en>]

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THEATRE

GREEK DEBUT

**Teatro La Re-sentida – Marco Layera**

***Paisajes para no colorear /*** ***Non-Colouring Landscapes***

**27 & 28 September / 21:00**

**HALL D**

The Teatro La Re-sentida team draws on interviews with over 100 underage girls and young women who have experienced abuse either as eyewitnesses or as victims. The young actresses narrate these true stories, commenting on them and reconstructing many of the incidents narrated. At once emotional and sensitive, angry and polemical, but also distant and rich with a plurality of voices, this performance begs for a response from audiences.

CHILE

[<http://aefestival.gr/festival_events/paisajes-para-no-colorear/?lang=en>]

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DANCE

**Serge Aimé Coulibaly**

***Wakatt***

**29 & 30 September / 21:00**

**HALL D**

In his new, African-inspired piece, *Wakatt*, Coulibaly focuses on humankind’s endeavours to create a sustainable future, composing a rich, multifaceted work, featuring ten dancers and the three musicians of the Magic Malik Orchestra, performing Afro-jazz live, in what is a truly electrifying performance.

BURKINA FASO – BELGIUM

[<http://aefestival.gr/festival_events/wakatt/?lang=en>]

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ELECTRONIC MUSIC

**Chronotopia**

Two days of electronic and experimental music

In collaboration with CTM Festival and Goethe-Institut

**1 & 2 October**

**HALL Η**

The multifaceted Chronotopia project launches an exciting collaboration between the Athens Festival, Goethe-Institut Athen and Berlin’s CTM Festival του Βερολίνου. World-renowned for its efforts to highlight and promote contemporary experimental and electronic music, for the last 21 years CTM has been established as one of the most avant-garde, pioneering festivals of its kind, encompassing numerous events, running the gamut of club and sound culture. Chronotopia will feature six musical/audiovisual works, created by the participants of the electronic composition lab Chronotopia Echoes / Αντηχήσεις, under the guidance of artists Akis Sinos and Anke Echardt, following research in the archive of the Athens-based Contemporary Music Research Center (CMRC). Five original works of electronic music and an audiovisual installation drawing from past music will be presented at Hall H at Peiraios 260.

*Audiences will remain seated throughout the concerts*

[<http://aefestival.gr/festival_events/chronotopia/?lang=en>]

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THEATRE

**Schaubühne - Thomas Ostermeier**

***History of Violence***

Based on the novel by Édouard Louis

**5 & 6 October / 21:00**

**HALL D**

One Christmas night, Édouard meets Reda, a man of Algerian origin, and they end up in the former’s apartment. However, things soon take a turn for the worse. A remarkable commentary on class hatred, homophobia, xenophobia and self-loathing written in a breathtaking language, young French author Édouard Louis’ autobiographical novella, acclaimed all over Europe, is adapted for the stage by Schaubühne. With gender-based violence one of the most hotly debated issues right now, German director Thomas Ostermeier, a favourite of Athenian audiences, returns to the Festival with a gripping, internationally acclaimed production, that is also expected to make an impact here.

GERMANY

[<http://aefestival.gr/festival_events/history-of-violence/?lang=en>]

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DANCE

GREEK DEBUT

**L-E-V – Sharon Eyal – Gai Behar**

***Chapter 3: The Brutal Journey of the Heart***

**9 & 10 October / 21:00**

**HALL D**

The third part of a trilogy on love, this production by acclaimed Israeli choreographer Sharon Eyal restores the joie de vivre in dance. Pulsating, humorous and sensual movements, explosive body swirls and flawlessly performed ballet moves are blended with slightly ironic voguing moves. The intricate costumes of Maria Grazia Chiuri, fashion designer and current creative director at Dior, evoke a full-body tattoo aesthetic, further reinforcing the dreamlike, sensual atmosphere. A performance that has been met with enthusiasm around the world.

ISRAEL

[<http://aefestival.gr/festival_events/chapter-3-the-brutal-journey-of-the-heart/?lang=en>]

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MUSIC

CHRONOTOPIA

GREEK DEBUT

**Hildur Guðnadóttir**

featuring **Chris Watson** & **Sam Slater**

***Chernobyl Live***

**9 & 10 October / 23:00**

**HALL Η**

This year’s programme features a huge, world-class surprise concert. Icelandic composer Hildur Guðnadóttir (winner of an Academy Award for Best Original Score for the film *Joker*) invites audiences to Peiraios 260 for a live performance of her Grammy-winning soundtrack for the acclaimed HBO television series Chernobyl. Recorded in a decommissioned nuclear plant in Lithuania, Guðnadóttir’s haunting soundscapes will now be recreated live against the backdrop of the Festival’s beloved industrial venue at Peiraios 260.

ICELAND

[<http://aefestival.gr/festival_events/chernobyl-live/?lang=en>]

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DANCE

PREMIERE

**Marianna Kavallieratos**

***Ancient Future Solo***

Workshop presentation for adolescents

**9 & 10 September / 21:00**

**HALL Ε**

How can eight, very different dance solos lead to a collective choreography? This performance serving as a sequel to Ancient Future Solo, the dance workshop for adolescents held by the Festival during the winter season, as part of the Open Plan initiative. If the eight teenage participants delved into Sophocles’ *Antigone* and Euripides’ *Helen* in the first nine workshop meetings, drawing on their personal aesthetics and following the rules dictating the creation of an individual work, they will now work together to create a collective original work.

[<http://aefestival.gr/festival_events/ancient-future-solo/?lang=en>]

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THEATRE

PREMIERE

**Katerina Giannopoulou**

***In a Year With 13 Moons***

Based on the film by E. W. Fassbinder

**24-25-26 September / 21:00**

**HALL Ε**

Rainer Werner Fassbinder’s iconic film is adapted for the stage for the very first time by director Katerina Giannopoulou, presented at the Athens Festival. Elvira wanders through the streets of an unfriendly city, trying to pick up the pieces of her life. Abandoned by everyone, the transgender heroine visits places and people who left their mark on her, struggling to come up with a reason for continuing to live. A performance about the right to love and live, in what is a critical time for human rights and gender issues.

*With English surtitles and Greek surtitles on opening night.*

[<http://aefestival.gr/festival_events/in-a-year-of-13-moons/?lang=en>]

