

Badische Zeitung

Freiburg Festival

So much fury, and so much tenderness.

E-Werk shows „Tanzwerk 18“, its own production with the financial support of Tanzpakt.

(by Marion Klötzer June 2018)



„Knock-out“ Compagnie LaPerformance | Julie Jaffrennou Foto: M. Doradzillo

***Tanzpakt* (The dance pact), an initiative of the federal government, the states and municipalities, brings a lot of money to Freiburg. E-Werk was thus able to commission three choreographers for their new works. The premiere took place during the Freiburg Festival.**

The hall was sold out, and the interest was great for the evening entitled „*Tanzwerk 18*“. It was not only E-Werk's own contribution to the Freiburg Festival as organizer but its first own production ever.

It was made possible thanks to *Tanzpakt*, the joint subsidy from the federal government, the region [Baden-Württemberg] and the city of Freiburg, with the goal of helping independent troupes based in the region to find new opportunities and new platforms for their development.

The participating artists are known in the Freiburg area, hence it was all the more exciting to see what came out of their collective stage collaboration at Südufer's rehearsal space when it was presented to the international audience of the Festival.

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The Performance "**Knock-out**" by Julie Jaffrennou and her all-female troupe: Tjadke Biallowons, Alice Gartenschläger und Olivia Maridjan-Koop proves that reduction can produce a remarkable effect. Trudging in heavy footwear across the clay-smear stage like a fury, all four have wrath-twisted faces, fists clenched, flesh-colored skin-tight tops stuffed with grotesque fake muscles.

Again and again, the dancers storm in unison to the edge of the stage, assume martial art poses, grimacing wildly, throw new ever new clumps of clay with loun thumps on the stage floor. So much rage has a high recognition value and also a lot of humor.

Until all four, headlong and with slipping limbs, end up in the clay, exhausted and stuck. How painstakingly they peel themselves out of their armor in this position, how soft and tender suddenly become gestures and faces, how childishly their fingers get entangled in their mouths. Until they crouch next to each other, their bare backs turn towards the audience, kneading their own golems on their fists. Powerful!