

# Das Totale Tanz Theater

A Virtual Reality Dance Experience for Man and Machine

Idea, concept and realisation: **Interactive Media Foundation & Artificial Rome**

Choreography: **Richard Siegal**

Music and sound design: **Lorenzo Bianchi-Hoesch**

A project by



In cooperation with

B A U H A U S   D E S S A U

Supported by Fond Bauhaus  
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# 100 jahre bauhaus

2019 is the centenary of the Bauhaus's founding. The Bauhaus was in existence for just 14 years. Founded in Weimar in 1919, it moved to Dessau in 1925, but in 1933 was shut down in Berlin after coming under pressure from the Nazis. Nevertheless, this legendary design academy's influence can still be felt today. It is regarded as Germany's most potent cultural export of the 20th century.

2019 sees national and international celebrations of its 100th anniversary. The official starting point is the opening festival, which runs in Berlin from 16 to 24 January. An international selection of artists will formulate their visions for 21st century architecture, art and design in a radically contemporary manner as the Bauhaus once did.

For the occasion of this important anniversary, the Interactive Media Foundation and Filmtank will be staging **Das Totale Tanz Theater**, interpreting Oskar Schlemmer and Walter Gropius's stage experiments for today – a virtual reality installation for man, machine and dance. **Das Totale Tanz Theater** will form part of the opening festival, before embarking on an international tour.



## Das Totale Tanz Theater

Bauhaus meets Virtual Reality

### 100 Years of Bauhaus – The laboratory of modernism

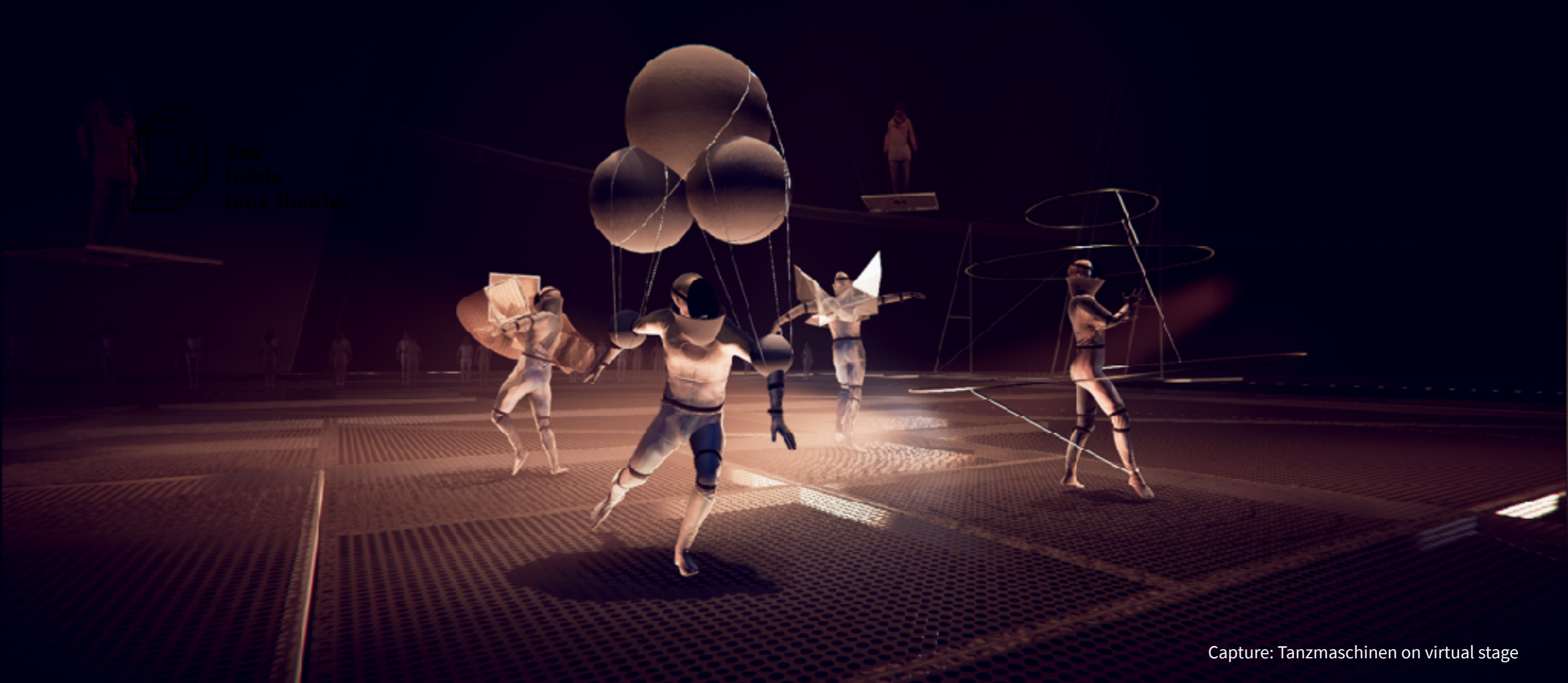
Founded 100 years ago in Weimar, the Bauhaus's influence on architecture, art, design and educational science can still be felt today. 100 years ago, the question of people's role in the mechanical age was tackled on the Bauhaus stage in both artistic and experimental terms.

**Das Totale Tanz Theater** has taken up the theme, exploring the question of the role of people in the digital age in the form of a virtual reality dance experience, inspired by the stage experiments of Oskar Schlemmer and Walter Gropius, with choreography by Richard Siegal.

### A dance addressing the question: Who controls who?

The interplay between dance, music and sound design, costume design and scenography with algorithms and digital technology brings the story to life across three levels: Together with a dance machine, users pass through a dance choreography, always accompanied by the question of the extent of the scope of their influence on the surrounding space and the machine.





Capture: Tanzmaschinen on virtual stage

## Das Totale Tanz Theater

### A Virtual Reality Dance Experience for Man and Machine

A staged space: Up to four people simultaneously appear on a stage and immerse themselves in the virtual world of 'Das Totale Tanz Theater'. Here they find themselves in the middle of a vast and sonorous virtual stage construction, and undergo various phases and roles: They create and control, play, interact and discover. Modern interpretations of Oskar Schlemmer's four dancer types interact with the participants in the virtual world, developing their own independent existence through dance. Human choreography and interventions, as well as automated algorithms, constantly create new forms of dance and of movement in space. The interaction with, and between, the Tanzmaschinen undergoes constant change. An experience that enables the user to question the relationship between man and machine in a personal, playful manner.

Projections from within the virtual stage construction into the real installation space connect both worlds; making the virtual experience accessible to spectators outside as well.



das  
totale  
lauz theater



Capture :Tanzmaschinen on virtual stage



das  
totale  
tanz theater



Capture :Tanzmaschinen on virtual stage

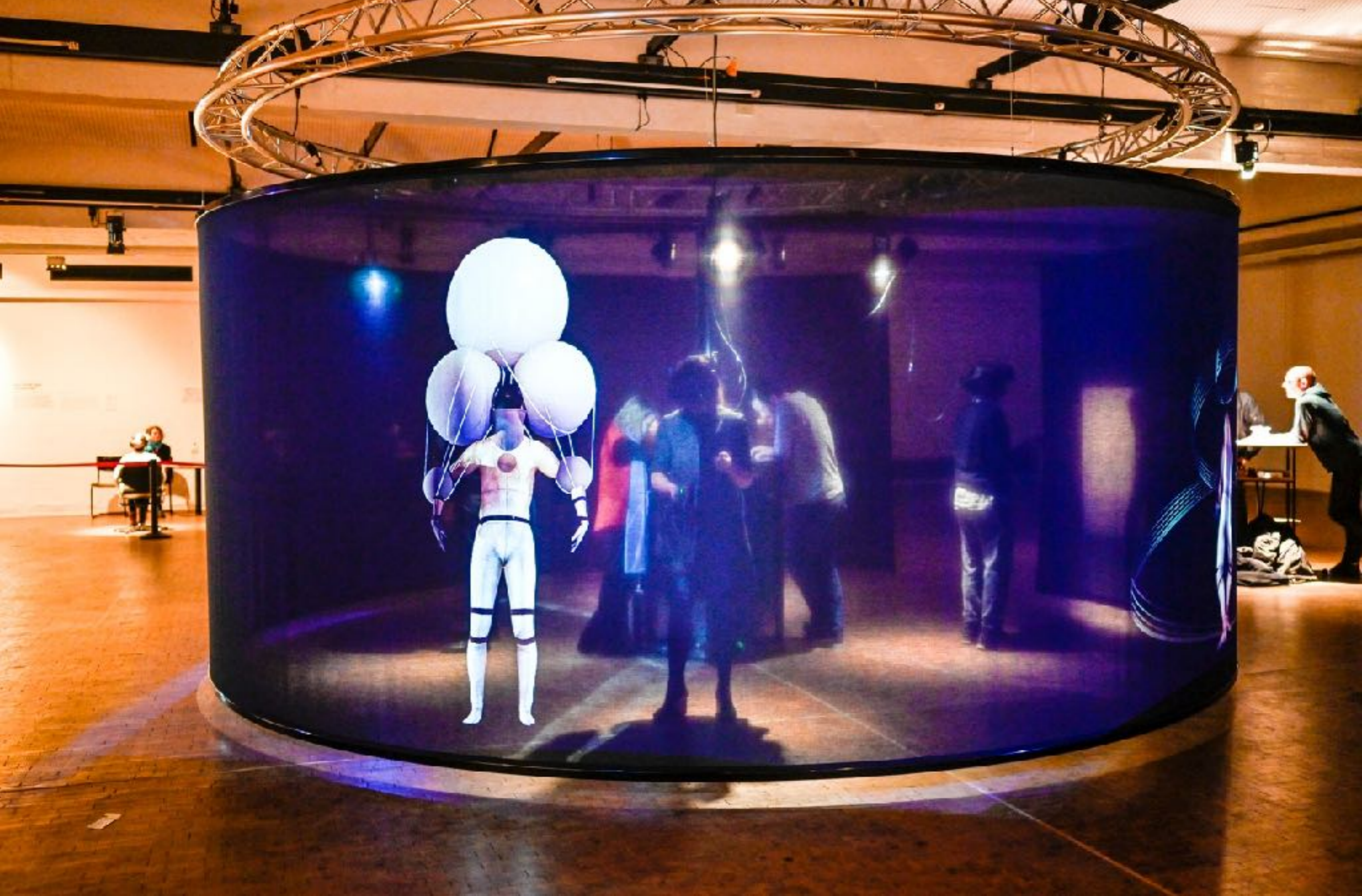


## Staged in Space

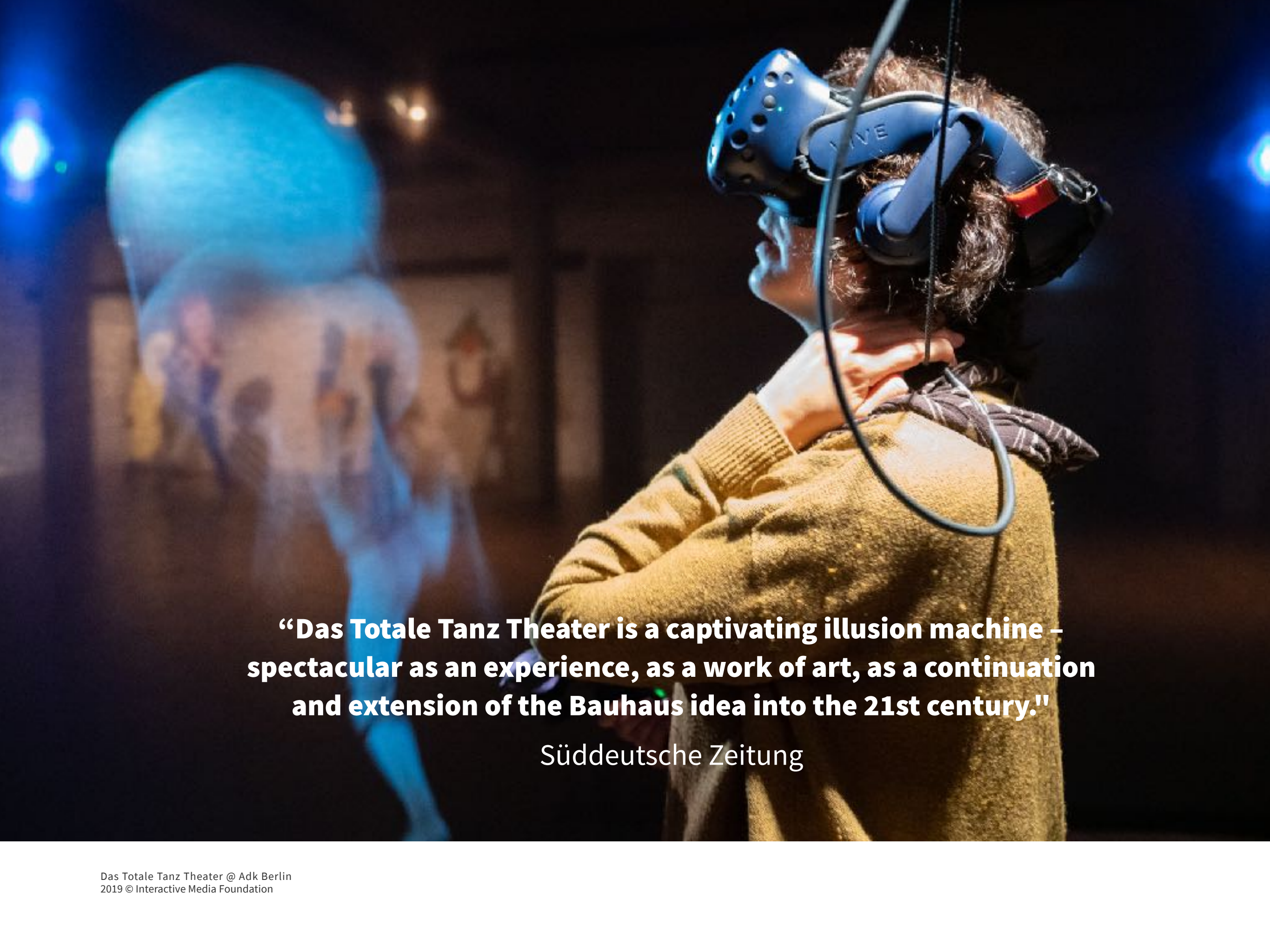








11 Installation Das Totale Tanz Theater @ Academy Of Arts In Berlin  
2019 © Interactive Media Foundation  
Picture: Thorsten Wulff



**“Das Totale Tanz Theater is a captivating illusion machine –  
spectacular as an experience, as a work of art, as a continuation  
and extension of the Bauhaus idea into the 21st century.”**

Süddeutsche Zeitung



## DAS TOTALE TANZ THEATER 360

A 360° Music Video based on Das Totale Tanz Theater

Based on the interactive virtual reality installation and in partnership with the TV channel **ZDF/ARTE**, we developed Das Totale Tanz Theater 360.

During the around six-minute long 360° video, viewers are immersed into the elaborately designed virtual stage world, along with **Richard Siegal's choreography** and a song created especially for the video by **Einstürzende Neubauten**.

# AUDIO. SPACE. MACHINE.



Audioplay of the Month January 2019

**AUDIO.SPACE.MACHINE**  
A MECHANISTIC/DIGITAL SOUNDSCAPE IN 12 TRACKS

by wittmann/zeitblom


The Bauhaus provided impulses that were to have a decisive influence on music and sound all around the world: Immersion, equal standing for the artistic disciplines, a deep understanding of the material and a focus on a modern, mechanistic view of the world in which human positionality needs to be reassessed.

AUDIO.SPACE.MACHINE reconfigures these impulses for the present day and transposes them to the technical level of sound design in the form of a concept album in terms of acoustics, content and technology. In twelve immersively conceived tracks, the listening space is radically organized by means of a 360° matrix. The focus of the album is the human being as a modern adaptive apparatus.

AUDIO.SPACE.MACHINE combines quotations from texts by László Moholy-Nagy, Walter Gropius and other Bauhaus artists of the 1920s, but also from texts by John Cage and contemporary authors such as Martin Burckhardt or Bazon Brock.

The tracks of AUDIO.SPACE.MACHINE are each two to five minutes long and can be listened to individually or experienced in their entirety as a unit. Through its binaural design and noise-reduction transmission, the individual listener becomes part of a unique, mechanistic/digital soundscape.

A project of Interactive Media Foundation in cooperation with 100 Jahre bauhaus Das Eröffnungsfestival, Deutschlandfunk, NDR and SWR. The audio play will be played in an extended radio version in the audio art programs of these radio stations.



**Größte Attraktionen sind erwartungsgemäß die Virtual Reality-Installation und das 360° Video „Das Totale Tanztheater“, zwei Weltpremieren der Interactive Media Foundation in Zusammenarbeit mit Richard Siegal und Artificial Rome sowie Audio.Space.Machine...**

Aus der Pressemeldung zur Abendöffnung des Eröffnungsfestivals

## → Multi-User Installation Technical Set-Up

### Technical Set-Up that comes with the Installation:

- 4x VR-Ready PC (Intel i7-8086K, GeForce GTX 2080Ti, 16 GB Ram, HDMI Display Port, USB 3 Port, SSD 500 GB, Windows 10, Steam VR installed)
- 4x HTC Vive Pro package, including each:
  - 1 HTC Vive Pro Headset
  - 2 Lighthouses
  - 2 Controller
- 4x 42" or smaller monitor for guidance through the experience with HDMI cable for each device
- 1x Netgear GS108GE Switch
- 1x Linksys E2500 WLAN N600 dual band router with ethernet
- 4 CAT6 Network patch-cable with 2xRJ45 plugs
- Power cords

### Communication Material, provided by us

- Videos for projection („Behind the scenes“ or / and „Tanzmaschinen“)
- Making-off Video
- Texts, pictures, trailer and other material for communication

### Requirements for the room:

- As the gauze box has 6 m in diameter, we need a space of at least 200 m<sup>2</sup>
- Space with controlled lighting (projections on gauze)
- Electricity and a strong internet connection

### Additional technical equipment:

- 4 Projectors (6.500 AnsiLumen, WUXGA (1.920x1.200 PX, 16:10 nativ), Lens 1.3-1.8:1 (Reference: Panasonic PT-DZ6700 or PT-RZ670, equalisation capable) >> depends on the light in the room
- To-play system: BrightSign HD223 (reference)

## → Single-User Installation Technical Set-Up

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### Technical Set-Up that comes with the Installation:

- VR-Ready PC (Intel i7-8086K, GeForce GTX 2080Ti, 16 GB Ram, HDMI Display Port, USB 3 Port, SSD 500 GB, Windows 10, Steam VR installed)
- HTC Vive Pro package, including each:
  - 1 HTC Vive Pro Headset
  - 2 Lighthouses
  - 2 Controller
- 1x Netgear GS108GE Switch
- 1x Linksys E2500 WLAN N600 dual band router with ethernet
- CAT6 Network patch-cable with 2xRJ45 plugs
- Power cords

### Communication Material, provided by us

- Videos for projection („Behind the scenes“ or / and „Tanzmaschinen“)
- Making-off Video
- Texts, pictures, trailer and other material for communication

### Requirements for the room:

- Space with controlled lighting (projections on gauze)
- Electricity and a strong internet connection

### Additional technical equipment, provided by partner at place

- Projectors (6.500 AnsiLumen, WUXGA (1.920x1.200 PX, 16:10 nativ), Lens 1.3-1.8:1 (Reference: Panasonic PT-DZ6700 or PT-RZ670, equalisation capable))
- To-play system: BrightSign HD223 (reference)

(alternatively big monitors to display the the projection videos)

- 42” or smaller monitor for guidance through the experience with HDMI cable for each device + keyboard + mouse

## → 360 Video Set-Up

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### **Video, provided by us**

360 Video, optimized for Oculus Go, 8.30' duration

### **Set-Up that comes with the video or can be provided by partner at place:**

- Oculus Go headsets
- Noise reduction headphones (Bose)

### **Communication Material, provided by us**

- Videos for projection („Behind the scenes“ or / and „Tanzmaschinen“)
- Texts pictures and other material for communication
- Making-off Video

### **Requirements for the room:**

- Space with controlled lighting (projections)
- Electricity and internet connection (recommended)
- Swivel chairs + table to store the equipment

### **Additional technical equipment, provided by partner at place**

- For the projections: Projector (5000 AnsiLumen)  
>> alternatively big monitors to display the the projection videos
- Monitor to display Making-Off



Das Totale Tanz Theater is a project of **Bauhaus Spirit**, the international crossmedia project that interprets the themes of the Bauhaus in the present and future. As part of **Bauhaus Spirit**, the following projects were created:

## DOCUMENTARY: FROM BUILDING THE FUTURE-100 YEARS OF BAUHAUS

The documentary tells the exciting story of Bauhaus as the formulation, failure and renewal of a social utopia. It also talks about current social, planning and artistic projects and puts them in the context of the history of Bauhaus. In considering a large, visionary project, the film asks the following questions, which are important today: How should we live and where do we want to go? A documentary by Niels Bolbrinker & Thomas Tielsch. Start of film: 26.04.2018, 90 minutes.  
(Partners: Arte/ ZDF and others)

## AUDIO: AUDIO.SPACE.MACHINE

A mechanistic/digital universe of sound in 12 tracks. The important ideas originating from the Bauhaus subsequently came to exert a decisive influence in the areas of music and sound: Immersion, equality of the artistic disciplines, a solid understanding of the material as well as focusing on a modern mechanical philosophy in which the position of humans must be redefined. In AUDIO.SPACE.MACHINE, these ideas are redefined for the present day by the artists wittmann/zeitbloom, and translated to the form of a concept album; acoustically, in terms of content, but also on the technical level of sound design. (Partners: DLF, NDR,SWR)

## VR: DAS TOTALE TANZ THEATER

The virtual reality experience ‚Das Totale Tanz Theater‘, inspired by Oskar Schlemmers stage experiments and Gropius ideas of a total theater, addresses the topic of man and machine. A virtual world invites visitors to interact with digital dancing figures. Fitted out with VR goggles and a controller, visitors embark on a thrilling journey through multiple levels of a vast, virtual stage space. For a duration of ten minutes, the relationship between humans and machines is experienced in a completely new way by means of joint dance in digital dimensions.

## VR 360°: DAS TOTALE TANZ THEATER 360

Based on the interactive virtual reality installation and in partnership with the TV channel ZDF/ARTE, we developed Das Totale Tanz Theater 360. During the around six-minute long 360° video, viewers are immersed into the elaborately designed virtual stage world, along with Richard Siegal’s choreography and a song created especially for the video by Einstürzende Neubauten.



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