

**ZÜRCHER  
THEATER  
SPEKTAKEL**  
14.8.—31.8.25

**SALON D'ARTISTES**  
Professionals weekend  
22 to 24 August 2025

Valerie Reding  
Ntando Cele  
Alessandro Schiattarella  
Lea Whitcher  
Daniel Hellmann / Soya the Cow  
Tyra Wigg  
Tiran Willemse

## VALERIE REDING



Valerie Reding is a Zurich-based choreographer and interdisciplinary artist whose emotionally resonant and visually intriguing work dissolves boundaries between movement, poetry and the political, between the institutional and the underground. Their work explores how societal power structures configure identity and relationality — how they become inscribed in our bodies and shape how we relate to ourselves and each other. Drawing from personal and collective trauma, Reding is committed to creating spaces for marginalised narratives and crafts sensorially rich environments that invite audiences into spaces of generative togetherness. Their performances unfold as radical acts of vulnerability and resistance, where identities are fluid and the body becomes a site of protest and collective transformation.

Their practice is distinguished by its strong poetic visual language, emotional rawness and transdisciplinary layering, merging embodiment with image and text. Through this, Reding seeks to open up alternative modes of feeling, perceiving and being together — beyond the limiting systems society imposes.

They studied classical dance in Luxembourg, architecture at ETH Zürich and media arts at ZHdK (Zurich), the University of Applied Arts Vienna and in San Francisco. As an associated artist at Tanzhaus Zürich, they have developed a nationally and internationally recognized body of work, awarded the SSA Young Choreographers' Prize and the City of Zurich Cultural Prize.

### Upcoming projects

wet dreams, stage work, 75 min  
– premiering January 2026 at Tanzhaus Zürich  
– Latin America Tour April–May 2026

### Previous projects

breathe, 2024, 8 hrs  
– long-durational performance commissioned by Casino—Forum d'Art Contemporain Luxembourg  
querida cucaracha, 2024, 15 min  
– solo text-based performance  
monsters, 2024, 75 min  
– performance and multimedia installation combining photography and sound  
lovefool, 2023, 25 min  
– solo performance  
m.a.d.—about you, 2021, 30 min  
– live one-on-one video-performance  
m.a.d., 2020, 65 min  
– stage work

### Contact

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## NTANDO CELE



Ntando Cele is a South African director and theatre maker based in Bern. She holds a National Diploma in Theatre Studies from Durban University of Technology (1999–2001) and a Master of Theatre from Dasarts-Amsterdam (2009–2012).

Since 2012, she has created and performed highly political, genre-defying works as part of Manaka Empowerment Prod, blending theatre, music, and satire. Her work, deeply rooted in South African identity while engaging global themes, dissects prejudices and stereotypes, challenging audiences' perceptions.

Her plays have toured internationally, including Face-Off (2013) in the Netherlands, South Africa, and Switzerland; Black Off at Schaubühne Berlin, MITsp São Paulo, Beursschouwburg Brussels, Bühnen Graz, Festival Contemporary Art Prague, and Brixton House London.

From 2019 to 2020, she co-wrote and directed Black. Space. Race. A Supersonic Afrobeat Performance. In 2020–21, Go Go Othello toured Bern, Lausanne, and Marseille. Spafrika, a co-creation with Studio Hetzel, premiered at Theater Vidy Lausanne, while Yes, Yes, Yes!, a collaboration with Corinne Maier, debuted at Kaserne Basel in 2023.

An ever-evolving artist, Cele works as a director, dramaturg, and workshop leader, actively shaping contemporary theatre. In 2023, she won the Swiss Diversity Award for Wer hat Angst vorm weissen Mann? and the Schweizer Preis für Darstellende Künste. In 2024, Wasted Land premiered at Theater Vidy Lausanne and is currently on a European tour. That same year, she was nominated for the Theo d'Or at the Netherlands Theater Festival and won Best Direction for Spafrika.

### Contact

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## ALESSANDRO SCHIATTARELLA



Alessandro Schiattarella is a Swiss-Neapolitan choreographer, performer, and disability advocate based in Basel. After an international career as a solo dancer, he developed his own choreographic language, shaped by his lived experience with Hirayama disease and a commitment to anti-ableist aesthetics.

His work explores the politics of the body, challenging normative ideals of ability and presence. Blending dance, text, sound, and spatial experimentation, his interdisciplinary pieces center care, fragility, and interdependence as both artistic and political values. His creations are presented internationally, in theaters, site-specific locations, and festival contexts.

Since 2024, he has been Artistic Co-Director of DISFRAME (formerly IntegrART), a Swiss network for inclusive performing arts. In this role, he works to expand accessibility and foster systemic change by supporting artists and curators engaged with disability discourse.

Trained at Teatro alla Scala in Milan and Rudra Béjart Lausanne, Alessandro also holds a Master of Advanced Studies in Fine Arts from HGK FHNW and a Certificate of Advanced Studies in Dance Science from the University of Bern.

### Upcoming projects

IM NAMEN DER LIEBE—Staatstheater Braunschweig, 2026  
PARA-SITE (WT), 2026

### Ongoing projects

SUPERNORMAL SUPERPOWER, 2025  
VOGLIO VEDERTI DANZARE!, 2025  
ZER-BRECH-LICH, 2023  
ALTROVE +, 2024  
HANDLING HANDS, 2024  
SULLE SPONDE DEL LAGO, 2022  
STRANO, 2017/2025 (new version)

### Past projects

BREAKING POINT, 2024  
REJECTED, 2019  
ONE AT A TIME, 2018  
TELL ME WHERE IT IS, 2015

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## LEA WHITCHER



Lea Witcher is a Swiss-American performer, writer, comedian, and musician. Her devised plays explore the delicate balance between humor and abyss, documentary and utopia, entertainment and conceptual art. The personal is political — and so is laughing together in the theater when all we want to do is cry. Her overarching goal: global feminist revolution.

She is part of the satirical music riot collective 9 Volt Nelly. Their current show *Bäng! Bäng! Bäng!* pushes ideas of the American Dream to the point of grotesque.

In their podcast feminism by the pool, they tackle tough topics — in bikinis.

In 2021, she developed her first autobiographical solo show *Mama Love*, in which she deconstructs her entanglement with toxic ideas of motherhood, performed at the Edinburgh Fringe 2022 as part of Pro Helvetia's Swiss Selection, and received the Zurich City Cultural Award in 2023. It is the first part of the trilogy *#carecity*, exploring the idea of a care-centred society. The second part, titled *\_stories\**, combines literature, community art, and activism. The third, *Dragon Love (waves)*, another solo piece, will premiere in May 2025.

She is currently directing and performing in *Overprotected*, a music theater project with the inclusive ensemble of Theater Hora about Britney Spears and guardianship, premiering in September 2024.

### Upcoming projects

*OVERPROTECTED—THE BRITNEY SPEARS PROJECT* inclusive music theater performance about guardianship, Theater Hora, 2022

*DRAGON LOVE* (working title) — A political magic show about the nuclear family and the suspension of disbelief, solo performance, 2026

*AT THE POOL* — music comedy show about body politics, Duo 9 Volt Nelly, 2027

### Ongoing projects

*\_STORIES\**—ongoing digital/analog community art project in which authors from around the globe write stories that take place amidst the common vision of a global care revolution— green touring without travelling people possible, 2024

*MAMA LOVE*—autobiographical solo performance about toxic ideas of motherhood, 2021

*BÄNG! BÄNG! BÄNG!*—music comedy show about US politics and ideas of freedom, Duo 9 Volt Nelly, 2020

### Contact

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## DANIEL HELLMANN / SOYA THE COW



Daniel Hellmann is a theatre maker, performer, singer and activist based in Zurich. He creates interdisciplinary works combining music, language, body and movement, often dealing with desire, sexuality, human and animal rights. His solo pieces *Full Service* (2014) and *Traumboy* (2015) toured internationally and were presented at major festivals.

In 2018, Hellmann introduced his alter ego Soya the Cow — a sex-positive, feminist and vegan drag cow advocating for animal rights, climate justice and joy. With Soya, he created *Dear Human Animals* (2020), the philosophical city walks *Try Walking in My Hooves* (2022), but also numerous site-specific performances at protests, TV shows or gala dinners. Soya is resident «house cow» at Tanzhaus Zürich and received a cultural award from the City of Zurich in 2023.

His latest music theater work *Queere Tiere* (2024) was shortlisted for the Swiss Theater Encounter. Currently, Hellmann is developing *De-Domestication* (2025) with Brazilian artist Rafa Bqueer, a multimedia project addressing the connections between monocultures, cattle farming and colonial violence in the Amazon.

### Upcoming projects

*De-Domestication*, 2025  
*Arten Festival*, 2026

### Ongoing Projects

*Queere Tiere*, 2024  
*Try Walking in My Hooves*, 2022

### Previous Projects

*Dear Human Animals*, 2020  
*Traumgirl*, 2019  
*All In*, 2019  
*Requiem for a piece of meat*, 2017  
*Traumboy*, 2015  
*Full Service*, 2014

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### Daniel Hellmann

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A photograph of Tyra Wigg, a choreographer and dancer, lying on their back on a light-colored floor. They are wearing a bright yellow vest over a dark top. Their right arm is raised, with fingers spread, and they are looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is blurred, showing other people and what appears to be a rehearsal space.

## TYRA WIGG

Tyra Wigg is a choreographer, dancer, and performance artist whose work explores desires and tensions of the sensing body within its cultural, political, and material surroundings. Drawing on a background in massage therapy and care work, many of their performances intersect artistic and physiotherapeutic practices to alter embodied perceptions and shift the modes of spectatorship.

Wigg's performances have been presented at venues and festivals such as Kaserne Basel, MDT Stockholm, Les Urbaines, far° Nyon, Joint Adventures Munich, Schinkel Pavillon Berlin, ROXY Birsfelden, Kunsthaus Baselland, Kunsthalle Basel, Museum Tinguely, Weld Stockholm, and Shedhalle Zürich.

As a performer and collaborator, Wigg has worked with Gisèle Vienne, Heiner Goebbels, Shu Lea Cheang, Ernestyna Orlowska, Marina Abramović, Inga Gerner Nielsen, Alexandra Pirici, among others.

In 2020 Wigg relocated their homebase from Stockholm, Sweden to Basel, Switzerland. In 2023, they completed an MA in Expanded Theatre at Bern University of the Arts (HKB).

### Upcoming projects

Lick Life Against the Direction of Its Fur,  
premiere September 2025

### Previous projects

SQUEEZE, 2023

limb limb limb, 2023

The hand, the rock, your shoulder, and my mouth, 2022

Physical Empathy, 2021

NAPS, 2019

### Contact

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## TIRAN WILLEMSE



Tiran Willemse is a interdisciplinary collaborative artist working in the field of dance, theater and performance with Trajal Harrel, Jerome Bel, Ligia Lewis, Wu-Tsang (moved by the motion), Deborah Hay, Eszter Salomon, Meg Stuart and Andros Zins Browne. Willemse's practice centers on the interrogation of presence and absence in the performance of identity, he endeavors to foster new desires in the imagination through a visceral experience. His work has been presented by Palais Tokyo Paris, Cantonal museum of fine arts Lausanne, Gessnerallee Zurich, Museum Macro Rome, Impulstanz Wien, Santarcangelo Festival Italy, Actoral Marseille, Kunsthaus Baselland, Tanzquartier Wien, Arsenic Lausanne. Willemse won the Swiss performance prize 2023 and lives and works in Zurich.

### **Upcoming projects**

Synthetic/Artefact, 2026

### **Previous Projects**

When the calabash breaks, 2025, Collaboration with Nkisi  
Untitled (Nostalgia Act 3), 2023  
blackmilk (Melancholia), 2022

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