

## The 2017 Augenblick mal! Festival

The Augenblick mal! festival begins in just a few days!

From April 25 – 30, 2017, the festival of theater for young audiences, **Augenblick mal!**, will present thirteen productions from Germany, Belarus, the Netherlands as well as a Cuban-Swedish coproduction. The festival will officially start with an opening event on April 25 at Prater in Theater an der Parkaue and provides an overview as well as music by the Berlin band SkaZka. The five-person curatorial team developed three criteria for making their selections for the festival: Does the piece of theater empower the young audience to actively take part in life? Does the production respect young audiences and present the ambivalences of life or does it attempt to give answers which fall short? And have the artists dedicated themselves to finding suitable aesthetic formats and forms of expression?

The patron of the festival, the German Federal Minister for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth Manuela Schwesig, shows how pleased she is with the thematic focuses of the 14<sup>th</sup> edition of the festival in her official greeting: “I am delighted that you have addressed current topics such as seeking asylum and immigration as well as the dialog between the generations in the **Augenblick mal!** festival. This provides children and young people with the opportunity to come to terms with these important topics in a playful manner.”

Every two years, the festival brings families, school classes and industry professionals into the children’s and youth theaters of Berlin, offering all visitors a diverse view of current discussions, topics and methods within the field of children’s and youth theater with guest performances and ample space for conversation.

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