

ALL BEATS TO DANCE
The slogan of DANZAINFIERA 2024 – XVIII edition

In Florence, from 23 to 25 February, the biggest Italian show dedicated to dance becomes, in all respects,
a Pitti Immagine fair
Lots of new features and The Gala with international stars

All Beats to Dance is the slogan that will accompany **Danzainfiera 2024-XVIII edition**: the biggest Italian show dedicated to dance which will be held from **23 to 25 February 2024** at the Fortezza da Basso in Florence. The first edition held by **Pitti Immagine srl** which definitively acquired the event last September.

Danzainfiera is a show which brings together the biggest companies involved in clothing and technical services, stores and distributors, schools, dance companies, promotional bodies and associations, along with an army of sector professionals, dancers, choreographers and enthusiasts. However, it is a bit more than just a fair: it is a place where young people who aspire to become famous can take part in auditions and tryouts which sometimes change their lives, leading them on to new experiences in Italy or abroad with top training schools or even to find employment. This year it will also feature a moment of high-level entertainment.

All Beats to Dance – The Gala, the artistic and organizational part of which will be curated by **Francesco Volpe**, will see big Italian and foreign stars on the stage: the *danseuse étoile* of La Scala, **Nicoletta Manni**, and its principal dancer, **Timofej Adrijashenko**, also famous for his marriage proposal to her during the television program *Roberto Bolle and friends* at the end of the first act of *Romeo and Juliet*, one of the most romantic pas de deux in the history of dance. **Luisa Ieluzzi** and **Danilo Notaro**, both stars of the Teatro San Carlo in Naples, are scheduled to be appearing with them. **Sixteen dancers from Aterballetto**. Plus, **Ana Sophia Scheller**, principal dancer first in San Francisco and then in Kiev, and **Alejandro Vireles Gonzales**, principal of the Staatsoper in Berlin. As well as **Daniil Simkin**, star of the American Ballet Theater in New York and the Staatsballet in Berlin; **Fresh’N’ Clean**, the popping crew dancers that the general public got to know and fall in love with when they took part in the program **Tú Sí Que Vales**.

Over the three days of the fair there will be auditions for the **Joffrey Ballet School** with Diego Salterini, Angela Rebelo and TRIX, for the **ABT Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School** with Franco De Vita and Raynold Lukens, two giants of the **New York** dance world, with the Oniin Dance Company for **the Peridance Capezio Center** and with **City Ballet San Francisco**, directed by Galina Alexandrova. On the European front, the **European School of Ballet** in **Amsterdam**

directed by Jean-Yves Esquerre, and the **European Dance Center Paris** directed by Jennifer Goubé will be present.

With regard to Italy, there will be many activities in collaboration with the prestigious **Accademia del Teatro alla Scala**, the **Fondazione Nazionale della Danza /Aterballetto**, the only National Choreographic Center, in addition to exponents of the most important academies, associations and promotional bodies of the CONI (Italian National Olympic Committee) and event organizers who will be present throughout the show in the space dedicated to **Formazione & Spettacolo** (Training & Entertainment).

There are also lots of new features: open auditions for the cast and the academy of the **Katakò Dance Athletic Theatre** in Milan, the first to introduce athletic theater to the Italian dance panorama. The result of the artistic genius of Giulia Staccioli, Katakò proposes an energetic and expressive dance-theater in which the body intertwines with the disciplines of acrobatics, ballet, aerial dancing and physical theater.

There will also be three new choreographic showcases: **600 Beats**, an open call in collaboration with the EurAsia Dance Project aimed at young choreographers aged under 35 for a new solo project inspired by the culture of one of the 20 countries in the world where the EurAsia project is based and works every year in America, Africa, the Middle East and Asia. **Debut**, dedicated to professional training academies and their best pupils, which allows future dancers to show off their talent live, celebrating the work of the teachers and choreographers and **Duende**, supported by the portal **ballareviaggiando.it**, which will welcome performances of every genre and style of ethnic, folk, percussive, tribal dance in order to express, on the stage, the '*Duende*', that deep artistic manifestation that can provide identity. "The duende" as the poet, Garcia Lorca, said, "shakes the body, breaking every possible barrier connected to form and structure".

There will also be many internships including Parsons style Modern Dance with **Abby Silva**, a Parsons Dance dancer, the Graham technique with **Antonio Fini**, the intensive choreographic transmission workshop by **Fabio Crestale** artistic director of the Ifunambuli company, Paris, the workshops inspired by the Limon technique and the Jooss-Leeder method conducted by **Maria Giovanna Delle Donne**, an Italian dancer at the great Pina Bausch's Tanztheater Wuppertal. As well as a space for master's courses for teachers: devised by Monica Cagnani and coordinated by **Anna Maria Prina**, the historic director of the Teatro alla Scala dance school, the master's course on comparative methods with teachers like Dunia Vera Hernandez, Franco De Vita, Christiane Marchant, illustrating the principles of the Cuban method, of the updated Vaganova method, of the National Training Curriculum ABT and other ballet teaching. **Rosanna Brocanello**, director of the COB company, will conduct the increasingly popular focus on high-level professional training devised for teachers and dancers who aspire to be teachers of modern and contemporary dance. **Stefano Fardelli** will talk about Anthropology and Choreography.

Among the internships and workshops, space will also be given over to the television and commercial world with **Lala Blhite**, ballerina, choreographer, singer-songwriter, actress and audiovisual author who, following last year's success, will be organizing the **Dancer on set** workshop for learning how to move around in front of the camera. There will also be an internship for tap dance enthusiasts with Anthony Morigerato, a performer of international fame and the D'Angelo Brothers; for those who love high heels there is the Heels internship with **Chanelle Anthony**; or hip hop with **Ayoub Haraka** and **Claudia Laruccia**; Popping with **Simone Stella**. It will be possible to explore music, art and urban dance with **Kacyo**, Artistic director Red Bull Bc One Italia, BSTUDENTS the Italian breakdance academy and the Technical coach of the **Italian Olympic breakdance team**. Plus special lectures with the teachers who are well known to the general public after taking part in **Dancing with the Stars**: paso doble with **Stefano Oradei**, Jive with **Anastasija Kuz'mina**, Rumba with **Sara Di Vaira**.

Once again this year, there will be the long-awaited **Expression International Dance Competition** organized by IDA Dance which offers scholarships and special prizes at the best schools and academies, as well as **Musical: Il Concorso** organized by Professione Danza Parma aimed at non-professional performers which is focused on the musical repertoire of all eras, including original works. The Teatro Sistina will be present, as is traditional, for auditions with Massimo Romeo Piparo, director of the Theater as well as director, artistic director, television producer and writer. Plus, the **Pop Tap Festival** organized by Jazz&Co. Dance Studio which, this year, has a competitive section and is offering national and international scholarships. Among the various shows there will be the return of **Junior Parade** dedicated to groups aged under 14 and the **Dance Parade** for over 14s, a unique stage for dancers of all ages who want to perform together with their course mates.

All of this and lots more for the XVIII edition of Danzainfiera.