

PRESS RELEASE**20 November 2025****International dance, theatre and performance guest performances at the Humboldt Forum****4 until 7 December 2025, Tickets: humboldtforum.org/en/transkontinentale****As part of the annual programme *Family Matters***

Africa, Asia, Australia, and South America: Transkontinentale presents guest performances from four continents on the theme of family

In the second edition of the Transkontinentale festival, from 4 to 7 December 2025, the Humboldt Forum will present international guest performances in dance, theatre, and performance from Africa, Asia, Australia, and South America. While the 2024 festival commemorated 140 years since the Berlin Africa Conference, this year's programme takes an artistic look at the many facets of family: the search for roots, identity, belonging, love, meaning, hope, justice, peace, reconciliation, understanding, acceptance, recognition, respect, equality, freedom, happiness, and fulfilment. The programme also explores family through lived experiences and narratives: growing up in a war zone, cross-generational celebrations, dialogues with ancestors, the search for a father, lost motherhood, and artistic as well as queer chosen families. A total of nine productions from four continents will be presented across the four-day festival.

The second edition of Transkontinentale features several European premieres, German premieres and Berlin premieres. The programme includes guest performances by choreographer and dancer Faustin Linyekula, choreographer and performer Stéphanie Mwamba (both from the Democratic Republic of Congo), performers Tetembua Dandara and Cris Moreira (both from Brazil), choreographers Choy Ka Fai (Singapore/Berlin) and Joel Bray (Australia), artist and architect Nitish Jain (India/Czechia), poet and artist Logan February (Nigeria) and author and director Koleka Putuma (South Africa).

All productions were selected with reference to the collections of the Humboldt Forum. Three guest performances will take place directly in the exhibition rooms of the Ethnologisches Museum and the Museum für Asiatische Kunst. The programme spans a wide range of artistic formats, including contemporary dance, sensory encounters with

the audience, an interactive lecture performance, and a theatre journey designed for babies and their parents.

- **Faustin Linyekula: „My body, my archive“**
The Congolese choreographer and dancer embarks on a search for the women in his family.
- **Tetembua Dandara: „En tenho uma história que se parece com a minha“**
The Brazilian artist invites the audience to celebrate with her mother, sister, niece, and grandmother—sharing moqueca and cachaça, music, and stories..
- **Cris Moreira: „Quadra 16“**
- Also from Brazil, Cris Moreira presents a lecture performance about families that will never exist after miscarriage or abortion.
- **Choy Ka Fai „SoftMachine: The Return“**
In this work, the Singaporean artist reconnects with two dancers from his chosen artistic family, with whom he began his professional journey more than ten years ago, asking: “How can we grow old together, think and play together?”
- **Joel Bray „Daddy“**
The Australian choreographer involves the audience in a dance performance about the search for his Indigenous father.
- **Stéphanie Mwamba „KIZAZI“**
In KIZAZI (Swahili for “womb”), the artist from the war-torn eastern Democratic Republic of Congo describes the female body as an oppressed territory, a combat zone.
- **Nitish Jain „Homeward“**
In his interactive performance, the Indian artist tells the story of the Jacobin cuckoo, a migratory bird eagerly awaited as a harbinger of the monsoon season, which begins its family by destroying the eggs of another.
- **Logan February „Afro-queere Halluzinationen“**
- In the exhibition of the Ethnological Collections, Logan February embarks on a poetic search for her Yoruba ancestors.
- **Koleka Putuma „Scoop“**
The South African author and director invites infants up to 12 months old and their parents into her theatre tent.

The festival serves as a platform for transcontinental encounters between audiences and artists, fostering new relationships and future productions. Each guest performance is accompanied by meetings and discussions with the artists. Transcontinental was curated by Jan Linders, Head of Events at the Humboldt Forum, in collaboration with festivals and organizers from many countries.

Dates: Thursday, 4, til Sunday, 7 December 2025

Tickets: online at humboldtforum.org/en/transkontinentale or at the ticket office in the Foyer

Prices: 8-20 Euro (partially free admission or admission with the Humboldt Forum ticket)

Languages: German and other languages (see programme at humboldtforum.org/en/transkontinentale)

Location: Different locations in the whole Humboldt Forum

Press images: humboldtforum.org/en/press

As part of the programme *Family Matters*

(Almost) everyone belongs to a family – and no two families are alike. That much is obvious. Yet only on closer inspection does the true diversity of family life reveal itself. With the annual programme *Family Matters*, the four stakeholders of the Humboldt Forum, together with international partners, are for the first time dedicating the entire building to a single theme. Exhibitions, contemporary perspectives, and artistic interventions within the collections explore family relationships across the present, past, and future. Overall curatorial direction: Laura Goldenbaum

One building, four partners: This diversity is founded on the collaboration of our partner institutions. The Humboldt Forum is a collaboration between the Stiftung Humboldt Forum im Berliner Schloss; the Stiftung Preussischer Kulturbesitz for collections from the Ethnologisches Museum and the Museum für Asiatische Kunst of the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin; the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin for the Humboldt Lab; and the Stadtmuseum Berlin for the BERLIN GLOBAL exhibition.

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