

ZuKT – Department of Contemporary and Classical Dance

**Body Awareness linking Technique and Creativity
The Development of the Department of Contemporary and Classical Dance at
the Frankfurt University of Music and Performing Arts (Hochschule für Musik
und Darstellende Kunst Frankfurt am Main)**

The Department of Classical Dance at the Hochschule Frankfurt / Main was founded by Professor Peter Ahrenkiel (classical dance) in 1961. 1980 Professor Egbert Stolka (Classical dance) became the head of the department. In 1998 he was followed by a team of directors consisting of Professor Susanne Noodt, Professor Angela Schmidt, Dieter Heitkamp and James Schar who started to modify the curriculum of classical ballet to the Department of Contemporary and Classical Dance, in short **ZuKT (Zeitgenössischer und Klassischer Tanz)**.

In 2001 Dieter Heitkamp was offered the chair for contemporary dance and since has been head of the department. In cooperation with the team of directors he continuously has been developing the Frankfurt teaching model.

Part of the team are also Mark Spradling (Ballett Frankfurt) who has been working with the Department starting the winter semester 1998 and was offered tenure for classical dance in January 2003, honorary professor William Forsythe (The Forsythe Company) and Tatjana Petercol, who has been working as pianist and teaching music theory for dancers since 2002.

Starting with the Winter semester 07/08 the previous dance diploma studies Contemporary and Classical Dance will have been developed into a four year bachelor program.

The new two year Master program Contemporary Dance Pedagogy began at the beginning of the winter semester 07/08. It is funded by Tanzplan Deutschland, an initiative of the Federal Cultural Foundation and supported by Tanzlabor_21 /Tanzplan Frankfurt Rhein Main. Director of the new master program is Professor Kurt Koegel.

By transforming the teaching concept we took into account the development in European Dance as well as the changing situation of dance companies in German theatres and the growing importance of the „independent“ dance scene.

[BA Program](#) (Link)
