



Festival

Melanie Zimmermann worked for film and television before studying cultural studies and dance in Frankfurt an der Oder and in Paris. She worked for the Forsythe Company and studied dramaturgy with Hans-Thies Lehmann in Frankfurt am Main and Brussels. In 2010 she was a danceWEB scholarship holder. As a freelance dance and theater dramaturg, she worked for Wanda Golonka, Peeping Tom and Laurent Chétouane, among others, and was project manager of the collective MAMAZA. From 2010 to 2023, she worked as a dance dramaturg and curator at Kampnagel in Hamburg, where she was co-responsible for the local and international dance program and several major dance events such as the German Dance Platform 2014 or the Dance Education Biennale 2020. She has also curated the Fokus Tanz Festival since 2014 and many other festivals in the program at Kampnagel. In recent years, she focusses in her curational practice on collaborations with artists with disabilities and representatives of street- and club cultures. In recent years, she has supported artists with disabilities and representatives of black dance culture in her networking work. Trying to react to inequalities in the dance scene, she co-founded the “Bottom Up Dance School”, an inclusive artistic school-project which three editions took place between 2021-26. 2023/2024 she co-produced “Juste Debout” in Hamburg, which was presented the first time outside of Paris, and which was broadcasted by ARTE. Since 2023 she is the artistic director of the international Real Dance Festival in Hanover. In 2028, she will host the Tanzplattform Deutschland in Hannover with the Real Dance Team. Melanie is a member of various boards of trustees, such as Kulturfonds Frankfurt RheinMain and Fond Darstellende Künste, provides artistic advice to the Contemporary Dance School Hamburg, and has been on the board of the Kampnagel support association K+ since 2026. She also provides dramaturgical support to choreographers such as Adam Linder.