

# PRESS RELEASE

Live 2022 - Germany & Austria

## **FLYING BACH**

10 years anniversary tour

Performance by **FLYING STEPS**

### **CREATIVES**

#### **VARTAN BASSIL – Artistic Director and founder of the Flying Steps**

Without the Lebanon-born Vartan Bassil the history of b-boys in Germany would be a short one. The self-taught dancer founded the Flying Steps in 1993 alongside fellow b-boy Amigo. Bassil's talent for exciting stage shows and choreography led to four world champion titles for the Flying Steps, including the Battle of the Year in 1994 and 2000. It is thanks to his creativity that FLYING BACH came to fruition. He was inspired after a visit to a classical concert. Today Vartan is more than just the artistic director for both FLYING BACH and FLYING ILLUSION. He's also the managing director of the entire Flying Steps Entertainment Corporation.

#### **CHRISTOPH HAGEL – Artistic Director, Pianist**

Hagel was raised in the German state of Baden-Württemberg and obtained his music education in Vienna, Munich and Berlin as well as New York, where he studied under Leonard Bernstein and Sergiu Celibidache. Next to his commitments in and around Berlin, Hagel spent many years working all over Latin America, where he has conducted orchestras in places like Argentina, Columbia, Mexico, and Peru. He became especially known for his modern adaptations of classic operas in unusual Berlin venues, such as productions of Don Giovanni in an old power plant or The Magic Flute in a subway station.

#### **MICHAEL ROSEMANN aka “MIKEL” – Artistic Management & Choreographer**

The career of native Berliner Michael Rosemann (alias Mikel), which began in 1991 with a youth center dance workshop, demonstrates the importance of passing the torch in the world of breakdance. He has won four world championships with the Flying Steps, including the Red Bull Beat Battle in 2005 and 2007, and remains dedicated to teaching the next generation of b-boys. Today – when on FLYING BACH tour – Mikel is the stage director and responsible for the production, especially for the artistic management and workshops in the respective local b-boy scene. When the two-time father isn't on tour, he co-manages the Flying Steps Academy in Berlin.

#### **YUI KAWAGUCHI – Choreographer (Contemporary Dance)**

Yui Kawaguchi discovered her passion for dance at the young age of six. Four years later she even created her own choreographies. In her dance she skillfully combines the flowing movements of contemporary dance with fragments of classical ballet. She studied professional dance, acting, and

# PRESS RELEASE

singing in Tokyo. Among her most important achievements are choreographing the opening ceremony of the 2001 East Asian Olympic Games, followed by music videos, films, concerts and fashion shows. Yui lives and works in Berlin since 2005.

## **KETAN and VIVAN BHATTI – Music**

Although they were born on different continents brothers Ketan (born in New Delhi) and Vivan (born in Germany) Bhatti share the same passion for music. After completing their studies the brothers toured the world with diverse Jazz and Hip Hop acts and composed scores for countless film and theater productions. Ketan and Vivan did not only compose the modern, electronic music in FLYING BACH, but are responsible for the sounds of FLYING ILLUSION as well.

## **MARCO MOO – Live Visuals**

There aren't many people in the world, who can tout such a versatile portfolio as VJ, Art Director, Producer and Set Designer Marco Moo. Born in Austria he began his carrier with producing and promoting videos for the windsurfing industry. These days he mostly creates live visuals for fashion shows (for companies such as Levi's and Diesel, just to name a few) or VJs for legendary DJ Sven Väth or even at the MTV European Music Awards.

## **PFADFINDEREI**

Berlin-based artists Pfadfinderei (German for 'pathfinders') are at home on the world's biggest stages. Not as featured performers, but as visual effects conductors for such acts as Boys Noize, Moderat, and Paul Kalkbrenner. Their job is to create an unforgettable visual experience for the audience – something they do for both FLYING BACH and FLYING ILLUSION.