

The exclusive performance for your event

"The oil filter on the catwalk. A textile dance" by Philipp Egli



"The oil filter on the catwalk" – a fashion show of the facets and fibres of today's textile technology – a lively and highly artful display of Swiss inventiveness which is at once figurative and highly concrete.

A large, mysterious box, three dancers and a rich selection of classical and functional textiles: the internationally acclaimed choreographer Philipp Egli combines these seemingly disparate elements into a wonderful symbiosis. The former director of the Theater St.Gallen's dance company and member of "Mummen-schanz" brings innovative textile art and technology to life through dance.

See for yourself – take a look at our trailer under www.textilien-tanz.ch!

The performance moves between fashion show and choreographed dance. Technical textiles are put to a more playful use. The production draws on the region and breaks boundaries through its art; just as the textile industry breaks boundaries daily, its quality and vision shaping global ambitions.

"A perfect production with varied content and captivating music, as well as three highly professional dancers. The textile content is perfect for St.Gallen and our *Textilland*. Tip: book the performance for your own event, your venue can be the Einstein."

Michael Vogt
General Manager
Einstein St.Gallen Hotel
Congress Spa

"Textiles which come to life. A combination of drama and dance. A piece which weaves together modern art, textile innovation and technology. Skilfully staged: unique, dynamic and futuristic. Highly recommended for everyone who wants to get to know the textile world from a different perspective. Have a wonderful textile experience!"

Sonja Amport
Director Schweizerische Textilfachschule STF

"Dance isn't usually my thing. 'The oil filter on the catwalk' was the exception."

Andreas Nagel
Communications Director
City of St.Gallen

Excerpt of the concept

“Textile has long been more than just clothing. Today, textiles are used from medicine to the construction industry and car manufacturing all the way to energy generation and conservation. Many of them are barely recognisable as fibre-based materials or textile structures. They are the product of complex technological research and elaborate production processes which have little in common with traditional notions of textile production.

In the Textile Dance, products of the present-day textile industry are examined in the context of movement. They are presented in a fashion show of sorts, bringing the full range of textiles onto the catwalk. Textiles, as artful and stylish as fashion: every kind of high-quality textile is elevated to the catwalk.”

“The red box is a symbol for (little) Switzerland, where we tinker about, where – initially hidden from view – new creations emerge. For (little) Switzerland, which stands for innovation, detail and quality. As the box is unfolded, the product goes onto the market. The open box, walls folded down, becomes a presentation platform, reflecting cosmopolitan Switzerland. The products are carried out into the world. They are remarkable.

The box also stands for long ago, and for today: what was once created on looms in homes in Appenzell is now a crucial innovative industry in our country. The days when (eastern) Switzerland’s reputation for textiles was based only on St. Gallen lace are long gone.”

Philipp Egli, Choreograph

“We begin with a red box. The heavy front panel falls, symbolising the curtain. Figures emerge behind frosted glass. They don’t reveal themselves immediately, instead gently feeling their way towards the world outside until the second layer falls and reveals inner world of the room.

In the first part, rhythms and patterns from the textile industry drive the choreography. The layout is reminiscent of the bygone times of work in cramped rooms on home looms, but the figures wear modern dress, moving to beats from the machinery of the modern weaving industry.

As the box unfolds on the sides, creating new spaces, the first products come into view. The things fashioned inside are carried out, presented to the market. In this second part, the laid-out wall panels serve as a platform for a catwalk choreography. Whether carpet or evening gown, oil filter, artificial placenta or avalanche backpack: every textile product wants a place in the show. The wearability and durability of each material is investigated in a complex, object-centred dance. They are manipulated and playfully made into everyday fashion: a tent as a wedding dress, tape as a turban.

In the end, it’s time to tidy and pack up: the protagonists shift back from models into textile engineers and withdraw to their refuge. The gates are closed to let them brood over the next collection. Innovation knows no rest.”

The “Textile Dance” can be adapted individually and flexibly to event organisers’ needs with regard to length (30-55 minutes), location and use of different (multimedia) elements.

Further information and booking

- St.Gallen-Bodensee Convention, congress@st.gallen-bodensee.ch, T +41 71 227 37 32
- egli_items, Philipp Egli, info@philippegli.com, T +41 78 776 76 96

“Philipp Egli’s playful and artistic depiction of the industrial world was simply brilliant. The three dancers were breath-taking and flawless throughout the 55 minutes. The flexibility in the subject and timeframe makes the ‘Textile Dance’ highly adaptable for both client and staff events.”

Vincenzo Montinaro
CEO AG Cilander