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Dance Images

Albertina Modern, 09.03.2026 [ENA]

"Dance Images" at ALBERTINA MODERN in Vienna elegantly captures the intoxicating interplay of movement and stillness, drawing exclusively from the museum's vast photographic collection. On view from March 3 to June 7, 2026, this inaugural exhibition on dance photography spans 1860s ballet portraits to 1930s avant-garde experiments, spotlighting Vienna's pivotal role in redefining dance as modern art.

Charlotte Rudolph's iconic shots of Mary Wigman in "Spatial Figure" (1928) distill expressionist ecstasy into frozen poetry, her angular forms radiating primal energy. Gret Palucca's dynamic leaps, captured mid-air, embody 1920s Neue Sachlichkeit's crisp geometry, turning bodies into rhythmic abstractions. Atelier d'Ora's luminous portrait of Anna Pavlova (1913) evokes imperial grace, a bridge from classical poise to liberated motion.

Curator Astrid Mahler's selection of 120 works traces technological leaps—from early snapshots to experimental blur—mirroring dance's evolution. Vienna's early 20th-century free dance scene shines, with photographers harnessing modernism to immortalize Ausdruckstanz's revolutionary fervor.

This revelatory show transforms the ALBERTINA MODERN into a kinetic gallery, where frozen instants pulse with life. A must-see for photography and dance aficionados.

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