



ASSITEJ NL
SHOWCASE
of performing arts
FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES

**9-11 April 2014 Het Huis Utrecht
The Netherlands**



Welcome to **two days of showcases** for the Dutch field of theatre, dance and music for young audiences!

This is the third consecutive year in which we are happy to welcome you to our two-day programme featuring many different performances, fragments and pitches.

We have made a selection from the many and varied Dutch offerings for children and young people in the performing arts. Once again this year, we have looked at the wide range of performances and selected those that we feel deserve to be seen outside of the Netherlands as well.

In the programme, you will find familiar names such as De Toneelmakerij, Maas Theatre & Dance and Danstheater Aya. But you will also be introduced to newcomers such as Tafel van Vijf, Roël Calister and Project Sally.

The funding cuts implemented by the Dutch government in 2013 are becoming painfully evident this year. For example, the subsidized companies are putting on fewer performances for large stages, and performances for schools are especially under pressure.

On the other hand, counter to the financial current, there are still many new productions in the Dutch fields of theatre, dance and music for young audiences – and they are remarkably ablaze with life. In the Dutch theatres and concert halls, a stream of fresh and innovative performances have delighted audiences. We hope that you will feel this same energy during your two days here.

This is the second year that Het Huis Utrecht has hosted this showcase for ASSITEJ NL, as part of the Tweekt Festival. We are very happy with this collaboration, and we hope that you will visit more performances at the festival.

A few notes on the developments at ASSITEJ NL: after our re-establishment in 2010, we have pursued a number of projects that have proven to be very successful. For example, the previous showcases have led to many bookings from other countries. And at our visit to the IPAY in Pittsburgh, we saw Kwatta's *Manxmouse* win the Victor Award, which resulted in an invitation to tour through the US and Canada.

Even so, many concerns remain. The Theater Institute Netherlands had already been abolished, and we have now also seen the end of Bureau Promotie Podiumkunsten, which led the way in internationalizing the performing arts. At the moment, it is unclear what the future holds for the internationalization of the Dutch performing arts, and therefore for ASSITEJ NL. We hope that we will be able to continue – or even expand – our activities in the coming years. Because preserving a lively international exchange is crucial for maintaining the quality of Dutch productions offered to those young audiences we love so deeply.

Enjoy!

On behalf of ASSITEJ NL,
Kees Blijleven

ASSITEJ NL is the national centre of the 'Association Internationale de Theatre pour L'Enfance et la Jeunesse'. ASSITEJ International is an organisation with representatives from many countries worldwide (from every continent). Its aim is to connect theatres, organisations and individuals who focus on performing arts for children and young people. The office for ASSITEJ NL is run by de Krakeling and the members of its steering committee are Kees Blijleven (Krakeling), Erna van den Berg (NTJong), Manuel Segond Von Banchet (Danstheater AYA), Gouke Hiltje (Festival Tweekt), Saskia Janse (Speeltheater Holland Studio), Erin Coppens (Oorkaan) and Anja Krans (Dutch Performing Arts/Performing Arts Fund NL). www.assitej.nl

WEDNESDAY APRIL 9

TIME	WHAT	TITLE	LOCATION
3.00 PM	Tweetakt Festival: Erik Kaiel	CONNECT THE DOTS	Stadsschouwburg
5.30 PM	Registration & ASSITEJ NL dinner		Neude, Festival Center
7.30 PM	Tweetakt Festival: NTjong / Casper Vandeputte	TITUS	Akademietheater
8.30 PM	Tweetakt Festival: Ula Sickle, Dinozord, Jolie Ngemi & Yann Leguay (Belgium & Congo)	SOLID GOLD + JOLIE TITUS	Theater Kikker
9.00 PM*	Tweetakt Festival: NTjong / Casper Vandeputte		Theater Kikker

*Not in combination with Ula Sickle

THURSDAY APRIL 10 SHOWCASE

9.15 AM	Doors open & registration ASSITEJ NL Showcase		Het Huis
9.55 AM	Welcome		
10.00 AM	Danstheater AYA / Erik Kaiel	UPRISING	
10.25 AM	Theatergroep Kwatta	LOVE THAT DOG	
11.30 AM	De Toneelmakerij	JAMAL	
11.55 AM	Lunch		
1.25 PM	Tafel van Vijf	MAMA MUSA	
1.50 PM	Maas Theatre & Dance	CASH	
2.15 PM	Pitches by Het Laagland, Oorkaan and Alle Hoeken van de Kamermuziek		
2.35 PM	Tea & Coffee Break		
3.35 PM	Theater Artemis / Jetse Batelaan	THE DAY THE PARROT HAD SOMETHING TO SAY FOR HIMSELF	
4.00 PM	Het Laagland	WHERE IS WILL?	
4.55 PM	Drinks		
6.00 PM	Dinner		Neude, Festival Center
7.15 PM	Tweetakt Festival: Het Filaal / Monique Corvers	AS FLAT AS THE WORLD	Stadsschouwburg
8.30 PM	Tweetakt Festival: Koen de Preter (Belgium) / Aabendans (Denmark)	15 SECONDS OF FAME	Theater Kikker

FRIDAY APRIL 11 SHOWCASE

9.30 AM	Doors open		Het Huis
10.00 AM	De Toneelmakerij	KOUD VUUR!	
11.10 AM	DRUMDRUMDRUM / Roël Calister	BOOMWHAKALAA!	
11.35 AM	Tea & Coffee Break		
12.10 PM	MAAS theater en dans / Duda Paiva	NIKE	
12.30 PM	Pitches by NTjong and Project Sally		
12.45 PM	Lunch		
1.45 PM	Internationaal Danstheater	SI-LIN THE LEGEND OF THE SILK PRINCESS	
2.10 PM	Tryater	FABELKRÉFT	
3.05 PM	Tea & Coffee Break		
3.35 PM	De Dansers	ROSES	
4.00 PM	NTjong	LUCY ♥ RINGO'	
4.25 PM	De Stille	FLYING COW	
5.30 PM	Drinks & Dinner		Neude, Festival Center
7.30 PM	Tweetakt Festival: Tweetakt Production / Anneke Sluifers, Iris van der Ende and Wies Fest	3 X TALENT	Theater Kikker

Thursday April 10

DANSTHEATER AYA / ERIK KAIEL

Danstheater AYA produces powerful dance theatre performances for youngsters about current themes that are connected to their reality, like cultural identity, sexuality, peer pressure or popularity. AYA's performances are intense and direct, and are characterized by a dynamic mixture of dance styles and music.

AYA has asked choreographer Erik Kaiel to make a new performance. Kaiel fits well within the AYA identity. Earlier he created performances for DOX and Korzo. In 2010 he won the Young Choreographer Award (The Netherlands) and the No Ballet Competition (Germany). Recently he created the performances *Tetris* and *Oh Snap* which had successful (inter)national tours.

UPRISING (ONSTUITBAAR)

We did our time. In the classroom, at school.

They told us hard work pays off, but threw us on the scrap-heap of history the day we graduated. There are many of us and the world is full. No jobs, no place, no future. They told us to fly, but cut off our wings. But we keep going. There are many of us and there is always a place for us. We are

the new generation. Occupy, Arab Spring, uprising youth is everywhere. We read, we write, we react, we revolt, we rest, we resume. Unstoppable we rise.



DURATION: 60 MINUTES
PERFORMERS: 2 OR 3
AGE: 12+
GENRE: MODERN DANCE

CONTACT & BOOKINGS
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Design: Studio Matusiak. Photo: Eddy Wenting

THEATERGROEP KWATTA

Under the artistic direction of writer and director Josee Hussaarts, Theatergroep Kwatta puts on productions that are both light-hearted and light-footed with a serious undertone.

Kwatta's mission is to create room for amazement and admiration. By asking simple questions about difficult issues, and difficult questions about things that appear to be simple. By making no assumptions and always searching for the unknown and the absurd. Productions by Kwatta are often a combination of text and other forms of theatre such as music, song, puppetry and film. Kwatta performs in theatres, in classrooms, on location and in her own trailer.

LOVE THAT DOG

Based on the novel of Sharon Creech.

Jack is a boy. Boys don't write poetry. Girls write poetry. But his teacher sees through and before he knows Jack writes his own poems. He prefers to write about his dog Sprint. *Love that dog* is a tough, poetic, but above all a visual performance about a boy, Jack. *Love that dog* is also the moving, poetic and inspiring diary of a boy who learns that words can be miraculous.

13 September

*I don't want it
because boys
don't write poetry
Girls do*

DURATION: 60 MINUTES

PERFORMERS: 4

AGE: 8+

GENRE: THEATRE, ANIMATION, POETRY

CONTACT & BOOKINGS
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Photo: Edwin Deen

DE TONEELMAKERIJ

De Toneelmakerij came into being in 2009 when two celebrated youth theatre groups merged: Huis aan de Amstel (since 1989) and Wederzijds (since 1970). It is a repertory company for children and adolescents in the Netherlands. De Toneelmakerij, based in Amsterdam, is primarily a touring company, putting on four new productions per season.

The starting point for all its work is the world of young people and the questions and obstacles they encounter. De Toneelmakerij believes in the flexibility and imagination of its audience and is not afraid to include complex themes in the performances, while remaining transparent, humorous and playful.

JAMAL

An explosive performance for young people, written and directed by Daniël van Klaveren. Jamal, a Dutch boy with Iraqi roots, becomes a radical Muslim. He runs the risk of being thrown out of school unless his teacher (and confidant) Matthieu manages to calm him down during obligatory half-hour discussions. *'A series of brilliant dialogues, developed with extraordinary care and*

inspiringly played (...). They unleash a whole busload of subtle as well as heavy emotions. Everything from disparaging provocation to unspeakable distress; from well thought-out cruelty to perilous vulnerability.'

Brechtje Zwanenveld, Theaterkrant.nl ****



DURATION: 45 MINUTES

PERFORMERS: 2

AGE: 12+

GENRE: DRAMA

CONTACT & BOOKINGS

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TAFEL VAN VIJF

Tafel van Vijf puts the concept of freedom at the heart of all its current productions. Freedom is an essential aspect of the lives of all children. Gaining freedom involves crossing boundaries. This creates fears of losing the familiar as well as fears of the unknown. How do you deal with that loss - and how do you conquer those fears?

Tafel Van Vijf produces engaging and vitalizing musical theatre. Through their work they try to allow children to learn that, as human beings, they are strong enough to cope with life - even when it is frightening or upsetting.

MAMA MUSA

Mama Musa is the story of Musa (Moses), who leads his people away from slavery in Egypt. A musical tale about winning freedom, in which the narrator identifies with the mother of Musa. A story like an epic fairytale of visible and invisible powers. Singing actress Nadia Amin is accompanied by the unique sound of The Nordanians - composer Oene van Geel (viola), Mark Tuinstra (guitar), Marko Bonarius (contrabass) and Niti Ranjan Biswas (tabla). Designer Renée Zonneville has created a striking video-wall in which the actors move. Playwright/director Herman van Baar has blown away all the cobwebs from Exodus.

DURATION: 50 MINUTES

PERFORMERS: 5

AGE: 7+

GENRE: MUSIC THEATRE

CONTACT & BOOKINGS
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Photo: Stephan van Hesteren

MAAS THEATER & DANCE

In 2013 a new company has appeared on the scene in the Netherlands: Maas Theater & Dance for young audiences, from the creators of Meekers (dance theater), Theater Group Siberia and Theater Group Max. Maas represents something new for the Dutch performing arts scene combining two separate disciplines, dance and theater, in a single company. Also new about Maas: the company's new venue for young audiences on Rotterdam's Mullerpier: Maaspodium.

CASH

In *CASH* (director Floris van Delft) the actors take you on a trip into the world of money, from banking crises to gold reserves, from bitcoins to market forces. An edgy and critical performance in the form of a so-called heist movie.



*"Four hyperactive actors zap hilariously back in time through their preparations for a bank robbery." (Volkskrant ****); "A pumping performance about the power of money." (Parool ****); "With exciting music and a detailed blueprint as a set, the audience is placed directly in the atmosphere of break-in movie." (Theaterkrant)*

DURATION: 75 MINUTES

PERFORMERS: 4

AGE: 12+

GENRE: THEATRE

CONTACT & BOOKINGS

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Photo: Noa Verhofstad

HET LAAGLAND (PITCH)

Het Laagland is the family youth theatre par excellence. Our tour productions, class productions and site-specific theatre create recognition and amazement in a playful, narrative and imaginative way. By activating the power of your own imagination we encourage you to look beyond the world you already know and discover who you are and what you are up to.

JUST FOR LOSERS

Puck gives the impression of a shy, tough and timid girl, whereas Kat talks the hind leg off a donkey. Their lives hinge on social media. They do everything they can to be invulnerable but there is no way around it. Are we actually ever authentic or do we always play a part? But *what* is reality then? Be true to yourself. But how? Isn't that far too risky? A production about becoming who you are, answering questions such as: who am I, what am I capable of, and what am I up to.

DURATION: 60 MINUTES

PERFORMERS: 2

AGE: 12-18

**GENRE: CLASSROOM THEATRE
(FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS)**

CONTACT & BOOKINGS

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Photo: Joost Milde

OORKAAN (PITCH)

Oorkaan creates music productions for four to twelve-year-olds. These productions focus on all kinds of live music: classical music, early music, new music, jazz, vocal music and world music, performed by outstanding musicians. For each new production Oorkaan brings together musicians and artists from various disciplines. Music is always the starting point. The productions are often without words, making them suitable for international tours. Oorkaan presents about ten music productions per season and organises roughly 250 performances a year in theatres and concert halls in the Netherlands and abroad. Oorkaan is a member of the steering committee of Assitej NL.

THE BOX BROTHERS

Four brothers set out on an adventurous, humorous quest for happiness, in which all objects transform into percussion instruments.

BY: PERCOSSA | DURATION: 60 MINUTES | AGE: 4+ | PERFORMERS: 4

THE MUSIC FACTORY

Winner of the Junge Ohren Preis 2012 for best music production for young audiences. Five men working in a PVC-factory inadvertently invent a musical instrument: the start of a wild musical adventure with wind instruments.

BY: CALEFAX REED QUINTET | DURATION: 60 MINUTES | AGE: 6+ | PERFORMERS: 5

CELLOSTORM

Selected for the YAMA Award 2013. An imaginative music production about loneliness and friendship, with plenty of humour, performed by eight cellists.

BY: CELLO8CTET AMSTERDAM | DURATION: 55 MINUTES | AGE: 5+ | PERFORMERS: 8



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ALLE HOEKEN VAN DE KAMERMUZIEK / FESTIVAL 2 TURVEN HOOG (PITCH)

Alle Hoeken van de Kamermuziek, consisting of three multitalented musicians, has been giving music-theatrical performances to young people for many years. The group wants to stimulate young children to explore the world of sound and music surrounding them. Alle Hoeken van de Kamermuziek wants to address children in an aesthetic, substantial and emotional manner by playing newly written compositions, whilst being in direct contact with the audience and stimulating the imagination. The main focus is on small-scale performances and physical acting.

WHOOSH (WOEII)

Whoosh! is a heartwarming musical performance for children from 1 to 4 years of age and their (grand)parents. In *Whoosh!* three musicians will enchantedly blow you to a warm world of breath and wind. A world in which the only spoken language is music and every breeze turns into beautiful sounds: a breath through your hair, blowing up a beach ball and even your dad sneezing ... *Whoosh!* stimulates skin and hair, eyes and ears! *Whoosh!* is a wordless performance in which the power of the music and the narrative of the movement are central.

DURATION: 40 MINUTES

PERFORMERS: 3

AGE: 1 - 4

GENRE: MUSIC THEATRE

CONTACT & BOOKINGS

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Photo: Saris&denEngelsman

THEATER ARTEMIS / JETSE BATELAAN

Since 2013 director Jetse Batelaan (1978) has been the artistic director of Theater Artemis. Batelaan about working for young audiences: "The punkness of a seven-year-old, I feel at ease with that. Children are perpetually confronted with authorities who decide what's important for them. I like it when a play doesn't honk its own horn, but when *they* think it is important." Batelaan is the recipient of numerous awards. His work has been performed at many festivals at home and abroad, such as the New Island Festival (New York), Parc de la Villette (Paris) and the Wiener Festwochen.

THE DAY THE PARROT HAD SOMETHING TO SAY FOR HIMSELF

(DE DAG DAT DE PAPEGAAI ZELF IETS WILDE ZEGGEN)

The day the parrot had something to say for himself is a choreography in words about people who parrot each other. What is left of us when we cease to speak for ourselves?

Teenagers can be unexpectedly overcome with the urge to express themselves. They dance, cry, make lots of noise, then suddenly withdraw again. Wanting to be seen, yet wanting to remain invisible. It's what growing up is all about. In a world in which the most important thing is to be unique, this play is a plea for disappearing into each other.

DURATION: TBD
PERFORMERS: 5
AGE: 14+
GENRE: THEATRE

CONTACT & BOOKINGS
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Photo: Hans van der Meer

HET LAAGLAND

Het Laagland is the family youth theatre par excellence. Our tour productions, class productions and site-specific theatre create recognition and amazement in a playful, narrative and imaginative way. By activating the power of your own imagination we encourage you to look beyond the world you already know and discover who you are and what you are up to.

WHERE IS WILL?

Will receives a lovely red tricycle for his birthday and decides to set off to Spain. He packs his bicycle basket with food and drinks for the long trip and hits the road. Past the pink garden fence, along the highway into the fields. Just cycling straight on, unaware of the panic that is taking over the people back home...

Where is Will is a toddler version of CSI in which inspector White and inspector Brown are concerned with Will's case. And even though the inspectors may not be the brightest, most unanimous and determined of all, they do promise to bring Will back home safe. But where is Will...?

DURATION: 55 MINUTES
CREW: 2 ACTORS, 1 TECHNICIAN
AGE: 4+
GENRE: THEATRE

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Photo: Joost Milde

Friday April 11

DE TONEELMAKERIJ

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KOUD VUUR!

An ode to the magic of the theatre. Written by Peer Wittenbols.

*"A look behind the scenes, yet it all happens front of stage. Koud Vuur! is a juicy story about a theatre museum. And a cheerful lesson in the power of imagination (...) Paul Knieriem uses every square centimetre of the rear stage, with people nosing amongst moustaches and with the threat of an (pretended) explosion. Andre Dongelmans, hilarious in his twin roles, creates together with the experienced Roel Adam and the comical Jan-Paul Buijs a happy theatre party, full of stick-on moustaches and stage kisses." de Volkskrant *****



DURATION: 70 MINUTES

PERFORMERS: 3

AGE: 8+

GENRE: DRAMA

CONTACT & BOOKINGS

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Photo: Sanne Peper

DRUMDRUMDRUM / ROËL CALISTER

Drumdrumdrum was founded on 1st of May 2005 by Roël Calister, who has ever since been out on a mission to share his passion for rhythm and his Caribbean culture. The initial idea was a drums and percussion school, but a few years later a team within drumdrumdrum also started developing rhythmical concepts and programs for theaters and schools. *Boomwhakalaa!!* is the result of one of those concepts. All of these programs share some important ingredients. They are educational, interactive, and even more important: they're fun!!!!

Boomwhakalaa!! includes an instruction manual with translations of a few of the songs, explanation of the rhythms and instruments used. *Boomwhakalaa!!* is suitable for schools, theaters and festivals and promises an unforgettable journey to the Caribbean.

BOOMWHAKALAA!!

Boomwhakalaa!! A concert for the entire family with songs from the Caribbean and comic sketches you and especially your children can relate to. There is singing and drumming, but the 'boomwhackers' also play a very colorful and important role. Before you know it, you and everyone around you will be playing boomwhackers together with the *Boomwhakalaa!!* cast.

Are you curious to know what *Boomwhakalaa!!* means? Or do you also want to join in on the fun? Then come and experience a world of percussion and unknown sounds, laughter and sing-a-long songs for the whole family.

DURATION: 60 MINUTES

PERFORMERS: 4

AGE: 6+

GENRE: MUSIC

CONTACT & BOOKINGS

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Photo: Andre Olivier Martin

MAAS THEATER & DANCE

In 2013 a new company has appeared on the scene in the Netherlands: Maas Theater & Dance for young audiences, from the creators of Meekers (dance theater), Theater Group Siberia and Theater Group Max. Maas represents something new for the Dutch performing arts scene combining two separate disciplines, dance and theater, in a single company. Also new about Maas: the company's new venue for young audiences on Rotterdam's Mullerpijer: Maaspodium.

NIKÈ

Nikè is part of The Greeks, three magical tales of greed and entanglement, with priceless encounters between dancers and life-like puppets. Nikè is the goddess of victory. This winged beauty descends into the human realm to award men with glory and fame. To keep her on earth they break her wings. Duda Paiva is an internationally well-known choreographer, dancer en puppeteer. He creates unconventional and gripping dance performances with the help of life-like sculptures made

of soft foam rubber who come to life in the hands of professional dancers. His work speaks a universal language that transcends international borders.



DURATION: NIKÈ, 12 MINUTES / THE GREEKS, 65 MINUTES

PERFORMERS: NIKÈ, 1 / THE GREEKS, 3

AGE: 9 +

GENRE: DANCE

CONTACT & BOOKINGS

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NTJONG / DE BONTE HOND (PITCH)

NTjong makes theatre for everyone who is young at heart. We tell stories about the world around us – some of them new and others well-known, but always different and unexpected. NTjong not only performs in the theatre, but also gives performances and educational projects at schools and in neighbourhoods. The artistic director is Noël Fischer. Her productions are characterized by their groundbreaking contemporary subjects and their raw, often bold approach. They are daring, but always light-hearted and compassionate, with a touch of humour. For Fischer, theatre is the ideal means of communication, connecting people and provoking critical and independent thinking.

ZEBRA ZEBRA

A theatrical cartoon for the whole family, with music, live animation and pop art scenery. About thinking in black and white in a full-colour world.

In *Zebra Zebra*, Noel Fischer continues her search for the possibilities of theatrical imagery for the youngest members of the audience. The theme is black and white – both literally and figuratively. The production is loosely based on *Le Rhinoceros* by Eugene Ionesco. We wanted to tell our story by minimizing the dialogue and maximizing the visual and physical side. Our aim was to create an associative performance about an existential theme: fear of the unknown and the strange.

DURATION: 60 MINUTES

PERFORMERS: 5

AGE: 5+

GENRE: THEATRE

CONTACT & BOOKINGS

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Photo: Bowie Verschuuren

PROJECT SALLY MAASTRICHT (PITCH)

Project Sally Maastricht is a contemporary dance company specifically geared towards young audiences. The company began in 2005 as a platform for bringing new ideas in contemporary youth dance into schools and theatres. Today, under the direction of choreographers Stefan Ernst and Ronald Wintjens, the company produces three dance programs a season as well as a fully cohesive educational program for both children and adults. Their dance productions fuse contemporary dance and universal topics into heart warming poetic imagery. Abstraction and realism meet, creating a new world that appeals to both the hearts and imagination of young and old.

DANCE PEARLS

The program involves watching a beautifully poetic contemporary dance duet, thinking and discussing about what was seen, and finally dancing on the interactive dance floor.

DURATION: 60 MINUTES / AGE: 4+

ITCH (JEUK)

When you have an itch, you scratch. But what if everything or everyone gives you the itch? *Itch* is about learning to deal with uncomfortable feelings that make you itch.

DURATION: 45 MINUTES / AGE: 4+

BULL'S EYE

5 powerful choreographers. 6 young dancers. 50 minutes of theatrical dance for a young audience. Aim, focus.. GO! *Bull's Eye* is a dazzling dance piece addressing our authentic selves. How can we stay true to who we are, in an ever more obtrusive world?

DURATION: 60 MINUTES / AGE: 12+



CONTACT & BOOKINGS

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INTERNATIONAAL DANSTHEATER

The Internationaal Danstheater (ID) is one of the oldest dance companies of the Netherlands. The ID recently made a transition to a new repertoire with a focus on using elements of cultures from around the world as the basis for contemporary dance productions. Choreographers get the opportunity to explore their artistic and creative vision of traditions, rituals and diversity when creating a production. The production *Si-lin, the legend of the silk princess* is choreographed by Jan Linkens. He is the artistic intendant of the company since 2011. Sophie Lambo is the managing director.

SI-LIN, THE LEGEND OF THE SILK PRINCESS

Si-lin is a dance performance for children (6+). It is an exciting story about an adventurous girl who goes out into the world and reveals the secret of the Yellow Emperor. She is the one who will get the world acquainted with the fabric we all know so well: silk. *"Si-lin is a princess and she lives at the court of the Yellow Emperor. The princes of the court are given lessons in Tai Chi. The princesses learn to be a good wife to their future husbands. One day, Si-lin has to come to the Empress ..."*

DURATION: 55 MINUTES

PERFORMERS: 11

AGE: 6+

GENRE: DANCE

CONTACT & BOOKINGS

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Image: Dana Dool

TRYATER

Tryater is a professional theatre company deeply rooted in the province of Friesland. It's also the oldest theatre company in the country. Tryater performs everywhere and for everyone. In Frisian and, occasionally, in other languages. For some 50.000 adults, young adults and children. Its uniqueness is proven time and time again in its combination of language, location and repertoire. Tamara Schoppert is a permanent member of the Tryater team, both as actress and director.

"I like to get people to use their imagination and put a twist on the reality that's been created."

FABELKRÊFT

Fabelkrêft is expressive theatre with lots of movement and little text. Rimmelt is lying in a cupboard and it seems he can't move. But his eyes sparkle and he's clearly enjoying himself. Joes doesn't understand. He wants to play with Rimmelt.

Joes: Fabelkrêft ... there's no such thing. Rimmelt: See! Huge muscles, but no imagination.

The title *Fabelkrêft* is a fusion of *fable* (fabel) and *power* (krêft). Fable refers to the character of Rimmelt, with his inexhaustible imagination. Joes represents the strong, the physical.

DURATION: FULL VERSION, 50 MINUTES / FESTIVAL VERSION, 25 MINUTES

PERFORMERS: 2

AGE: 6-10

GENRE: THEATRE

CONTACT & BOOKINGS

TRYATER

JEFFREY DEELMAN

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DE DANSERS / WIES MERKX / THEATER STRAHL

De Dansers are a professional gang of young dancers and musicians with a strong mutual togetherness. Under the direction of Josephine van Rheenen en Guy Corneille, they create dance concerts. An own genre in which musicians and dancers share the stage. De Dansers believe in performances that appeal to and excite audiences young and old, on a physical, and un-anecdotically human level.

In this coproduction artistically led and choreographed by Wies Merkkx, the dancers and musicians of De Dansers meet the actors of Theater Strahl, a Berlinstage for provoking theater for young audiences.

ROSES EINSAM.GEMEINSAM

A handful of people cross an invisible line. They no longer want to be silent, nod, walk along. They follow their utopian ideals of humanity. They are fast. They are together. They are courageous. Or are they mad?

In image, movement and lyrics, the performers of *Roses* represent a group in which brotherhood and trust are of vital importance. *Roses* was awarded with the Berliner 2013 IKARUS prize for outstanding theatre productions for children and young people.

"Rarely are youths shown how it feels to fight for something and still lose, in such an exciting way." Jury Ikarus

DURATION: 70 MINUTES

PERFORMERS: 7

AGE: 13+

GENRE: DANCE THEATRE WITH LIVE MUSIC

CONTACT & BOOKINGS

GUY CORNEILLE

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Photo: Joerg Metzner

NTJONG

NTjong makes theatre for everyone who is young at heart. We tell stories about the world around us – some of them new and others well-known, but always different and unexpected. NTjong not only performs in the theatre, but also gives performances and educational projects at schools and in neighbourhoods. The artistic director is Noël Fischer. Her productions are characterized by their groundbreaking contemporary subjects and their raw, often bold approach. They are daring, but always light-hearted and compassionate, with a touch of humour. For Fischer, theatre is the ideal means of communication, connecting people and provoking critical and independent thinking.

LUCY ♥ RINGO*

Jorieke Abbing has written a play for the classroom, about a strange boy and a lonely girl who chat together on the Internet. Children today have grown up with Internet and social media from an early age, and in this piece Abbing addresses how this affects their vision of identity and image. Because you can't see one another, you can present yourself differently and maybe much better than you really are. And what happens then? By portraying the isolation of two children

alone in their rooms, with chatting, Skype and e-mail as their only forms of communication, a clear focus and theatrical framework is created.



DURATION: 60 MINUTES

PERFORMERS: 2

AGE: 8+

GENRE: CLASSROOM THEATRE

CONTACT & BOOKINGS

MEEKE BEUMER

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DE STILTE

De Stilte is the only professional dance company in the Southern region of The Netherlands, that focuses entirely on developing and producing performances for children. Over a period of twenty years (1994-2014) there have been 3,400 performances in 32 countries, attended by over 410,000 visitors. Under Jack Timmermans's artistic direction De Stilte creates multi-layered performances featuring academically trained modern dancers. Taking children out of their concrete everyday world into the abstract world of the senses: that is what dance company De Stilte strives for.

FLYING COW

Playtime is fun yet serious at the same time. Once you're totally immersed, anything can happen. Flying on the wings of their imagination, two girls and a boy embark on a standoff: because when there are three of you, who plays with whom? From among the rolling eggs, the shuffling old woman and the flying cow, a game of friendship, loneliness and solidarity emerges. *Flying Cow* is a reworking of the successful show *Speelvogels (Madcap)*.

DURATION: 45 MINUTES

PERFORMERS: 3

AGE: 4+

GENRE: DANCE

CONTACT & BOOKINGS

JAN BAANSTRA

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Photo: Hans Gerritsen

FULL PERFORMANCES

ERIK KAIEL **CONNECT THE DOTS (4+)** **(PREMIERE)**

Erik Kaiel is a Lebanese-American choreographer, born in Austria. He travels across Europe, North-America and Africa as a teacher, dancer and choreographer. His current home base is The Hague where he has partnered with Den Haag Sculptuur, is a member of Danslab and the artistic director of Crosstown Den Haag (a collaboration by Korzo, Culturalis and Theater Pierrot). Kaiel has made numerous performances for children and young audiences. He has a highly physical and energetic style. His past performances at Tweekt include: *No man is an island*, *Tetris* (with De Dansers), *Oh Snap* (with Het Lab) and *Murikamifikation*.

In *Connect the dots* three dancers have come up with some very funny ways to show us how friendship takes courage and curiosity. For instance, you shouldn't be afraid to like each other a little less, sometimes, or even to get into an actual argument. Because there is no such thing as a friendship without its ups and downs. If you want to make new friends, you should be curious to get to know the other person. Just like when you play *Connect the dots*: if you draw the lines between the dots with care, a neat image will appear where before, there was nothing.

ULA SICKLE, DINOZORD, **JOLIE & YANN LEGUAY** **SOLID GOLD AND JOLIE (13+)**

The Canadian-Belgian choreographer Ula Sickle is creating two solos with two young dancers from Kinshasa, Congo: Dinozord and Jolie Ngemi. Both are self-taught. *Solid Gold* and *Jolie* (13+) show us the energy, will-power and creativity of young people in Congo. Dinozord's roots are in hip hop. In his solo he mixes a wide range of styles: from traditional African dance and Broadway-entertainment from the olden days to the latest dance styles, sampled from MTV and the internet. *Jolie*, danced by Jolie Ngemi, takes its inspiration from contemporary popular dances, Congolese music videos and nightclub acts.

NTJONG / CASPER VANDEPUTTE **TITUS (14+)**

Casper Vandeputte alternates his stagings of classical plays and novel adaptations with montage performances with a more documentary and political bent. He is fascinated by the question what is left in terms of moral standards in a world in which the main ideologies have nearly all perished. From 2013 he has been working as a theatre director for the Nationale Toneel and being part of a coaching project for talented theatre makers.

Titus is a solo performance about the tough but imaginative life of a butcher's son. From the roof of his school building Titus tells us about all the things that have happened to

TWEETAKT FESTIVAL

him during his lifetime, at an incredible pace and with a great deal of laughter. Casper Vandeputte is the director of this touching and sometimes hilarious piece by Jan Sobrie about a boy and his struggle with his environment and his imaginative powers. Vandeputte worked with two actors who each created their own version of the solo: Reinout Scholten van Aschat and Joris Smit.

HET FILIAAL / MONIQUE CORVERS **AS FLAT AS THE WORLD (5+)**

The performances made by Het Filaal, the Utrecht-based company for theatre and music for young audiences, are a blend of theatre, music, puppetry and dance; always different, yet always recognisable. Playful, celebrating life, moving, bursting with groovy music, and slightly absurd. The artistic team consists of director Monique Corvers, composer Gábor Tarján and object theatre maker Ramses Graus. The focus of their productions is on dynamics, technology and imagination. Or, as one critic wrote: "Het Filaal is ruled by imagination. It leads to a very powerful form of theatre."

Three gentlemen find themselves in an endless sequence of hilarious situations. Singing and puppetry alternate at breakneck speed with energetic live music. The funny men are grappling with everything, even gravity, and sometimes they wrestle each other. And through all this there's a tiny little house on the table. As *flat as the world* is like a happy dream, beyond explanation, but leaving you full of joy when you wake up. This show has toured the Nether-

lands to great acclaim from both the press and the audience.

KOEN DE PRETER / AABENDANS **15 SECONDS OF FAME (12+)**

Andy Warhol once said that in the future everyone would be world-famous for 15 minutes. Most likely those minutes turned into seconds. Aabendans asked the Belgian choreographer Koen De Preter to create a satirical but also thought-provoking performance about fame. What drives us? What takes place behind the scenes? We follow three performers: Pierre Enaux, Thomas Porup and Pernille Koch, who throw themselves and the audience into a rollercoaster of feelings by singing, dancing and acting.

TWEETAKT PRODUCTION **3 X TALENT**

ANNEKE SLUITERS/ **LUCIFERS (11+)**

Anneke Sluiters graduated from the Acting School in Utrecht in 2012. When she was a student she created and performed in a range of productions that came to Tweeakt, such as her solo performance *You Can Have None, Scènes uit het hiernamaals, and the show Horror*. In 2012 she created and performed the solo *Don't get me wrong* which won her the 'Best of ITs on Tour' award. In addition she was in BonteHond's 2013 show *Opstand van de Nerds* and in *Tristan en Isolde* by Abattoir Fermé. Tweeakt has asked Anneke to create

a show for young audiences especially for the festival. Anneke Sluifers would like to meet the Devil. She would like to know who the devil is. And what it actually means when you sell him your soul.

*“Dear Devil,
This year I want to go and do a show at Tweetakt Theatre Festival in Utrecht that is grand and compelling. And I would like this performance to be colossal, memorable, unparalleled, beyond belief, unsurpassed, wondrous, tremendous, touching, arresting, blood-curdling, thrilling, moving, smashing, heart-wrenching and overwhelming. Could you help me achieve this in exchange for my soul?
Anneke”*

IRIS VAN DER ENDE **FILIAALMANAGER (14+)**

Iris van der Ende is a performer. In 2012 she graduated from Maastricht Theatre Academy. Iris is fascinated with people she would not normally run into. She likes to observe them and get under their skin. She currently has a job on the side as a bakery salesgirl in a supermarket where she is surrounded by interesting characters. She didn't do it intentionally, but she has inadvertently turned into a kind of supermarket-anthropologist. Her field of research: power.

Filiaalmanager is a solo about bosses and employees: *When I look around in the shop, I can easily categorise the people walking around by the role they play here. But I never see the ones with the biggest influence. They are the people from the head office. They determine everything. The other day, for instance, the layout of my department had been*

completely hauled over. When they ask for my opinion, I am supposed to be enthusiastic about it and tell my customers how nice and spacious it now looks. I am of no significance. I am intrigued by who has a say on what within this company, especially because I myself have absolutely no say in anything at all.

WIES FEST **WHAT AM I DOING, WHERE AM I GOING (14+)** **A WHOLE LOT OF NOTHING (13+)**

Wies Fest came to last year's Tweetakt with her graduation performance *A Whole Lot Of Nothing*. The solo won her the IT's hITs On Tour-Award, which meant she was given the opportunity to tour the Netherlands for a month. This year she is making the sequel for Tweetakt: *What Am I Doing, Where Am I Going*. The two shows will be performed consecutively.

The show *What Am I Doing, Where Am I Going* deals with those moments in life when you suddenly have no idea what you were doing, or how you got there. For instance: *“Huh? So, I am an actress now. I've always wanted to become one, and now I am. Errrr. What next?”* A show about people who are searching, for people who are searching.

In her graduation performance *A Whole Lot Of Nothing* Wies Fest transforms from the girl next door into a real vamp. What follows is a struggle against a world that is centred on outward appearances. With her sharp tongue she fillets our modern age and makes you wonder what all these social media are actually good for. A personal and highly convincing monologue.



TWEETAKT & KAAP is an international festival that serves as an annual benchmark for the progress and developments in theatre, dance, music and art for young audiences. In 17 days, the festival presents over 100 performances by Dutch and international companies such as Kopergieterij, Het Filiaal, Erik Kaiel, Danstheater AYA, Maas theater en dans (formally known as tgMAX), Artemis, kabinet k, YoungGangsters, Pieter Ampe, Ula Sickle, Eugénie Rebetez, Anton Lachky Company, DOX, Tuning People, fABULEUS, and talented graduates like Anneke Sluifers, Iris van der Ende, Wies Fest and many, many more.

You may have heard of **TWEETAKT & KAAP** before, but did you know Kaap; an art exhibition for children with new art work, performances and games? This year Tweetakt and Kaap have merged into a single international arts festival for young audiences. The festival takes place in the city centre of Utrecht and the wild surroundings of Fort Ruigenhoek Groenekan.

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DUTCH
THEATRE
YOUNG
AUDIENCES



**FONDS
PODIUM
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