

# Dear delegates of De Betovering

We are very pleased that you are going to attend **Een Kleine Anatomie/ A Small Anatomy (4+)** of De Dansers (NL) on the 28th of October at 2:00pm.

A Small Anatomy relies mostly on the language of movement and music, though there are some Dutch text and songs. In this document you find a short transcript in English [this is not a complete transcript, but an overview to give you a feeling of what is being said/sung]. For international performances, we would translate all the songs and spoken text. In the past, we have successfully performed in English, German, French, Italian and Danish.

## 1. Body parts scene

A voice over announces different body parts: "forehead", "left elbow", "in between the fingers" etc., sometimes asking questions like "how do you feel?" or "are you hungry?"

**Musician HANS** sings about different motions ("hand up, turning", "fist in the air, makes me feel strong" etc.)

## 2. Baby song

**Musician HANS** sings:

When I was still a baby, I already had two hands  
Those are the same hands, with which I'm now playing

As a baby, I was cute, people used to pick me up  
And they'd talk in strange voices, but they don't do that anymore

And I don't remember any of it, but I do think that it's true  
And I don't remember any of it, but I do think that it's true

## 3. Inside / Outside text

**Dancer ANNA** says:

The body has two sides: an outside and an inside  
On the outside we have a lot of skin, some hair and a little bit of eye

On the inside we have muscles, bones, blood, intestines, organs, thoughts and feelings

Sometimes sound travels from the inside to the outside

Sometimes food travels from the outside to the inside and again to the outside

You can't turn yourself inside out

What's inside stays inside and what's outside stays outside

Most of the time...



## 4. My body is my body song

**Musician HANS** sings:

It rumbles and it stumbles and it rushes and it burps  
It tickles and it itches and it hushes and it snores  
It creaks and it scratches and it hiccups and it coughs  
It sneezes and it wheezes and it snuffles and it cries

**Dancer ANNA** says:

The human body contains: blood, sweat, saliva, digestive fluids, stomach acid, brain juice, bile, phlegm, urine, pus and poo...

**All sing:**

But my body is my body  
It's a great place to exist in  
I think my body is just beautiful  
With everything it contains

## 5. Behind your skin song

**Musician HANS** sings:

Are you tired? Did I saw you yawning?  
Did you sleep on your stomach last night?  
Are you thirsty? Do you need to pee?  
When did you wash your hands for the last time?

I want to know what you want  
I want to know what you mean  
But unfortunately I can't feel  
How you feel behind your skin

Can't hear you think  
And I can't peel you off  
But I've got a good idea  
You can also just tell me

## 6. I don't feel like it / NO scene

**Dancer ANNA** repeats "I don't feel it", the other dancers help her, but then she starts crying

**Dancer ANNA** keeps saying "NO!", sometimes saying things like "I just need a hug! NO that's too close!" "I need some privacy! NO I need to be among people!" "I need some silence! HANS STOP PLAYING! Nooooo that's too quiet. Play something cheerful Hans!" etc.

Een Kleine Anatomie



Beeld: Laurien Riha

## There's an Elephant at the Bus Stop

### Background information

*There's an Elephant at the Bus Stop* is a new play by Het Filiaal theatermakers. It is intended for audiences age 6 and up.

A young actor/puppeteer, Barend van Daal, who has performed on numerous occasions with our company had an ardent wish to delve into the art of playing with a mask. Since Het Filiaal theatermakers has its own building, we are able to offer promising young performers/creators a small space and budget to experiment with ideas for theater for young audiences.

Barend was offered carte blanche for two weeks and experimented in one of our studios with a prototype of an elephant mask. He drew inspiration from a chance encounter with a seemingly ‘confused’ old woman at a train station during rush hour.

The results of Barend’s experiments convinced us that Het Filiaal could create an entire performance based on this premise. Because the elephant is a wild animal and of course pays no attention to our human systems and rules, it was, for composer Gábor Tarján, clear from the outset that the music should consist of only improvised electric guitar. Monique Corvers directed the play and together with Gábor Tarján created the non-linear, poetic structure of the performance.

The actor in this play has no text. The only text you will hear comes from either the Column on the left, the Bus Shelter or the garbage bins.



## Translation

TALKING COLUMN:

Welcome on Platform 2

Goodbye!

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Attention passengers: all buses with numbers 3, 5 and 8 are out of service today. The buses with the numbers 4, 9, 7, 2, 14, 23, 37, 55, 187 and 11 will ride as usual but only until 1pm. After 1pm, buses 65, 44, 17, 89, 132 and 6 will ride as usual. A valid ID is required.

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You did not board..

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You, again, did not board.

Do you need help finding the right bus?

BUS SHELTER:

Do you need help finding the right bus? Press 2

Do you need help finding the right platform? Press 3

Do you need help or support getting around at this station? Press 4

To hear the options again, press 5

Do you need help making a choice? Press 0.

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An unknown error has occurred.

Please try again later.

TALKING COLUMN:

Maximum weight exceeded. No more than 2 people on the bench.

GARBAGE BIN:

Wrong garbage bin!



## **SONG What are days for?**

*What are days for?*

*What is the sky for?*

*What are people for?*

*What is, what is an elephant for?*

*What are clouds for?*

*What is a flower for?*

*What are stars for?*

*What is, what is an elephant for?*

*Stay standing, though the world rages around you*

*The air never tires*

*Stay calm, though everything, everyone keeps running*

*The moon smiles down on you*

*What are days for?*

*What is the sky for?*

*What are clouds for?*

*What is a flower for?*

*What are people for?*

*What are stars for?*

*What is, what is an elephant for?*

*Stay standing though the world rages around you*

*The air never tires*

*Stay calm, though everything, everyone keeps running*

*The moon smiles down on you*



# The

show that has to survive with  
what's been left over



foto: Henk Claassen

8+

hetpaleis, Theater Artemis & Het  
Zuidelijk Toneel/Jetse Batelaan

# The

show that has to survive with what's been left over

*hetpaleis, Theater Artemis & Het Zuidelijk Toneel*

*directed by Jetse Batelaan*

## Content

For a good understanding of The, three interfering narratives should be taken into account.

### 1.

We are in the big venue of a city theatre. On stage: the theatre ensemble, consisting of seven well paid actors. They perform a play, partly in pantomime.

The story of that play goes like this:

A small village, beginning of the twentieth century, early spring. Life is good. As every year the villagers work the fields, in good spirit. They look forward to again another promising harvest, that will help them through the following winter. A river generously supplies the village with water, nature is a faithful companion. As the early spring sun is shining bright, it is the perfect weather to sow.

But this year everything will be different... The behavior of the villagers shows tiny changes. When one of the villagers appears with brand new shoes, she sparks envy in the hearts of the others. Another villager comes up with a mouse, and enjoys the feeling of power over the other villagers who are dying of eagerness to hold this pet in their hands.

Still another villager is secretly saving money to acquire something big. Together with these sprouting traces of early individualism and consumerism, modernity knocks on the door: the first telephone arrives in the village, and later on, a car.

However, optimism prevails, even as the weather is getting hotter and hotter. One of the villagers starts with the construction of a new barn, larger than ever, in order to stock the awaited harvest. The completion of the barn is symbol for the villager's trust in the future, despite slumbering feelings of unease about the dry weather, causing the river to dry out and eventually destroying the harvest. On top of that, the escaped pet mouse causes a plague that devours the last stock of food, bringing famine to the village. The new barn will be the beginning of the end of the village, as it gets hit by lightning that sets it on fire and consequently burns the whole village down. The villagers end up with nothing.

## 2.

A square in front of the theatre that stages The. Two actors - Raf and Miky - are earning their income with street performances, dressed up like cartoon figures. They strategically position themselves before the theatre, at around the time of the start of the show. But as the show starts, Raf and Miky are left without audience, and thus without income.

Fed up with this unfair situation, they decide to enter the theatre building through a back door, and search their way to the big stage, where the above play is being performed.

In an activist fit they claim a part of the stage, thereby roughly interfering the pantomime play. Raf and Miky address the audience and tell them about the inequality they see everywhere and of which they claim to be the victims: them being poor actors without a proper job versus their well paid colleagues of the theatre ensemble.

This equality even contains a personal drama: Miky, living a life on the streets today, was once teaching theatre classes, and as such was the teacher of Louis, one of the now famous actors of the ensemble. Miky tries to get the attention of Louis on stage, but Louis in return ignores Miky's presence. After this unexpected uproar, Raf and Miky are being shown the exit. Though without succes. They keep on reappearing on the stage, disturbing the play, but strange enough also becoming part of it.

## 3.

From time to time a flat screen hovers over the stage, showing advertising, as if the theatre company is being sponsored by some big companies. The advertising spots strangely refer to the scenes shown in the story of the village. The advertising spots promise a better, shiningly bright life for everyone.

The ends with a finale, in which the separation between the three narratives is being fully blurred. After the fire that destroys the village - a highly theatrical and deeply immersive scene - the pantomime theatre code evaporates, as does everything else on stage, except for the bodies of the actors. We see seven actors on an empty stage, being literally left with nothing. Even the imagination that fed the pantomime world seems to be swept away by the fire. A flat screen appears for a last time, showing a whirl of chopped up advertising images.

When the curtain falls, we hear the voices of the actors back stage. Raf and Miky meet the actors of the theatre company, we hear how they address Louis. They are looking for a place to sleep, can day stay at his place? Louis seems to say... yes?



# credits

<b>concept and director:</b>	Jetse Batelaan
<b>with:</b>	Mourad Baaiz, Goele Derick, Louis Van der Waal, Soraya van Welsenis, Willemijn Zevenhuijzen, Claudia Kanne (internship) and Eland Peeters (internship)
<b>dramaturgy:</b>	Koen Haagdoorens
<b>set and light:</b>	Theun Mosk
<b>costumes:</b>	Liesbet Swings
<b>sound design:</b>	Bob Hermans
<b>music:</b>	Janne Kosmos
<b>sound:</b>	Lore Verhoeven (internship)
<b>with the support of:</b>	taxshelter of the Belgian Federal Government via Casa Kafka Pictures

# about

## collaboration hetpaleis, Artemis and HZT

This is the third production Jetse Batelaan stages in the big venue of hetpaleis. Three productions that evoke a feeling of loss of something that characterizes us, humans, as human. *The End of the Beginning of the End* (2020) sketches what would happen if we would give up on imagination. *A Fun Night Out* (2022) shows a world where emotions are being kept out of the room. The show that has to survive with what's left over (2024) researches how the loss of material possession may affect our social behaviour.



## Jetse Batelaan (°1978)

Jetse Batelaan is one of the most acclaimed directors in Dutch theatre, and artistic leader of Theater Artemis (Den Bosch, Holland). He works in radical ways to establish a company that pushed boundaries and opens up new spaces in which to operate. Jetse Batelaan has received multiple prizes and awards for his work. In 2019, he received the Silver Lion at the Venice Biennale and the ITI award in Düsseldorf in 2020.

## hetpaleis

hetpaleis is a large performing arts centre for children, adolescents and adults, situated in the heart of Antwerp in Belgium. It is a house for future adults, as spectators, discussion partners, participants and artists. hetpaleis presents and produces various arts disciplines and makes high-quality productions accessible to a large, urban and diverse audience. hetpaleis is committed to regional and international cooperation and supports a variety of artists in their development.

## Theater Artemis

is a youth theater company from 's-Hertogenbosch that creates interactive and anarchistic theater. Theater that, in collaboration with the audience, does not abide by its own rules.

## Het Zuidelijk Toneel

At Het Zuidelijk Toneel, you get to know yourself. In performances and projects, you encounter the world, discover new insights, and are surprised. They create theatrical encounters that inspire the audience to see the world from a different perspective.