

n'être

Presentation Dossier

Théâtre de l'Heure Bleue



"Of infinite tenderness..."

"Much softness, calm and serenity."

"Thank you very much for this moment of poetry and emotions."

"I had a wonderful time, lulled by poetry, magic and lots of emotions. Thank you for this gentleness and humanity in this magnificent show."

"N'être: what a beautiful moment of acceptance of the inevitable transformation of everything and of ourselves."

N'être offers you a visual journey through the cycles of life. We meet in a forest to meet a mother who experiences the birth of her child, her return to the earth, and the life she leaves behind. The puppets created from hand-felted wool invite softness and the contemplation of lives that unfold over time. In this poem filled with emotion, fragility and gentleness are expressed through images that recall paintings evolving throughout the performance. Accompanied by natural sounds, a flute, a guitar and a violin, *N'être* offers a soothing moment in a delicate and sensitive universe.

Directing and performing: Laura Elands
Sound design: Théo Jégat

45 minutes (1h30 with post-show Q&A)
all ages from 6 +
without words
contemporary puppetry performance

TOURING MANAGER
Christine Willem-Dejean
+32 (0) 497 57 97 90
christinedejean@mtpmemap.be





This journey takes place in a small bubble, outside of time,
a moment to breathe. Take the opportunity to catch your breath
and let yourself be carried away by the images that will be revealed to you.

A PATH THROUGH NATURE

The cycles of life are evoked on the small stage space covered with a black fabric.
In a forest, a pregnant woman gives life, and loses her own.





Her body is returned to nature.



Her child finds itself alone, but is taken in by the puppeteer, who rocks it tenderly.



Spring arrives. A veil of tree leaves and petals comes to cover him and carries him away to rest...

The presence of nature is kind, despite the sadness at the loss of the mother. But this is a part of the cycles of life that we all experience ourselves throughout our lives.



And with the apparition of a bird – renewal arrives and brings with it an egg – a new life that will transport us into the air.



The story reveals itself little by little through a visual aesthetic of puppets sculpted from clay. The cocoon from which the child is born is created from hand-felted wool, of which the bodies of the puppets and the spring leaves are also made.

In a world of softness, the images form paintings that evolve from one to the other.

Felted wool is a material that creates a comforting atmosphere. Tactile by nature, it is often associated with gentleness, and for some with childhood memories. It is a material that combines painting and sculpture and allows the creation of very varied forms.



The SOUND

The sound was designed to transport the audience into the tender gesture of a lullaby. Natural sounds, a flute, a violin and a guitar were used to create an enveloping atmosphere, each character having their own musical touch.

The SET

The mother's puppet is present from the start as an element of the set. Little by little, the other hidden elements of the story are revealed and come to life. The stage, animated by the puppets and the materials, becomes like a painting which evolves in front of the audience.

A square of black fabric measuring four times four meters invites a small group of people into the intimate and poetic bubble of an experience offered by *N'être*.



N'être is a journey in which you are offered a moment to pay attention to the little things, to fragility, to subtle states. It's a time to slow down, a time to reconnect with yourself.

ABOUT THÉÂTRE DE L'HEURE BLEUE

Théâtre de l'Heure Bleue (theatre of the blue hour) is a puppet theatre company based in Brussels, founded by Laura Elands, a former student of the 10th promotion of ESNAM (École Nationale Supérieure des Arts de la Marionnette) in Charleville-Mézières in France.

Théâtre de l'Heure Bleue expresses its artistic identity through a visual and sensorial theatre of puppet figures and materials.

The experience of feeling is revealed, sensations that live within us, bodily and emotional, that are difficult to put into words and go beyond logic.

This approach is conveyed through a visual art language, made up of various materials, which is articulated in space and time on the stage, creating 'paintings' that evolve over time. These images can evoke memories and lead to associations, they touch upon a universal symbolism and an individual understanding in relation to one's own sensitivity.



CREATIVE TEAM



LAURA ELANDS

Directing, puppet-making and performing

Having graduated from ESNAM (École Nationale Supérieure des Arts de la Marionnette) in Charleville-Mézières in 2017 and from the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama in London in 2014, she began her artistic path through visual art and textile art.

Puppetry revealed itself to her as a possibility of blending the theatrical space with her artistic approach, opening up to new possibilities of expression and visual languages. Her creative process is intuitive. The chosen subject is explored through textual and visual research, which little by little nourishes her imagination and an artistic language specific to the show in the making. This process consists of sketchbooks and image-making expressed through drawing, painting, sculpture and even photography. These elements are then brought to the stage where they take the form of a scenic language. From 2018-2019 Laura undertook an internship with the Compagnie Akselele (Caen, France) which saw the birth of her performance *Racines du Ciel*.

In 2020 she founded her company Théâtre de l'Heure Bleue. Of Dutch origin, she was born in Germany and lived in France, Canada and the United Kingdom before settling in Brussels where she currently lives.

THÉO JÉGAT

Sound design

It was with an audiovisual BTS (senior technician certificate) specialising in sound that Théo Jégat turned to studying sound for the cinema at INSAS (Brussels). At the same time, he devotes himself to creating music for short films and live shows. Finishing his studies in 2020, he developed the soundtrack for the show *Du bout des Doigts* by the Compagnie Astragales and the music for *Marée Basse*, a show created by the Compagnie Dune et Dos. Furthermore, he devotes himself to musical research, notably creating a *Constrained Music Laboratory* which allows him to test various ideas which subsequently helps him to create music for video or for live performances.



TECHNICAL INFORMATION – For more detailed information please contact us

A black fabric measuring 4 x 4 metres covers the stage and invites a small audience into an intimate look at the poetic bubble that *N'être* offers. This show is designed to be performed in any indoor location. Théâtre de l'Heure Bleue can bring their own technical equipment. All you need to do is provide a space large enough to accommodate the stage area and the audience, an electricity point and seating for the audience.

STAGE:

Minimum performance space: 4 m x 4 m, 2m50 height

AUDIENCE

This show can welcome 50 people in a non-theatrical venue, preferably in tiered seating, and 200 people maximum in a theatre.

FOR NON-THEATRICAL VENUES:

For non-theatrical venues the company can bring its own technical equipment:

- 2 halogen lamps 800 W with 2 lighting stands
- 2 speakers

Please provide a power source and extension cables.

FOR THEATRE VENUES:

Please request the technical information sheet for further details.

TOURING CREW: 1 puppeteer (2 people if the venue is a theatre and cannot provide an onsite technician)

GET IN: 1h30

DURATION OF SHOW: 45 minutes (1h30 with Q&A)

GET OUT: 1h



Directing, puppet-making and performing:
Laura Elands
Sound design: Théo Jégat

Created in 2023

SUPPORT:

This project was selected for the Culture Recovery Plan 1190, at the initiative of the Municipality of Forest - Gemeente Vorst, BRASS and GC Ten Weyngaert (Brussels, Belgium). The remaking of the performance was supported by the Felt Museum (Mouzon) and financed by the town of Mouzon and the Communauté des Communes des Portes du Luxembourg (France).

CONTACT

Théâtre de l'Heure Bleue – Laura Elands
theatredelheurebleue@gmail.com
0032 (0) 468 02 31 84
www.theatredelheurebleue.com

TOUR MANAGER

Christine Willem-Dejean
+32 (0) 497 57 97 90
christinedejean@mtpmemap.be

théâtre de l'heure bleue

theatredelheurebleue@gmail.com
0032 (0) 468 02 31 84
www.theatredelheurebleue.com

