

PATERNEL (A CHAMBER OPERA WITH A PROLOGUE)

MUSIC: FRANK NUYTS

LIBRETTO: PHILIPPE BLASBAND



Paternel is a chamber opera composed by **Frank Nuyts** to a libretto by screenwriter and playwright **Philippe Blasband**, who enjoys a reputation for writing films as '**Une liaison pornographique**'. It's not the first time Nuyts and Blasband join forces. Their earlier collaboration, the LOD musical theatre production **Middle East**, received quite a bit of praise.

The chamber opera **Paternel** centers around blood ties. Some tribes literally eat their deceased relatives to keep their memory, strength and existence from fading. Exactly that is what the four characters in **Paternel** are concerned with. In acting out a sort of western version of the ritual they divide among themselves the belongings their father collected during his life. Through these objects his past and death are evoked leaving out no details, however intimate they may be.

Paternel is an opera about the tribulations that occur when three sisters are left to divide the estate of their father. All this happens under the eyes of the nurse who took care of him during his last days... In the end the void, left by his death, gets filled with humor (yes humor!) and a bawdy confession.

Paternel was selected by an **international jury** to be **one of the five** video cases that were presented to the public during the 2014 Classical-Next forum in Vienna.

The opera is preceded by a prequel called 'Chut!' again based upon a text by Philippe Blasband. At midnight, a father leads his three daughters into a dark forest. He pretends they will play a game, though the girls keep on asking him where their mother is.

Machteld Timmermans, a television and theatre actress who co-founded with her husband Danny Timmermans the theatre company 'Het ongerijmde', is the stage director of both music theatre pieces.



Performers:

Paternel and CHUT! (65') – CHAMBER OPERA

Raf De Keninck, conductor

Machteld Timmermans, stage director

Frank Nuyts, music

Philippe Blasband, libretto

Aylin Yay, *actress*

Laurence Servaes, *soprano*

Annelies Van Hijfte, *soprano*

Inês Madeira, *mezzo soprano*

Annelies Boodts, *harp*
Vincent Caers, *vibraphone*
Ben Faes, *double bass*
Juta Troch, *harp*
Leen Van der Roost, *harp*
Tille Van Gastel, *flute*

Iris De Blaere, *repetitor*

Subtitles: Iris De Blaere,

Light design: Machteld Timmermans

A vzw HardScore production

Duration: 65 minutes

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/87189413>



photo's Luk Monsaert and Annelies Anseeuw