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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

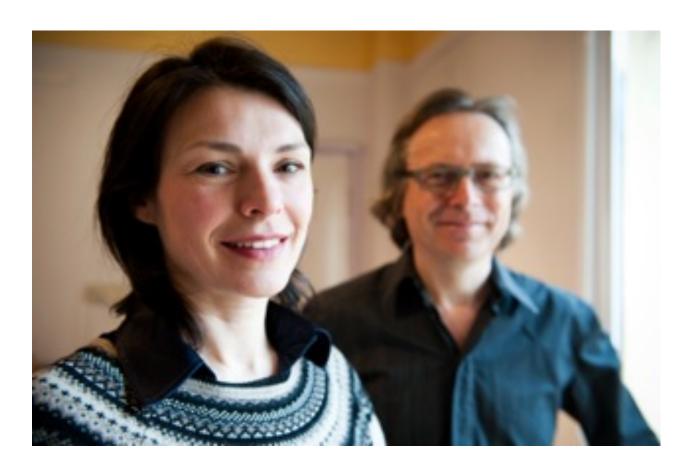
Subtitles: Iris De Blaere,

Light design: Machteld Timmermans

A vzw HardScore production

Duration: 65 minutes

Trailer: https://vimeo.com/87189413



photo's Luk Monsaert and Annelies Anseeuw