

2026

2027

dance

for

children

S deStilte



An invitation to imagination for everyone



de Stille keeps creating imaginative dance performances for a young audience, with a playful wink to the old. An invitation to imagination for everyone. With the openness that comes naturally to children, we use dance as a lens to lift the veil on the unknown. Touching, affirming, encouraging, and reassuring children is the driving force behind the company.

de Stille presents dance performances for children and their families, preferably with live music, across the entire globe. Even in places where there are no theaters. Every child deserves the chance to come into contact with dance.

de Stille has existed for over thirty years, a milestone that fills us with pride and cherished memories. We are grateful to have been able to work (and continue working) with so many people and organizations. We are thankful for the structural support from the Municipality of Breda and the Province of North Brabant.

**With enthusiasm, we present the
program for the 2026–2027 season**



performances

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4+ new

Lifting the Veil

Can you remain true to yourself in a world where everyone and everything wants attention?
Or will you end up entangled?

A wavy landscape of fabric reveals a world where humans are small, fragile beings. A dancer leaves the audience behind to curiously disappear into the scenery. Suddenly everything starts to shift. Where did she go?

She re-emerges, no longer alone. Now there's nothing left to hide and much to uncover.

Embraced by the music of composers Mete Erker and Jeroen van Vliet, choreographers Femke Somerwil and Gertien Bergstra dive into the struggle of finding something to hold on to in a world that never stops moving.

World premiere in co-production with Comedia Theater Köln.

COMEDIA

www.comedia-koeln.de

duration
approx. 45 minutes

performers
3 dancers

age
4 - 14 years

capacity
180 visitors

location
theatre hall

playing surface
minimum 8 x 8 x 5 meter

watch the trailer

view our website

choreography Femke Somerwil, Gertien Bergstra

music new composition by Jeroen van Vliet (piano) and Mete Erker (saxophone)

costumes under the auspices of de Stille

light design Twan Mensen

set design Femke Somerwil, Gertien Bergstra



for the very youngest

Wait a Minute

live music (optional)

From an assembly kit, a world unfolds.
Snow-white objects fill the void.
A small table, a stool, a door, a tiny piano.
But wait a minute... is somebody here?

How do you deal with someone that is different?
Especially when you don't know what kind of somebody
it is? A human, a dog, a bird? Fortunately, nobody is
forced to change. Just stay who you are.

Accompanied by the wonderful piano music of
Jeroen van Vliet, the unfamiliar becomes familiar
in this new environment. A dance duet and a new
world that comes alive at the young audience's eye level.

'Dance company de Stilte from Breda presents a
unique performance that gives the label 'for the
very youngest' a new dimension.'

— Martijn Schraven - BN DeStem

choreography Femke Somerwil, Gertien Bergstra

music Jeroen van Vliet (piano)

with the possibility of a live performance

costumes Czakon

light design Twan Mensen, Rob Touwslager

set design Bert Vogels

duration
50 minutes
(including interactive play session)

performers
2 dancers

age
0.5 – 5 years

capacity
60 visitors

location
theatre hall (stage-on-stage)

floor space
minimum 9 x 9 x 4 meters

playing surface
minimum 6 x 7.5 x 4 meters

optionally with live music
Jeroen van Vliet

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6+

Half Stories

with live music

‘Can two half-truths become one whole?’

On stage, a revolving platform is neatly split by a bookcase. When a book is torn in half, the world around it begins to shift. From that moment on, everything accelerates and the bookcase is dismantled. What once seemed so beautifully organized turns into chaos.

What do we do with the fragments? Which puzzle will we piece together this time? Maybe we should build an entirely new world. Forget what's in the past.

But that is no easy task. As it turns out there are many. Through dance and music, a series of events unfold in an attempt to bring the world back together. Exciting dance, sparkling music. Slow and fast, loud and soft, silent, whispering, shouting. As versatile and unpredictable as life itself.

A co-production by de Stille and the renowned accordion duo TOEAC (Pieterneel Berkers & Renée Bekkers), Half Stories brings movement and music into a captivating dialogue. TOEAC, celebrated internationally for their daring artistry and genre-crossing collaborations, make the accordion sing like trumpets, strings, and voices. Critics praise their “envy-inducing virtuosity, musical insight, and sense of adventure.”

Blending music by Rameau, Zolotarjov and original compositions, Half Stories offers a world rich in contrasts.

choreography Jack Timmermans

music live performed by TOEAC
(Renée Bekkers, Pieterneel Berkers)

costumes Annemarije van Harten

light design Pink Steenvoorden - Einstein Design

set design Jack Timmermans

set construction/realization Pink Steenvoorden -
Einstein Design, Dennis Oomen

duration
45 minuten

performers
3 dancers, 2 musicians

age
6 – 14 years

capacity
200 visitors

location
theatre hall

playing surface
minimum 9 x 9 x 5 meters

with live music
TOEAC

TOEAC
toeac.nl

**FONDS
PODIUM
KUNSTEN**
PERFORMING
ARTS FUND NL

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1 - 6 years

Eyecatchers

with live music

"In the beginning, the world was uninhibited. Life was so pristine, curiosity triumphed over fear and anger. Like the open mind of the one observing the world, that pristine. The sound of water, the stream of movement, nature was wordless. To explore was easy-peasy; every touch a new adventure.

Two dancers and a musician go back to that beginning. Unusual instruments and unusual encounters become evident, simply because they are around.

"After the show, everybody heads for the hallway to put on their shoes. An excellent opportunity for me to have a chat and collect some opinions. Most parents are particularly surprised by their own fascination being so fully captured throughout the performance. Time flew by in a blink. From the parents, nothing but positive response. Most of all, of course, they enjoyed how much the children liked it all. For my part, it was very nice to see that non-Dutch-speaking moms and dads bring their children to this performance as well." – Maike Kanen, Kidsproof Eindhoven

Up close to the performing area, the audience is seated on sheepskins, benches and the first few rows of the theatre stands. Audience capacity depends on the possibilities of the venue.

concept Helene Jank, Gertien Bergstra and Femke Somerwil
choreography Gertien Bergstra, Femke Somerwil
musical composition and performance Helene Jank
costumes Aleksandra Pershay
light design Twan Mensen, Rob Touwslager
set design Bert Vogels

duration
50 minutes
(including interactive play session)

performers
2 dancers + 1 musician

age
1 - 6 years

capacity
60 visitors

location
theatre hall (stage-on-stage)

floor space
minimum 9 x 9 x 4 meters

playing surface
minimum 6 x 7.5 x 4 meters

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all ages

dance in school

1-2s

A meeting between two dancers

Close to the spectator, a confrontation between two dancers unfolds. What is shown in a ten-minute performance can be experienced again during the workshop that follows. Starting from each child's own perspective and imagination.

After a short exchange about the impressions left by the duet, the workshop leader starts with dance assignments. Sensing each other, building trust, sharing weight, and exploring creativity are the pillars that challenge children to bring out the best in themselves.

As workshop leader Eva explains: "To invent on your own and together, to be creative, to give space to the urge to move: every child is, in their own way, an artist."

de Stilte offers duets in its repertoire for various age groups.

'At a time when school is increasingly focused on achievements in the domain of math and language, it is a relief to be introduced to something as beautiful as dance.'

— Marja Floris, teacher

duration
60 minutes
(10-minute duet + 50-minute workshop)

performers
2 dancers

age
all ages

capacity
class activity for up to 35 students

location
gym/play hall

floor space
minimum 6 x 10 x 3 meters

playing surface
minimum 4 x 4 meters

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choreography Christelle Dreyer, Gertien Bergstra, Lethlhogonolo Nche, Femke Somerwil, Lidia Wos and Jack Timmermans.



information

performance	ages	capacity	live music by	dancers	duration	bookings
Lifting the Veil new	4 - 14	180 students (school)		3	45 min	de Stilte maarten@destilte.nl
Half Stories	6 - 14	200 students (school)	TOEAC	3	45 min	de Stilte maarten@destilte.nl
Wait a Minute	0.5 - 5	60 visitors	Jeroen van Vliet (optional)	2	50 min including interactive play session	de Stilte maarten@destilte.nl
Eyecatchers	1 - 6	60 visitors	live music by Helene Jank	2	45 min including interactive play session	de Stilte maarten@destilte.nl
1-2s	All ages	class activity up to 35 students		2	60 min	de Stilte maarten@destilte.nl

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colofon

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