

deStilte

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It's printed, so it must be true

Change, the twenty first century is gasping for it. Back in 2009, change brought Obama to power. Eventually, due to polarizing politics, that change proved to be little more than a pocket full of coins.

What is it we want to change? Traditionally, young art students cry for something else. Something better. But what is better?

More comfortable? More fair? More beautiful? Compared to what?

Might the difference of 'else' perhaps already become a goal in itself?

As human beings, we want to develop. To gain acumen, to appreciate, to explore. To share discoveries, to understand and disseminate new insights. To appreciate understanding ourselves, understanding the other. Experiencing similarities and differences.

To some, this requires a competition, a fight; winners and losers. Others manage on their own.

What motivates us? What inspires us?

Do we need a reward in order to grow? Is it necessary for us to rebel before we're able to get anything done? Should we be looking for differences? Differences in experience, in attitudes?

Not comparing yourself to anything at all, I think, is what brings happiness closer. Recently, a relative of mine has taken to hand-printing T-shirts.

I promised to get her a list of one-liners, aphorisms and quotes. After the cry of despair from Macbeth 'Life is a tale. Told by an idiot. Full of sound and fury. Signifying nothing.' I ran dry.

Both Ben Vautier's 'I don't want to do art. I want to be happy.' and 'Mourir, c'est façile' I had already worn out.

So, now I come up with my own controversy 'I want the same, but different.'

That's it. Press print.

Breda, 12th of October 2021 Jack Timmermans artistic director de Stilte

mission

With dance that appeals to the imagination, de Stilte strives to make its mark in the field of modern dance for children. Every child has the right to an inner world in which experience, wonder and fantasy evoke personal freedom.

A dance performance by de Stilte leaves space for multiple perspectives, invites self-reflection and exchange.

In his poem *lemand stelt de vraag* (Someone asks the question), Dutch author Remco Campert, writes

To ask yourself a question Is how resistance starts And then to ask that question to another.

To which de Stilte should like to add something: to ask yourself a question also leads to your own initiative, to personal insight, to deepening and to exchange by subsequently asking that same question to another person.

The ensemble consists of 13 dancers and annually presents hundreds of performances and dance duets.

de Stilte has made it her mission—regional, national and international—to bring as many children as possible in contact with the company's productions and dance activities.

vision

de Stilte chooses top level dance as a non-verbal language that leaves room for personal interpretation. During a performance a child can get involved in a different world, free of fear that any direct contact with such a world may provoke. Children are given the opportunity to enhance their personal space, to overcome their social bias and train tolerance. de Stilte considers the first acquaintance with art as crucial: once touched by art, imagination can take possession of the young spectator forever. de Stilte opts for art that leaves open spaces that allow the white between the lines to be read. Art that leaves respect for the silence.

international

The company is a welcome guest on stages abroad. Up to now, 43 countries have made acquaintance with productions by de Stilte.

For the European project Mapping, de Stilte is collaborating with 18 companies and festivals in 17 countries all over the continent. Together, we give an impulse to performances for *early years*: babies, infants and toddlers.

funding partners

As of 2021, de Stilte is acknowledged as part of the basic cultural infrastructure of The Netherlands (BIS). The company receives structural grants from the Ministry of Culture, the province of Noord-Brabant, the municipality of Breda and the European Union.

schedule		age	performers		capacity
			dancers	musicians	
The Consolation Prize	mid-size stage / auditorium	7+	4	3	350-400
Mankind	small auditorium / black box	6+	3	2	250
Time Is Running	auditorium / black box	4+	3		200
Down To The Wire	auditorium / black box	3+	2		250
Wait A minute	stage-on-stage	½ to 5	2		55
Do-re-mi-ka-do	stage-on-stage	2+	1	1	70
HiHaHutBuilders	stage-on-stage	2+	2		80
Flying Cow	small auditorium / black box	4+	3		250
1-2's	schools	4+	2		35

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touring history

selection

Opéra Bastille, Paris, France Visioni di futuro, visioni di teatro, Bologna, Italy Festival de Betovering, The Hague, the Netherlands

2Turven Hoog Festival, Almere, the Netherlands Baboró International Arts Festival for Children, Galway, Ireland

Tanzmesse, Düsseldorf, Germany

Hakawy International Arts Festival for Children, Cairo, Egypt Ruutia! Dance Festival for Children and young Audience

Hurjaruuth, Helsinki, Finland

Scene Nationale Le Phénix, Valenciennes, France

Romaeuropa Festival, Rome, Italy

Brabants Internationaal Kinderfestival (BRIK), Breda.

the Netherlands

Cradle of Creativity, Johannesburg, South-Africa

TRAFFO, Luxemburg

Dublin Dance Festival, Dublin, Ireland

euro-scene Leipzig, Germany

Belfast International Children's Festival, Northern-Ireland

The Ark, Dublin, Ireland

Imaginate Festival, Edinburg, Scotland

Assitej World Congress, Warsaw, Poland

Starke Stücke, Gallus Theater, Frankfurt am Main, Germany

KUCKUCK, Munich, Germany

Festival Ideklic, Moirans-en-Montagne, France

La Halle au Grains, Blois, France

Théâtre de Gascogne, Mont-de-Marsan, France

Théâtre de Grasse, Grasse Scene Nationale, Grasse, France

Théâtre du Beauvaisis, Beauvais, France

Scène Nationale 61, d'Alençon, France

Festival Itinérant de Marionnettes, Valenciennes, France

Salle Gérard Philllipe, Bonneuil-sur-Marne, France

Theater im Pfalzbau, Ludwigshafen am Rhein, Germany

Forum Freies Theater, Düsseldorf, Germany

Comedia Köln Theater, Cologne, Germany

Wroclaw Children's Festival, Wrocław, Poland

Naj Naj Naj Festival, Zagreb, Croatia

Théâtre Dunois, Paris, France

Festival Elancees, Limoges, France

Festival El Més Petit de Tots, Barcelona, Spain

Girne American University Theatre, Cyprus

CAPE, Ettelbruck, Luxumburg

Centre Culturel de Rencontre, Luxemburg

Scena Wspólna, Poznan, Poland

Gyan Manch, Theatre, Think Arts Kolkata, India

China National Theatre for Children, Beijing, China

Macao Cultural Centre, Macao Seanse, Ålesund, Norway

Festival Internacional de Teatro para Niños y Jóvenes,

Córdoba, Argentina

Trešnja Theatre, Zagreb, Croatia

Izmir International Puppet Days, Izmir, Turkey

Dampfzentrale, Bern, Switzerland

Luaga & Losna, Feldkirch, Austria

OPEN LOOK, St. Petersburg, Russia

Step.X, National Theater Mannheim, Germany

IPAY, International Performing Arts for Children, USA

Festival Internacional Paidéia, São Paulo, Brasil

Festival Internacional de Linguagens, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil

Ramallah Contemporary Dance Festival, Ramallah, Palestine

Amman Contemporary Dance Festival, Amman, Jordan Little Ladies Little Gentlemen Festival, Ankara State Theatre,

Black Sea Theatre Festival, Trabzon, Turkey DANSEMA Festival, Vilnius, Lithuania

EU Cultural Week, National School of Drama, New Delhi,

BIPOD Beirut International Platform of Dance, Beirut, Lebanon

Tramway, Glasgow, Scotland

Krokusfestival, Hasselt, Belgium

Spielarten NRW, Germany

Semanas Internacionales de Teatro para Niñas y Niños, Madrid, Spain

Maison de Arts de Créteil (MAC), Créteil, France Festival Teatralia, Teatro Pradillo, Madrid, Spain

Festival Rencontres Esonne Danse, Salle Pablo Picasso,

La Norville, France

Spinrag Festival, Kortrijk, Belgium

Xi'an Children's Theatre Festival, Xi'an, China

Teatro Luna Blou, Willemstad, Curacao

Bournemouth Pavillion Theatre, Bournemouth, United Kingdom

Theater Salihara, Jakarta, Indonesia

Concert Hall Taman Budaya, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Gedung Balai Budaya, Surabaya, Indonesia

Adults Forbidden Festival, Smolyan, Bulgaria

The Welfare, Ystradgynlais, Wales

Chapter, Cardiff, Wales

Borough Theatre, Abergavenny / Y Fenni, Wales

Taliesin Arts Centre, Swansea, Wales

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The Consolation Prize

family show over 7s with live music

"Seen from the moon, we are all the same size."

Multatuli, Idea 155

When we look up to the stars in the sky, people are small and insignificant. This will not do! And so we elevate ourselves to stardom.

We have speeches, raise podiums. We pad each other on the back and honour one another with awards. We appoint ourselves as champions. We hand out decorations, medals, victory cups. We build prize cabinets reaching all the way up to the ceiling, under the motto 'The sky is the limit'.

And yet.... And yet we are and remain but tiny creatures in an overwhelming universe. Each prize is a consolation prize.

Humour and a sense of perspective make The Consolation Prize an ode to the Human Dimension. The smallest person ever measured 54 centimetres, the tallest human being 2,72 meters. But seen from the moon, we won't be able to tell the difference.

Far away from stars and planets, we celebrate the limited shelf life of eternal glory with piano, vocals and dance.

choreography Jack Timmermans
dance Donna Scholten, Chiara Aldorisio,
Gianmarco Stefanelli, Elvedin Šiljdedić
composition Martin Fondse
musicians Martin Fondse (piano) and Margriet Sjoerdsma (vocals)
costumes Czakon
lighting design Pink Steenvoorden – Einstein Design
set design Jack Timmermans
duration 55 minuten
stage dimensions 10 x 10 x 5 meters
company 4 dancers, 1 singer, 2 musicians, 2 technicians
capacity 350-400





Mankind

family show over 6s with live music

co-production by de Stilte and Paul van Kemenade

dancing between books

Mankind, in the English language, is a nicely composed word. In Dutch Mankind translates to 'ManChild': man and child at the same time, never fully grown, underway. At the same time Mankind also means the human race in its entirety. Evolution has brought us to where we are now. We think we know who we are. We think we know where we come from.

But where are we going? We can consult books to find that answer. And then? We build and demolish, we climb and descend, create space for ourselves and others. Through trial and error we move forward, from generation to generation. With books as artefacts, we travel throughout history, without knowing where and when it will end.

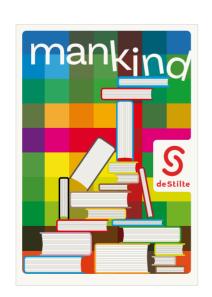
'It takes guts to depict the never-completed development of humanity (Mankind) with such minimal means. Simply by stacking or pushing a bunch of old Winkler-Prinsen encyclopaedia. For children a funny and intriguing game, for adults a symbolic treatise. Very impressive.'

- Francine van der Wiel, NRC ****

'Rarely is abstraction and symbolism, humour and seriousness so beautifully combined.'

- Mirjam van der Linden, de Volkskrant ****

choreography Jack Timmermans
dance Mirella de Castagna de Almeida, Alex Havadi-Nagy
and Donna Scholten
musicians Paul van Kemenade (saxophone)
and Stevko Busch (piano)
costumes Joost van Wijmen
lighting design Uri Rapaport
duration 50 minutes
stage dimensions 9 x 9 x 5 meters
company 3 dancers, 2 musicians, 1 technician
capacity 250





Time Is Running

family show over 4s new

What time is it? Is this the right time? Do you have time for me? It was a long time ago, or did it just happen? Can you wait one moment? But how long is one moment? Can you do it faster? In half a moment? I just saved some time. But does that mean that I can use it later?

Now or later? Past and future. Yesterday and tomorrow. The clock is ticking. The world is spinning. The seasons are shifting. Everyone experiences time in their own way. You can feel the time passing. Sometimes fast as a flash, and sometimes very slow. But can you see time? How does it look? Is time a clear line from one point to another? Or is it a circle that spins and comes back to the same place over and over again?

Feel welcome to follow the dancers on a journey in time. Take the chance to visit a very special universe, with a kaleidoscope of different images, movements, and twisted situations. Use your fantasy and allow yourself to create your own imaginary world. And hopefully we can stop time together for a while and just stay in the moment.

Triggering the imagination through dance, the vivid performances are an asset to the landscape of dance for children.

- Anita Twaalfhoven, Trouw

choreography Lidia Wos in co-creation with Mirella de Almeida Castagna, Alex Havadi-Nagy and Wiktoria Czakon dance Mirella de Castagna de Almeida, Alex Havadi-Nagy and Wiktoria Czakon music Peter Lunow costumes Czakon lighting design Pink Steenvoorden – Einstein Design set design Bert Vogels duration 45 minutes stage dimensions 9 x 9 x 5 meters company 3 dancers, 1 technician capacity 200



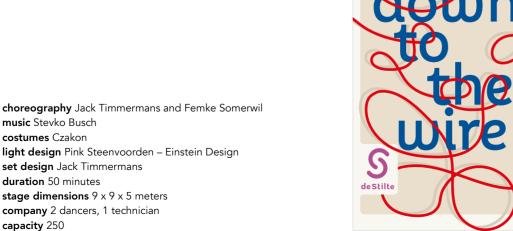


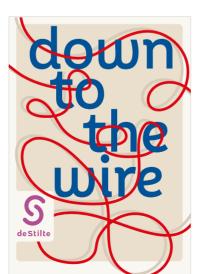
Down To The Wire

family show over 3

How closely connected are we? In a life that starts with an umbilical cord and ends 'cordless', nonetheless, people are always connected. How do these connections run in a world where sometimes we must keep one and a half meter distance, but just as often step on each other's toes? Cutting to the chase: it's down to the wire!

A boy and a girl wake up in a labyrinth of lines and wires. Pulling cords, they conjure up items like chairs or a lamp... When they end up caught in a tangle, they find a way to set themselves free by drawing the longest straw. For, however entangling life may be, there is always a way out. Even when you're tied to each other.







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Wait A Minute

early years, from 6 months - 5 years

Stage-on-stage optional live music

A world unfolds out of an assembly kit. Snow white objects fill the void. A small table, a stool, a door, a tiny piano. But wait a minute, is somebody here? In a pristine landscape, two people disappear and reappear when the inevitable happens: they meet!

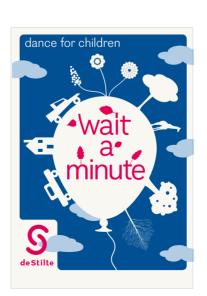
How to deal with somebody different? Someone whom you can't even tell what type of creature it is? A human, a dog, a bird? Luckily, there's no need to change each other. Wait a minute ... simply stick to being who you are.

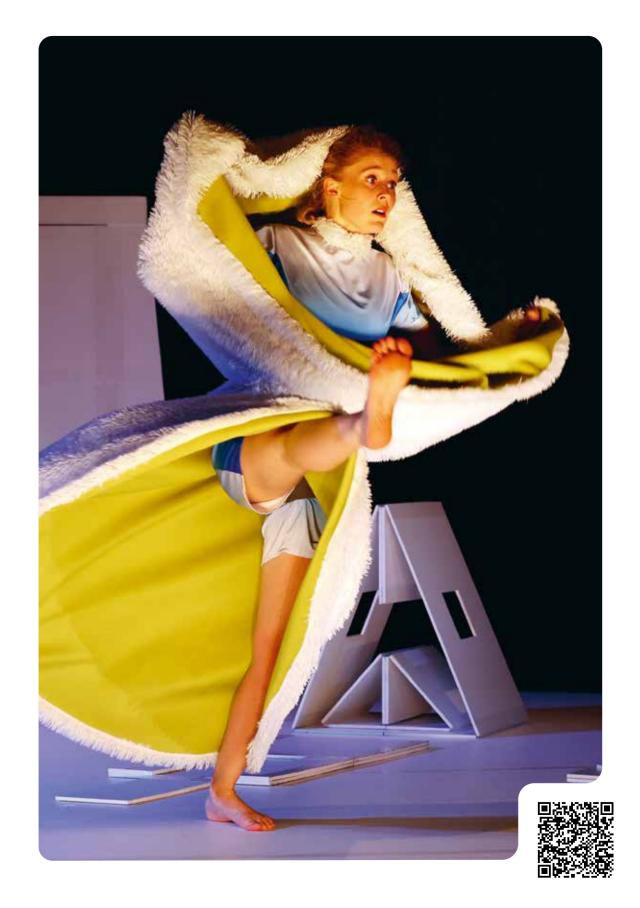
As part of the European research project MAPPING, Gertien Bergstra and Femke Somerwil - two of the company's original dancers – create a performance for children 6 months and older. Accompanied by the wonderful piano music of Jeroen van Vliet, the unknown becomes familiar in this new environment; a world comes to life directly at eye level with the young audience.

'Jeroen van Vliet created a new composition and the sounds of his piano are calm and serene.' – Mirjam van der Linden, *Dans Magazine*

'Both Leon's and Julia's reaction to their first dance theatre experience was downright positive. Particularly, when after it ended, they were invited to come to the stage and play together with the dancers and with the strange objects.' – Martijn Schraven – *BN/de Stem*

choreography Gertien Bergstra and Femke Somerwil dance Donna Scholten and Kaia Vercammen music Jeroen van Vliet (piano) costumes Czakon lighting design Twan Mensen and Rob Touwslager set design Bert Vogels duration 40 minutes stage dimensions 9 x 9 x 5 meters stage on stage surface 5 x 6 meters company 2 dancers, 1 technician company with live music 2 dancers, 1 pianist, 1 technician capacity 55





Do-re-mi-ka-do

family show – over 2s with live music

The colour of sound

The rhythm is a beating heart. A cadence, to set us in motion, a shared beat, a shared heart.

A body ticking, a mouth gasping, a belly bulging, a foot stepping. All is music and all is in dialogue between a dancer and a musician.

Sound becomes colour, dance turns into music, and the world grows into a colourful adventure.

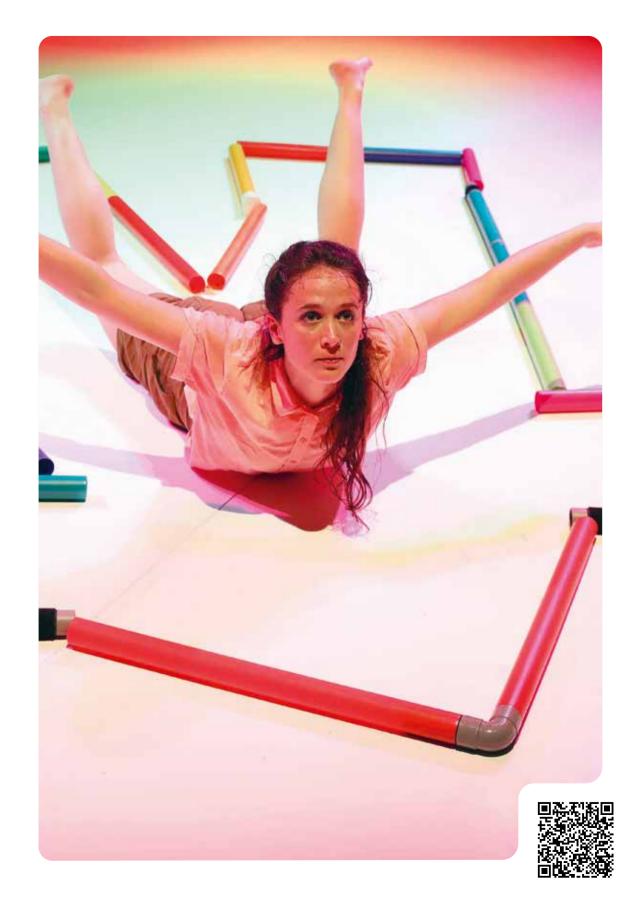
Let's make it a party.

Do-re-mi-ka-do is the sequel to the talent development program 3x3 with vocals, percussion and dance.

Do-re-mi-ka-do is created by Helene Jank and Jenia Kasatkina.

creators Jenia Kasatkina and Helene Jank
choreography Jenia Kasatkina
dance Kaia Vercammen, Gianmarco Stefanelli, Donna Scholten,
Mirella de Almeida Castagna, Alex Havadi-Nagy
music Helene Jank
costumes Jenia Kasatkina
lighting design Ellen Knops
set design Ellen Knops and Jenia Kasatkina
duration 40 minutes
stage dimensions 9 x 9 x 5 meters
stage-on-stage surface 6 x 6 meters
company 1 dancer, 1 musician, 1 technician
capacity 70





HiHaHutBuilders

family show – over2s optional live music

An imaginative duet in an intimate setting

In the middle of a blue field with fair-weather clouds, there's a ... well, what is it actually? Because no one knows what it is, we call it a bed, a mountain, a house or anything else we think of. A man and a woman appear. Like the fluttering of a butterfly, the story delicately emerges.

In an intimate environment, de Stilte treats young and old to an imaginative story: a tiny world where sun, wind, rain and snow is brought to life. The boundaries gradually blur between audience and dancers.

'Light and playfull (...) The sympathetic part about the approach of choreographers Jack Timmermans and Jack Gallagher is they don't overly explain what's going on and rightly presume young kids can handle various forms of abstraction.' – *Theaterkrant*

choreography Jack Timmermans and Jack Gallagher **music** Mete Erker and Jeroen van Vliet

²⁰ Flying Cow

family show – over 4s

'a pound of feathers doesn't fly without a bird' Bert Schierbeek

Playing is fun yet serious at the same time. Once you're totally immersed, anything can happen. Flying on the wings of their imagination, two girls and a boy arrive at a challenging stand-off. When there are three of you: Who plays with who? A game of friendship, loneliness and solidarity emerges out of some rolling eggs a shuffling old woman and the flying cow.

'Flying Cow explores how children play together. Trying to outdo each other, taking from each other, things and company, teasing, sharing, consenting, finding a way for threesomes to play, it's all there.'

-Dick van Teylingen, Theaterkrant.nl

choreography Jack Timmermans **music** Phil Martin (Timothy van der Holst)





1-2tjes

all ages - dance at school

an encounter of two dancers

Dance duets on location, performed on a floor measuring $3,50 \times 3,50$ meters with the audience surrounding the floor on three sides.

Impinging on the spectator's space, a confrontation between two dancers unfolds. What is showed can be experienced in the subsequent workshop to double the effect.

de Stilte has multiple duets on repertory for various age groups created by Jack Timmermans, Gertien Bergstra/Femke Somerwil and Lidia Wos.

'With clearly defined boundaries yet respecting a child's personal baggage, pupils were given space to truly be present. A real gift to experience for me as a teacher. By letting the pupils dance themselves, the performance was brought even more to life. A very good combination.' – Marieke, teacher BS de Dromenvanger

'We have never witnessed such a programme before and so it is a very new experience for us. We feel it was a very educative and enjoyable programme and we learned many lessons. Through this programme, we gained values and learned even from the youngest children. We are sure, because of this programme, our students have gained immense things to remember the rest of their lives.'

- Students and teachers of Nabapally Primary School, India



choreography Jack Timmermans, Somerberg and Lidia Wos duration 60 minutes (duet 10 minutes, workshop 50 minutes) company 2 dancers, 1 workshop leader space dimensions minimum 6 x 10 meters maximum number of visitor 35 maximum number of presentations 3 per day





mapping

de Stilte is one of the eighteen partners of the European project Mapping

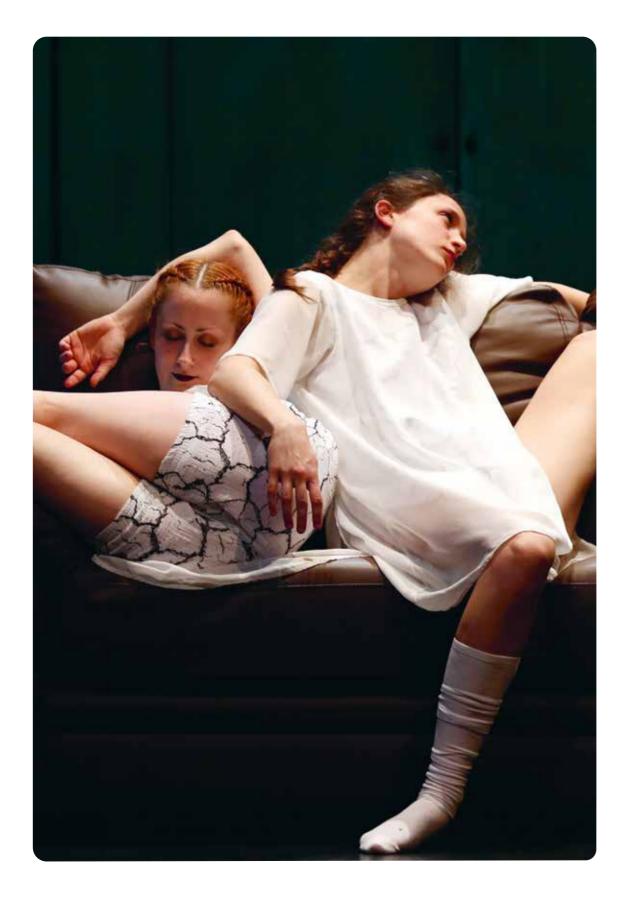
Mapping is an artistic research project focused on creating a sensory-based relationship with very young children, from 0 to 6 years, through performing arts. In particular, it explores the idea of "children-spectators of today and not only of tomorrow"

In frame of the project, choreographers Gertien Bergstra and Femke Somerwil create the production Wait a minute.

mapping partners

Artika Theatre Company | Athens, Greece Auraco dance theatre | Helsinki, Finland Baboró International Arts Festival for Children I Galway, Ireland Bologna Fiere/Bologna Children's Book Fair I Bologna, Italy de Stilte I Breda, the Netherlands Helios Theater | Hamm, Germany Ion Creangă Theatre | Bucharest, Romania Kolibri Theatre for Children and Youth I Budapest, Hungary La Baracca – Testoni Ragazzi I Bologna, Italy Ljubljana Puppet Theatre (LPT) | Ljubljana, Slovenia Polka Theatre I Wimbledon, London, UK Teater Tre | Stockholm, Sweden Teatr Animacji | Poznan, Poland Teatro Paraíso I Vitoria, Spain Théâtre de la Guimbarde l Charleroi, Belgium Theatre Madam Bach | Odder, Denmark TOIHAUS THEATRE SALZBURG | Salzburg, Austria Ville de Limoges | Limoges, France





BRIK

The biannual BRIK Festival (formerly known as the International Stiltefestival) was initiated by dance company de Stilte in 2011. It originated from the company's desire to share the many beautiful performances encountered on its international tours with their audience in Breda. Offering children and adults the opportunity to travel the world of non-verbal theatre in just one week, without having to leave Breda.

The festival programs poetic performances for children aged zero to twelve, their parents, grandparents, teachers and guardians. Performances that stimulate children's imagination and allow space for personal interpretation. Performances without words. Because the body, as de Stilte knows all too well, can convey a story equally well.

Most of the performances are presented at the Chassé Theatre and the Stilte Theatre but the festival also programs (freely accessible) performances in open air: at the town square, at cultural heritage sites or in parks.

Since 2017, BRIK is curated by Mohamed Elghawy from Cairo, Egypt. The festival now hosts over fifteen international companies each edition, as well as a number of Dutch companies. In 2019 the festival presented 73 shows over 12 days—35 school performances, 12 public performances and 21 performances in the city centre of Breda—and welcomed over 21.000 youthful visitors.

The festival receives structural funding from the Dutch Fund for Performing Arts, the province of Noord-Brabant and the municipality of Breda. The 6th edition of BRIK will take place in June 2022.







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Gertien Bergstra choreographer and rehearsal director gertien@destilte.nl



Femke Somerwil choreographer and rehearsal director femke@destilte.nl



Jack Gallagher choreographer and rehearsal director jack.gallagher@destilte.nl



Jenia Kasatkina Guest choreographer Do-re-mi-ka-do



Lidia WosGuest choreographer
Time is running

dancers



Chiara Aldorisio



Mirella de Almeida Castagna



Mara Arts



Carlotta Brogi



guest

choreographers

Wiktoria Czakon



Ivar Draaisma



Alex Havadi-Nagy

dancers



Pilvi Kuronen



Gleen Orlando Mardenborough



Catarina Piava



Donna Scholten



Gianmarco Stefanelli



Kaia Vercammen



Elvedin Šiljdedić

music

Stevko Busch composition and piano



Mete Erker composition, saxophone and reeds



Martin Fondse composition and multi-instrumentalist



Helene Jank compsition, percussion and vocals



Paul van Kemenade composition and saxophone



Marit van der Lei percussion and vocals



Margriet Sjoerdsma vocals

music



Jeroen van Vliet composition and piano

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Sde Stilte





