

**TRON
THEATRE**



Tron Theatre Company in a co-production
with IVT-International Visual Theatre presents



La Performance

Devised and directed by Andy Arnold

Wed 12 – Sat 22
October 2022
Programme

Funded by



Cast List

Her..... **Emmanuelle Laborit**
Him..... **Ramesh Meyyappan**

Creative Team

Director..... **Andy Arnold**
Composer/Performer..... **Ross Whyte**
Set Design..... **Jenny Booth**
Lighting Design..... **Benny Goodman**
Costume Design..... **Victoria Brown**

Stage Manager..... **Zeni Bollok**
Technical Manager..... **Hana Allan**

Production Manager..... **Laura Walshe**
Technical Manager..... **Mark Hughes**
Technical Stage Manager..... **Jason McQuaide**
Venue Technician..... **Alex Hatfield**
Scenic Artist..... **Tyler Ness**

Image Credit..... **Vincent Quenot**
Design..... **Jamhot**
BSL Interpreter..... **Amy Cheskin**
IS Interpreter..... **Gerdinand Wagenaar**

Thanks

Ruth Green, Scottish Opera, Jennifer Lesage-David,
EJ Raymond, Mhairi Quinn, Joseph Harper, French Institute
and the City of Paris





Tron Theatre Deaf Social

Tron Theatre wants to build stronger connections within the deaf community in Glasgow and beyond. We regularly include both signed and captioned performances across our season, but we want to go beyond that by creating a social club where members can take part in workshops, pre and post-show discussions, enjoy great theatre and make use of the social spaces within the Tron. We plan to pilot a Tron Theatre Deaf Social session on 22nd October 2022 hosted by BSL user EJ Raymond with support from BSL interpreter(s). Tickets to the social session are free and can be booked in conjunction with *La Performance* tickets. If you're interested in coming along and/or want more information, please email ej.raymond@tron.co.uk.

Give Feedback

Let us know what you thought of *La Performance* by emailing feedback@tron.co.uk or write to Tron Theatre, 63 Trongate, Glasgow G1 5HB.

You can also join us online for behind-the-scenes footage, photos, news, gossip and updates from all our Tron Theatre shows on our social media networks:

-  /trontheatre
-  @trontheatre
-  @trontheatre
-  tron.co.uk

Director's Note

Devising a piece of theatre with deaf performers from two different countries has, I'm told, rarely happened before, if at all. Thanks to support from the British Council, we have been able to prepare this piece of work in both Paris and Glasgow and will now perform it in both cities. These brilliant performers, Ramesh and Emmanuelle, have been a joy to work with, as have the rest of the company. *La Performance* is a totally devised piece of visual theatre which re-enacts some brief moments from French classic cinema. What develops in the rehearsal room becomes a look at the preparation to perform and the on-stage performance itself – exploring how much an actor inhabits the character to be played and how much some part of that actor's own personality can still linger during the show.



Andy Arnold
Director

Biographies

Andy Arnold - Director

Andy became Artistic Director of Tron Theatre in 2008 following many years as Artistic Director of The Arches, a venue and theatre company he personally established in 1991. Productions Andy has staged for Tron Theatre Company include: *The Drawer Boy* by Michael Healey; the Scottish premiere of *That Face* by Polly Stenham; *Valhalla* by Paul Rudnick (UK premiere); world premieres of *Sea And Land And Sky* by Abigail Docherty; *Plume* by J.C. Marshall and Edwin Morgan's *Dreams and Other Nightmares* by Liz Lochhead.

More recently he directed John Byrne's *Underwood Lane*; his own adaptation of Shakespeare's *The Tempest* with an all-female cast; Gary McNair's adaptation of *The Alchemist*; Enda Walsh's *Ballyturk*; Martin McCormick's *Ma, Pa and the Little Mouths*; Stephen Adly Guirgis' *The Motherfucker with the Hat*; Anthony Neilson's *The Lying Kind*; Martin McDonagh's *The Lonesome West*; Peter Arnott's *Shall Roger Casement Hang?*; Megan Barker's adaptation of Ibsen's *Ghosts*; Samuel Beckett's *Happy Days*, starring Karen Dunbar; and the first stage production of James Joyce's *Ulysses*, adapted by Dermot Bolger, which toured to Ireland after its premiere at the Tron. *Ulysses* was revived in 2015 and invited to perform in four cities in China. While in China Andy also staged a devised piece with Chinese actors entitled *A Journey Round James Joyce*, translated into Mandarin, and returned to direct *The Selfish Giant* for Beijing Children's Theatre Company. During lockdown, Andy devised and directed a promenade show, *high man pen meander*, for digital release as a tribute to the work of Edwin Morgan.

Andy has worked with Ramesh on previous shows including *Off Kilter* and *Ali The Magic Elf*. This is his first experience working with Emmanuelle Laborit and it has been a joy for the Tron to be collaborating with her amazing theatre in Paris, IVT.

Jenny Booth - Set Designer

Jenny Booth is a freelance set designer and illustrator living and working in Glasgow. Her current work focuses on resourceful small-scale design with sustainability in mind. Recent work includes: *Me and My Sister Tell Each Other Everything* and *The Tempest* (Tron Theatre); *And Then Come the Nightjars* (Wonder Fools); and *Our Kitchen* (Standing Tall Arts/Scottish Refugee Council).

Victoria Brown - Costume Designer

Since graduating from Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh, Victoria has enjoyed being involved in numerous theatre, film and television productions, working with companies including BBC, ITV, Netflix, Discovery Channel, Scottish Opera and Scottish Ballet. Victoria has loved being part of the Tron Theatre creative family since 2015.

Benny Goodman - Lighting Designer

Benny Goodman is a freelance lighting designer and creative collaborator, based in Glasgow and London.

He has worked in theatres across the UK and Europe on a variety of projects and productions, and is a creative collaborator with theatre company, Wonder Fools.

Selected credits include: *hang*, *The Tempest*, *The Mistress Contract* and *Like Animals* (Tron Theatre); *Midsummer Night's Dream* (Orange Tree Theatre); *Hamlet* (Saint Stephen's Theatre); *Sense Of Centre* (Dance Base Edinburgh); *Julius Caesar* (Company Of Wolves Scottish Tour); *Palace Of Varieties* (Derby Theatre); *Learning From The Future* (OGR Torino); *Meet Jan Black* (Ayr Gaiety); *I Can Go Anywhere* (Traverse Theatre); *The Drift* (National Theatre of Scotland); *The Afflicted* (Summerhall); *Country Music* (Omnibus Theatre); *549: Scots of the Spanish Civil War* (UK Tour); *Daddy Drag* (Assembly Roxy); *Where We Are: The Mosque* (Arcola Theatre); *Sorella Mia* (The Place); *Disarming Reverberations* (St Giles Cathedral); *Heroines* and *Maim* (Theatre Gu Leòr, Stornoway); *Humbug* (Tramway); *Snow Queen* (Associate - Dundee Rep Theatre); *Ayanfe Opera* (Bridewell Theatre); *Lampedusa* (Citizens Theatre) and *Circle of Fifths* (Royal Conservatoire of Scotland /Cockpit Theatre)

For more on his work - www.bennygoodman.co

Emmanuelle Laborit - 'Her'

Emmanuelle Laborit is an author, director and actress. She began acting at the age of 9 and has acted in productions by Ralph Robbins (*Voyage Au Bout Du Métro*); Thierry Roisin (*Antigone*, premiered at the Avignon Festival); Philippe Carbonneaux (*Pour Un Oui Ou Pour Un Non*); Marie Montegani (*King Lear*) and Jean-Claude Fall (*Parole Perdue*). Her role in *Les Enfants du Silence*, directed by Jean Dalric and Levent Beskardès, earned her the Molière for Theatrical Revelation in 1993. She has also worked with Barbara Nicollier (*Poèmes de Michaux*), Serge Hureau and Philippe Carbonneaux (*Inoui Music-Hall*) and Philippe Galant (*Monologues du Vagin*).

She has worked in films with Claude Lelouch (*11".09'. 01 September 11*), Christophe Schaub (*Amour Secret*), Mehdi Charef (*Marie-Line*), Pascal Baeumler (*Retour à La Vie*), Yves Angelo (*Un Air Si Pur*), Roberto Faenza (*La Vie Silencieuse de Marianna Ucria*), Caroline Link (*Au-Delà du Silence*), Felipe Vega (*Le Toit du Monde*), Ariane Mnouchkine (*La Nuit Miraculeuse*) and *Avec Nos Yeux*, a documentary film by Marion Aldighieri.

She published *Le Cri de la Mouette* (Robert Laffont), which has been translated into 14 languages and won the Prix Vérité. In parallel with her commitment to the recognition of French sign language (LSF), she took over the running of IVT - International Visual Theatre in 2003, and in January 2007 opened the first theatre in France dedicated to sign language, visual and body arts. She now co-directs IVT with Jennifer Lesage-David.

In 2011, she created *Héritages*, her first production, assisted by Estelle Savasta. She also participated in the French sign language adaptation of the show *Traversée*, directed by Estelle Savasta.

In 2013, she collaborated as author and actress in IVT's *Une sacrée boucherie*, created in collaboration with Pierre-Yves Chapalain as writer, and Philippe Carbonneaux as director.

She signed her second production in 2014 with the show *The Queen Mother*, an adaptation of the Snow White tale.

She worked on the creation of a theatrical reading in French sign language of the children's album *Le Prince Tigre*, by Chen Jiang Hong.

She returned to the stage in 2017 with *Dévaste-Moi*, a musical show directed by Johanny Bert.

Today she is directing *L'épopée d'Hermès*, with the aim of introducing his work to the modern world and passing it on to future generations.

Ramesh Meyyappan - 'Him'

Since Ramesh moved to Scotland in 2006, he has played an important role in raising awareness of the deaf community in the Scottish theatre sector. He has worked tirelessly to make his work mainstream and accessible to both deaf and hearing audiences. He was involved in the programme design team for BA Performance in BSL and English at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, where he continues to teach the Visual Theatre module.

Over the years, his solo performances and collaborations have toured nationally and internationally (over 20 countries) to much critical acclaim. His work has been nominated five times for Best Actor at the Life! Theatre Awards (Singapore) and has been awarded this accolade twice. In Scotland he was nominated for a Total Theatre Award for *Snails and Ketchup* and for a CATS (Critics' Awards for Theatre in Scotland) for Best Male Performance in *Off Kilter*.

In recent years, his writing and directing has included: *Peter Pan* (Riksteatern Crea, Sweden), which toured over 40 shows throughout Sweden, Norway and France; an adaptation of Gogol's *The Overcoat* (Royal Conservatoire of Scotland), as part of their final showcase with BA Performance in BSL/English. Recently Ramesh devised *1971*, created with a company from Bangladesh with the support of British Council Bangladesh-UK (ongoing until 2023). He is currently working on a visual adaptation of the script for Shakespeare's *Macbeth* for a Canadian-based theatre company. He was recently part of the original cast for *Wonder Boy* (Bristol Old Vic), directed by Sally Cookson.

Ramesh is proud to be Associate Artist of the Tron Theatre and Raw Material. Ramesh is also a board member of Vanishing Point Theatre Company.

Ross Whyte - Composer/Performer

Ross Whyte is a Glasgow-based composer, sound artist and arranger. In 2012 he completed a practice-based PhD in Musical Composition at the University of Aberdeen where his field of research was concerned with impermanence in audio-visual intermedia and headphone-specific composition.

His compositional output often includes collaborations with artists of disciplines different from his own, including dance, theatre, film and the digital arts.

Since early 2016 he has worked as one half of the Gaelic ambient electronica duo, WHYTE with singer-songwriter Alasdair Whyte. The duo was awarded the Art and Culture trophy at the 2019 Scottish Gaelic Awards. They released their third album *MAIM* in March 2021, which was written as part of a collaborative theatre work of the same name with Theatre Gu Leòr. *MAIM* has received positive critical acclaim, international airplay and several award nominations, including a shortlist for Scottish Trad Album of the Year 2021.

He has recently received commissions from BBC Alba, Sound Festival, Theatre Gu Leòr, National Theatre of Scotland, Art Walk Party Festival and Ceòl is Craic.

Ross is currently working on a new solo album.

www.rosswhyte.com

La Performance is a co-production between Tron Theatre Company and IVT - International Visual Theatre, Paris. It is funded by the British Council's International Collaboration Grants, which are designed to support UK and overseas organisations to collaborate on international arts projects.

Funded by



Tron Theatre

Tron Theatre is a unique flagship organisation as the West of Scotland's only mid-scale producing venue delivering challenging new and contemporary performance for the people of Glasgow, Scotland, and worldwide, while at the same time playing a vital role at the heart of the Scottish theatre community and facilitating participation in the arts amongst people of all ages, race, ability and gender. Tron Theatre is under the artistic leadership of Andy Arnold, who is Joint Chief Executive of the organisation with Executive Director, Sam Gough.

The Tron Theatre gratefully acknowledges support from Creative Scotland | Glasgow City Council

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Special thanks to Helen Jean Millar, a long-time Tron Theatre supporter, who generously left us a gift in her will for our work.

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Tron Theatre Ltd is a Scottish Registered Charity No: SC012081

IVT – International Visual Theatre, Paris

In 2007, IVT opened the first theatre building in France dedicated to sign language, visual and body arts. Nestled in the heart of Paris, in Pigalle, IVT is managed by Emmanuelle Laborit and Jennifer Lesage-David. It is a space for exchange, meeting and discovery for the deaf and the hearing, bringing together a theatre, a training centre and a publishing house. In the forty five years that IVT has been in existence, it has become the leading venue for the diffusion and creation of bilingual sign language, visual and physical theatre.

Each season IVT hosts around fifteen shows, around ten themed evenings (screenings, conferences and meetings) and several creative residencies. Half of the projects are bilingual LSF - French shows and half are visual shows (without words). The invited companies come from all over France, and from Europe. All work presented is aimed at everyone, deaf and hearing audiences.

IVT is supported by the French Ministry of Culture (Direction Régionale des Affaires Culturelles d'Ile-de-France; Délégation Générale à la Langue Française et aux Langues de France), by the city of Paris and by the Region Île-de-France. *La Performance* is supported by The French Institute and the City of Paris.

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