



BELGIAN PERFORMING ARTS AT THE FRINGE 2026



Belgium may be small on the map, but when it comes to imagination, we like to think big.

This summer, we invite you to discover a dazzling snapshot of Belgian performing arts: bold circus, fearless theatre, explosive urban dance, visual storytelling and performances that are as playful as they are profound. Together, these artists prove that Belgium is a place where genres collide, conventions are challenged and creativity refuses to stand still.

You'll encounter bodies defying gravity, fathers embracing glorious chaos, dancers turning the street into poetry, performers exposing the tenderness—and absurdity—of being human, and stories that make you laugh just before they catch you off guard. Intimate or spectacular, political or poetic, every show is driven by the same irresistible urge: to connect.

Whether you're a programmer looking for your next festival hit, an artist seeking new encounters, or a Fringe lover eager to be surprised, we hope these performances will spark conversations, inspire collaborations and stay with you long after the curtain falls.

So come in. Take a seat. Hold your breath. Laugh loudly. Be moved. Get lost—and find something unexpected.

Welcome to Belgian performing arts at the Edinburgh Fringe 2026. We can't wait to share the adventure with you.

This programme is also a celebration of collaboration. For the first time, the Belgian presence at the Edinburgh Fringe brings together partners from across the country through the combined efforts of Big in Belgium – Flanders, Wallonie-Bruxelles Théâtre Danse (WBTD) and the General Representation of Wallonia-Brussels to the United Kingdom. Together, we are proud to showcase the richness, diversity and international ambition of Belgium's performing arts scene.



General Representation
of **Wallonia-Brussels**
to the United Kingdom



Flanders
State of the Art



**HANDLE
WITH
CARE**

AL N° / 310

PACKAGED BY

BY ONTROEREND GOED
T-M

LES ECHOS DE LA RUE
CIE NO WAY BACK / STREET OG

SAB'R
SIHAM ENNAJJA

2026
Detours
Work in progress

CIRCUMSTANCES - EXIT

Circus

dates: 18/08 - 23/08 & 25/08 - 30/08

time: 10:30am - 11:30am

venue: ZOO Southside



CIRCUMSTANCES - EXIT

Four circus artists move through a shifting world of revolving walls and floating doors.

In EXIT, choreographer Piet Van Dycke blends circus and dance into a thrilling physical performance where movement, partner acrobatics and balance form one shared language. With backgrounds in bascule, aerial belts, trapeze and acro-dance, they create a dynamic interplay of trust, risk and transformation. They propel, catch, climb and balance as they search for their own path, yet need one another to keep moving.

A powerful, visually striking exploration of independence, connection and fragile balance.

Four bodies. One path. No way out alone.

Part of Aurora Nova 2026

Age Guidance: 8+

Book now!



Credits:

Concept, choreography: Piet Van Dycke

Performers: Christopher Mc Auley/Alejandro García Bustos, Luuk Brantjes/Benedikt Löffler, Samuel

Rhyner/Raff Pringuet en William Blenkin/Harrison Claxton

Music: Bastiaan van Vuuren/Bastian Benjamin

Dramaturgy: Marie Peeters

Installation: Arjan Kruidhof en Arjen Schoneveld

Lightdesign: Edwin Van Steenberghen

Scenographic support: Menno Boerdam

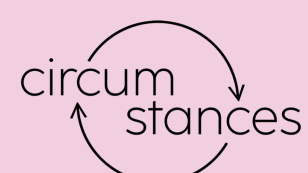
Technique: Casper Van Overschee

Executive producer: Sam Cunningham

Research: Bavo De Smedt, Marius Cavin en Raff Pringuet

Coproduction: Festival Circolo, DansBrabant, Theater op de Markt-Dommelhof, HET LAB Hasselt, circ'uit, Miramiro, Cirklabo

With support of: PLAN, Stad Leuven, Grensverleggers/deBuren



Flanders
State of the Art



FATHERLOAD

David Labi / Martha!Tentatief

Theatre, Storytelling

dates: 7-9/08, 11-16/08, 18-23/08, 25-30/08

time: 11:45am - 13:00pm

venue: ZOO Southside

FATHERLOAD

David Labi spent years of his life chasing cheap thrills across the globe. Now, David is sober, stuck and staring down his greatest challenge. A baby. And it's his.

Amid flying couscous and jets of vomit, David faces the big questions: how do you raise a child while still growing up yourself? How can you break cycles of intergenerational trauma? And what happens if you snort lines of formula milk?

Hilarious, moving and brutally honest, Fatherload is a look at modern fatherhood - from a man hoping his baby will inherit more than his mistakes.

Age Guidance: 14+

Book now!



Credits:

text and performance: David Labi

coaching: Johan Petit

set design: Tim Clement, Manu Siebens

production: Martha!tentatief

coproduction: Perpodium, with the support of the taxshelter of the Flemish Federal Government

sales: David Bauwens - david@playthehousedown.be

Photography: Jimmy Kets



0131 356 0349 10:30 60MINS
ZOO FESTIVAL.CO.UK FRI 7 - SUN 16 AUG



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SAB'R / LES ECHOS DE LA RUE

Detours : Siham - No Way Back

Urban Dance

dates: 07/08 - 16/08

time: 15:50pm - 16:50pm

venue: Dance Base



SAB'R / LES ECHOS DE LA RUE

Echos de la Rue / Sab'R: Detours Festival Working Progress Awards Winners.

Discover the 2 award-winning shows from the Detours Festival: 'Sab'r', a one-woman krump show that combines femininity and introspection, and 'Les Échos de la Rue', featuring 5 breakers who transcend urban and personal struggles.

Book now!



Credits:

Sab'R

By and with: Siham Ennadjary

Coproduction: Lezarts Urbains

Diffusion: Get Down Management

Les Echos de la Rue

Staging : Milan Emmanuel

Dancers : Micael Anigbe , Habid Bardou aka Tips, Redouane Nasry aka Bboy Nona, Adem Ouhaibia et Maxime Blieck aka Bgirl Madmax.

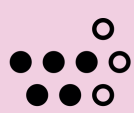
Lighting design : Marie Courcoutelis

Music design : Simon Carlier

Executive producer : Cie No Way Back

Coproduction: Detours Festival - Charleroi Danse

Detours
FESTIVAL


Wallonie - Bruxelles
International.be



ONTROEREND GOED

Theatre

dates: 24/08 - 30/08

time: 13:30pm - 14:45pm

venue: ZOO Southside

ONTROEREND GOED

A box is mailed to the theatre. The instructions are clear: invite a group of people, on a specific night, at a specific time. Place the box at the centre of the stage. Wait until an audience member opens the box. The show has started.

Handle with Care is a theatre performance in a box. No actors, no technicians. Just a box. And you. This time, Ontroerend Goed gives you complete control. For an hour, you'll experience something one-off and unrepeatable. Here. Now. Together. No one is watching. Can you create something meaningful?

Age Guidance: 12+

Content Warnings

- Audience participation
- Audience required to walk or move around during the performance

Book now!



Credits:

Concept & development: Alexander Devriendt, Karolien De Bleser, Samir Veen, Leonore Spee & Charlotte De Bruyne

Design: Nick Mattan & Edouard Devriendt

Production team: Lynn Van den Bergh, Leda Decleyre, Willie-Marie Hermans & Hannes Pieters

Photography: Ans Brys, Joëlle Desmet

Video: Aaron Denolf

Coproduction: NTGent (BE); Stadttheater Schaffhausen (CH); Melbourne Fringe (AU); Theatre Royal Plymouth (UK); Take Me Somewhere, Glasgow (UK); CCAM Scène Nationale de Vandœuvre (FR); IDFA, Amsterdam (NL); De Brakke Grond, Amsterdam (NL); YOUNG Theatre, Shanghai (CN); Hexagone Scène Nationale, Meylan (FR); MAIF Social Club – Biennale Némò, Paris (FR); La Comédie de Clermont-Ferrand (FR); Lowry, Salford (UK); Scène Nationale Carré-Colonnes, St. Médard (FR); Theater RAMPE, Stuttgart (DE); The Zoom Arts Center, Seoul (KR); Hong Kong Arts Festival (HK); Cambridge Junction (UK); The Croatian National Theatre in Zagreb (HR); Théâtre La Mouche, Saint-Genis-Laval (FR); Nuovo Teatro Ateneo, Rome (IT); Gothenburg English Studio Theatre (SE); Teatro do Bairro Alto, Lisbon (PT); Perpodium, Antwerpen (BE) with the support of the Flemish Community, the City of Ghent, the Tax Shelter measures of the Flemish Federal Government & Cronos Invest

Ontroerend
Goed

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ZOO FESTIVAL.CO.UK FRI 7 - SUN 16 AUG

ZOO
SOUTHSIDE



Flanders
State of the Art

FLESH

STILL LIFE

Visual Theatre

dates: 07/08 - 16/08

time: 10:30am - 11:30am

venue: ZOO Southside



Book now!



FLESH

With FLESH, composed of four short stories for four actors, Sophie Linsmaux and Aurelio Mergola map human flesh from every angle.

FLESH brings into play the flesh that is bruised, raw, but also tender and above all eternally lacking in others. Rooted to his body for better or worse, the human being is indistinguishable from his flesh, the embodiment of his being in the world. Yet, today, this anchorage is tending to disappear.

From a wedding anniversary party to a hospital room, from a virtual reality experience to a family reunion in a café, FLESH is a visual and non-verbal show, a contemporary fable that plunges the viewer into the thickness of our flesh. With humor and strangeness, the company Still Life moves us vividly: from our bruised flesh to our flesh alive, there is only a step.

Credits:

Design and staging: Sophie Linsmaux and Aurelio Mergola

Screenplay: Sophie Linsmaux, Aurelio Mergola and Thomas van Zuylen

Interpretation: Muriel Legrand, Sophie Linsmaux, Aurelio Mergola, Jonas Wertz

Setting in space and movement: Sophie Leso

Scenography: Aurélie Deloche

Assistants scenography: Rudi Bovy and Sophie Hazebrouck

Trainee scenographer: Farouk Abdoulaye

Accessories: Noémie Vanheste

Costumes creation: Camille Collin

Seamstress: Cinzia Derom

Technical Management: Nicolas Olivier

Lightingdesign: Guillaume Toussaint-Fromentin

Lighting management company: Charlotte Persoons

Sound design: Éric Ronsse

Sound management: Hubert Monroy

Stage management: Ondine Delaunois, alternating with Charlotte Persoons

Masks and puppets: Joachim Jannin

Voice-over: Stéphane Pirard

General Assistant: Sophie Jallet

Administration and production: Marion Couturier

BLOOM Project development and communication

Diffusion BLOOM Project (Belgium and

Francophonie) and Aurora Nova (rest of the world)

Legal mentions

A show by the company Still Life, in co-production with the Théâtre Les Tanneurs, the Cultural Centre of the Arrondissement of Huy, Le Kinneksbond, the Mamer Cultural Centre, La Coop asbl and Shelter Prod | A delegated production by the Théâtre Les Tanneurs | With the help of the Ministry of Federation Wallonia-Brussels – service du théâtre, du Festival de Liège et du 140 | With the support of the Théâtre National Wallonie-Bruxelles, Taxshelter.be, INGet of the Tax-Shelter of the Belgian federal government | With the participation of the Centre des Arts Scéniques | The company Still Life is an associated artist at the Théâtre Les Tanneurs.

Indicate: AURORA NOVA EDINBURGH 2026 SEASON
auroranova.org/edinburgh

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ZOO
SOUTHSIDE

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ONLYFANS FOR THERAPY

Verona Verbakel

Theatre

dates: 07/08 - 09/08 & 11/08 - 16/08

18/08 - 23/08 & 25/08 - 30/08

time: 12:10pm - 13:10pm

venue: ZOO Playground

ONLYFANS FOR THERAPY

OnlyFans for Therapy is a darkly comic solo about trauma, accountability and the absurd economics of healing.

Whilst triggered on holiday, a woman realises the only way to remain a functional member of society is therapy for life. Quick maths: 2,599 sessions at £70 each. And that's without inflation. So who pays: the victim, the perpetrator or the state?

A razor-edged exploration of abuse, revenge and survival in a world where recovery comes with a receipt.

'An exceptionally strong and intelligent performance, full of humour' (Etcetera.be).

Part of Big in Belgium.

Age Guidance: 14+

Content Warnings

- Contains distressing or potentially triggering themes

Book now!



Credits:

Concept & performance: Verona Verbakel

Final direction: Karolien De Bleser & Verona Verbakel

Tech support: Bart Zwaenepoel, Maeuma Rai

Poster image: Els Vanopstal

Thanks to: ZooVenues, Big in Belgium, deAuteurs, Flemish representative in the UK & Ireland, VZW Het Kartel

deAuteurs,

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