

# Study day

## The presence of women in the performing arts sector (exc. music) in the French Community of Belgium

This study day will explore and reflect on situations, methods and functions to raise awareness, gain theoretical and practical skills to strive for an equal representation of women in the performing arts sector in the French Community of Belgium as well as shed light on intersectional issues and female cultural heritage.

The #MeToo hashtag, Weinstein case and other scandals that social media has brought us on an unimaginable scale provide an insight into the serious imbalance in women's place in the artistic sector and society in general. Until now there has been no full study of gender equality or lack thereof in performing arts in the French Community of Belgium. This shortcoming helped cover up a very real issue: women form the majority in schools but the minority as directors and teachers.

Elsa Poisot, director of Ecarlate la Cie, is the brains behind the pioneering La Deuxième Scène-Acte 3 study conducted between September 2019 and September 2020. It was overseen by Rachel Brahy and Nancy Delhalle from ULiège using an intersectional quality approach provided by Jacinthe Mazzocchetti from UCL. La chaufferie acte1 produced a side project to monitor gender-related statistics until 2022. The study is designed to substantiate a situation muddled by multiple assumptions: gender inequality and lack of diversity in the cultural sector actually result in artistic performances which reinforce stereotypes. They're out of sync with changes in society; they don't bring anything to exploring or reversing new relationships. They are also a waste of skill and talent which hinder both the sector's artistic influence and its economic growth.

### ► FEBRUARY 26 FROM 10AM – MANEGE FONCK: Pay what you want (exc. ABO/PASS)

9.30am ► Welcome

10am ► Presentation of study findings as a performance (duration: 2 hrs).

12pm ► Performance/slam reusing adjectives in the press to describe a show performed by a man or woman and detect any implied stereotypes (duration: 15 mins).

12.15pm ► Complimentary meal

1.30pm ► Walking debate with audience participation to get a sense of how we speak as individuals (duration: 30 mins).

2pm ► Round table to hear the experiences of industry professionals followed by an audience Q&A (duration: 2 hrs).

4pm ► Break

4.30pm ► Introduction to «Acte 4» followed by a reading-performance with an intersectional approach to explore the presence of women and discrimination (duration: 1.5 hr).

A day brought to you by: Ecarlate la Cie, La Deuxième Scène, Voix De Femmes, La Chaufferie-Acte1 and Liège Festival.