

# MEREL KAMP KNOOPPUNT



**What do you do when your ideals and reality start diverging?  
Do you continue on your chosen path or do you change course?**



## Concept

A visual theater performance about finding yourself in a situation that in the beginning you thought would be good for you: it's the challenge you are looking for, you are good at it, or you feel safe doing it. But what if you find out little by little that your expectations don't match the reality? Do you vigorously stick to your ideal image or do you change course? Merel Kamp deals with this question with three kilometers of rope with which she creates an ingenious installation between the trees.



## Concept and performance

**Merel Kamp** studied at the arts school in Utrecht. She worked with Tuig for four years (Salto Vitale, Tegenwind and Tocht). Before Knooppunt she made two other performances: Ode and Passenger.

Merel's work has a very distinctive feel: strong visual images and at the same time a very clear language: one image tells the whole story.



**Dennis van Tilburg** is a self-taught musician, theater and sound artist. After graduating as a producer at the SAE in Amsterdam he comes into contact with the theater world. There he developed a musical style based on sound and atmosphere mixed with techniques of dance and DJ world. His music for theater is often characterized by a strong mixture of composition and sound engineering. He balances on the edge where music disintegrates in chunks and where apparent loose sounds unexpectedly form wonderful music.

## Direction

**Johannes Bellinckx** did the mime school in Amsterdam, theatre direction in Maastricht and the arts academy in Brussels. He has created several shows, such as Slachtoffer (2009), Homo Inflatius (2012) and Natureluren (2014, atelier Oerol).

## Agenda

|              |                           |
|--------------|---------------------------|
| May 2014     | De Tuin der Lusten (NL)   |
| June 2014    | Domaine de Chamarande (F) |
| Octobre 2014 | Circolo Circolo (NL)      |

## **TECHNICAL RIDER**

### **General**

Length: 20 minutes of performance and a stunning installation all festival long.

1 performance per day.

Audience: The public can be seated/standing all around the performance.

Team: 2 persons

### **Space**

Three trees in a triangle, with 15-20 metres space between them. No high vegetation (max 1 metre) in the triangle.

The trees must be healthy and have a diameter of at least 30cm, measured at eye level.

The audience is allowed to walk under/around the installation, so it should be allowed to walk on the vegetation in the triangle.

### **The installation**

The installation exists of a cocoon made of ropes hanging in between three trees. Between the trees there are 6 tight lines in two triangles above each other. One is at  $\pm 1,5-2,5$  metres high, and one at  $\pm 4-8$  metres high. The cocoon is connected with several ropes to those two triangles.

It is a temporary installation and adds only a slight amount of weight to the trees compared to the weight the trees are used to cope with in strong winds for instance. The knots that are used on the bark of the tree are non-sliding, and are kept in place with a piece of carpet underneath, so that the bark will not be damaged.

The impact on the trees of the installation is minimal in normal weather and it can be rigged without any damage to the trees. The ropes are being put up with the use of ladders.

The festival should provide a drawing in which the following has to be drawn/written:

- the position of the trees
- the exact distance between the trees
- the height of the first side-branch of every tree
- the diameter of the trees at eye-height
- the estimated diameter of the trees at 8m high

The festival has to make sure that the trees are checked by a professional tree-surgeon to make sure they are healthy.

### **Possible adaption**

After consultation with Merel and depending on the setting and the programme, it is also possible to do an intro of 1,5 hours. In that case Knooppunt is a continuous installation with the performer building on and around the installation prior to the final performance.

### **Sound & light**

The festival will need to supply electricity (2 groups) and cabling to the performance area.

We need enough electricity for 4 1000W lamps and a sound system with 3 speakers.

The festival should provide 3 active Mackie SRM 350 speakers (or equivalent) and enough XLR cable to place them behind the 3 trees (at least 60 meters depending on the location).

The group will bring the audio interface.

We can play at night.

**Set up/Break down**

Our van must have close access to the performance area for unloading.  
We need 2 full days to set up and 3 hours to break down. On the day of the first performance we do a rehearsal in the morning and can start performing in the afternoon.  
We need 2 (lightweight) ladders of at least 8m high, which can also be put up as an A-frame ladder and 1 smaller A-frame ladder of  $\pm$  2m high.

**Security**

The area should be safe/guarded all the time so nobody can climb the installation when not in use and at nighttime

**Backstage**

We need a private/secure place where we can warm up and change near to the performance area, with toilet.  
Please provide fruit and water backstage.

**Parking**

We travel with a van and will need parking space close to the performance area.

**Hotel/meals**

We need 2 single rooms.  
We are both vegetarian.

**Bookings via :**

**cc@entract.nl**

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