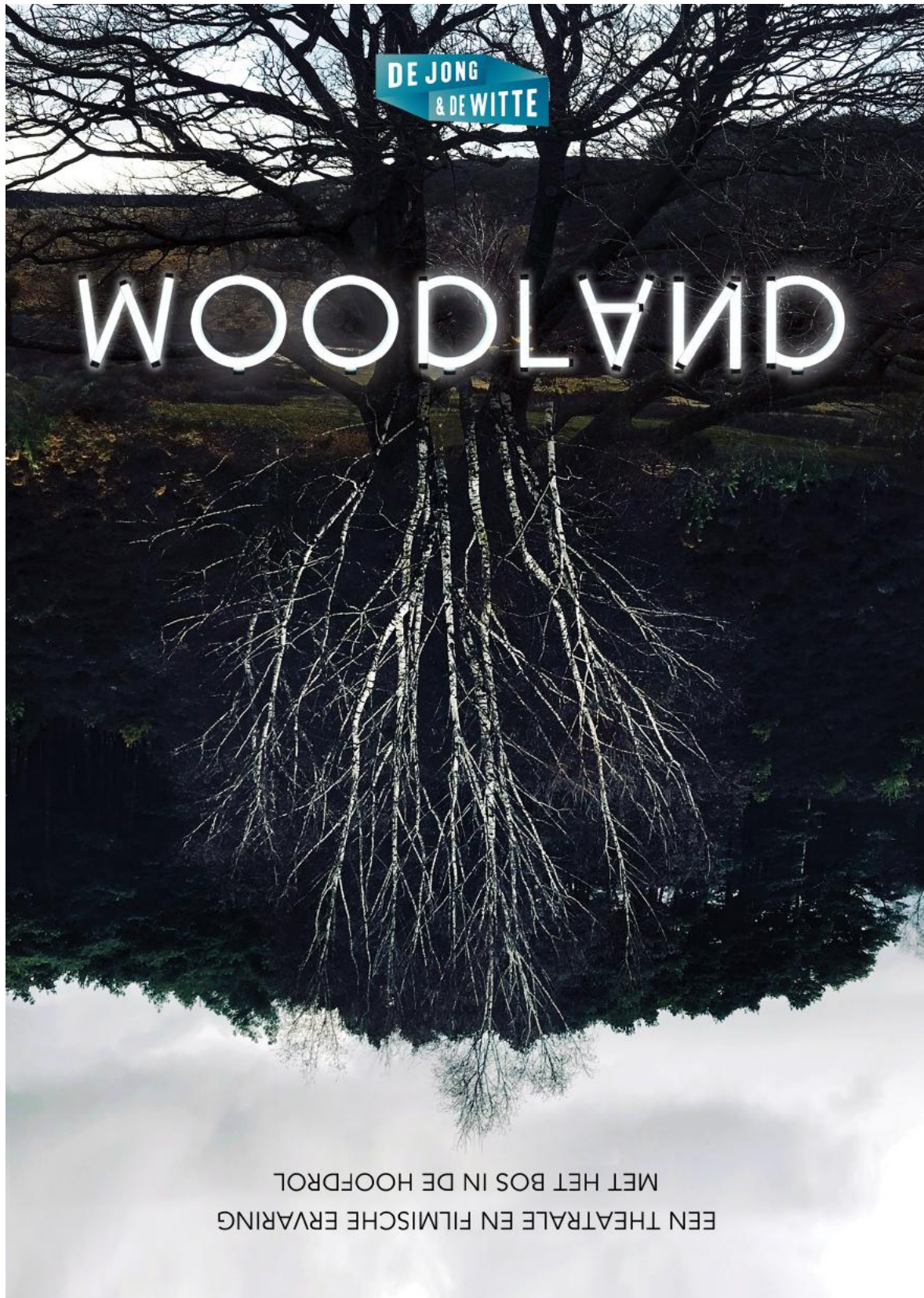


WoodLand

- A royal drama with the forest in the lead -



DE JONG
& DE WITTE

WOODLAND

EEN THEATRALE EN FILMISCHE ERVARING
MET HET BOS IN DE HOOFDROL

DeJong&DeWitte - Covid-19

Together with DeJong&DeWitte, Stichting Sneeuwvonn is active in the application of the Covid-19 regulations. The performance 'WoodLand' takes place on a location outside and offers room to 25 - 30 visitors. Each member of the audience will be carefully handed out a cleaned iPod and headphones. Audiences from one household can walk the route as a duo. The public will be addressed before the start of the performance about keep their distance, which will be paid extra attention to during the performance by the person guiding the audience.

WoodLand

- A royal drama with the forest in the lead -

With extreme slowness, invisible to our senses, a tragedy is taking place in the forest. A royal drama, as dark as Shakespeare's blackest play. Because trees also have great dramas. They have an inner world as lively as ours. Some species of trees hack into the systems of others or spread poison to sabotage rivals. Through scent trails and an enormous network of fungi, they warn their allies of intruders, over distances of up to hundreds of kilometres. Welcome to WoodLand, where we slow down to discover those ancient stories. Can we hear what the trees have to say to us?

In the visual and musical performance 'WoodLand' DeJong&DeWitte take their audience with a iPod in hand through the forest. With audio, film images and live performance you will be initiated into the secrets of tree life, and you will be given the space to really reflect on their life processes and motives.

DeJong&DeWitte

In 'WoodLand' we want the audience to experience nature as a living organism and activate their imagination. With film we make the invisible visible, accelerate what is too slow for our eyes to perceive. With music we make the rhythm, the breath of nature, audible again. We give the audience the space to really reflect on the life processes and motives of trees, but also on ourselves and our own (unnatural?) speed of life.

How much nature is actually still in our genes?

Background

In 'WoodLand' we take the audience through 'Birnam Wood', the Shakespearean forest from Macbeth that, according to the prediction of three witches, will be set in motion.

"What would have inspired Shakespeare to come to such a remarkable prediction? Is there perhaps a strange phenomenon to be observed in this forest? Traces that can only be found here?"

With that question we watch and walk along with theatre maker Hanneke, who uses her voice recorder to report on her findings in her journey through Birnam Wood (Scotland). A forest ranger guides her and introduces her to the hidden life of trees. Slowly she discovers that the forest possesses stories in which she recognises the most important themes from Macbeth: the power of the strongest, the battle for the crown...

But nature's expressions are becoming increasingly unpredictable. Storms, thunderstorms, rain and vermin make her path more difficult. She experiences a night in which the interwovenness with the hidden life of trees and the magical powers of Macbeth come together in a hallucinatory experience.

... Fair is Foul and Foul is Fair...

We discover a world that has become alien to us, and we slow down. We look through the apparent rigidity and very slow responsiveness of trees and zoom in on their specific survival mechanisms and methods of cooperation. We slow down even more, until we move so slowly that we can see for ourselves that what appears to be stationary is in fact in full motion. We show that all the conspiracies, intrigues and emotional shades of the darkest part of Shakespeare are underscored by the trees. For the real protagonist in 'WoodLand' is a forest that is rich in movement.

Practical info

Length: ± 60 minutes
Location: Wooded area/park
Genre: Audio visual journey with live performance
Team: 4 persons, (2 actors, 1 production, 1 technician)
Audience: 30 tot 35 visitors per performance - 2 to 3 x day
Covid-19 regulations will be applied

Credits

Concept & script: DeJong&DeWitte
Text: Hanneke de Jong & Evianne Lamme
Film images: Jonas de Witte
Performance: Raoul Copier & Hanneke de Jong
Dramaturgy: Cecile Brommer
Final direction: Jochem Stavenuiter
Set & props: Hester Jolink en Ronald Schinkelshoek
Costumes: Jessica Helbach
Interactive design: Sylvain Vriens
Sound design: Rinus Aarts
3D animation: Het Nieuwe Kader
Project management: Jeanet Hacquebord
Producer: Stichting Sneeuwvlonk

The Makers

DeJong&DeWitte have been creating theatrical and visual performances and installations since 2007. Their work is characterised by their interdisciplinary and philosophical approach from which a surprising and idiosyncratic visual language emerges. They think and work from their very diverse backgrounds in the visual arts, design, film, music and theatre. Mixing all these different art forms, the makers create a subtle viewing and listening experience, in which they know how to inextricably link all the disciplines used. The audience is actively encouraged to distil their own story. Their investigative working method leaves room for applied dramaturgy and their performances are always tailored to the individual spectator experiences and to the performing locations themselves.

Contact

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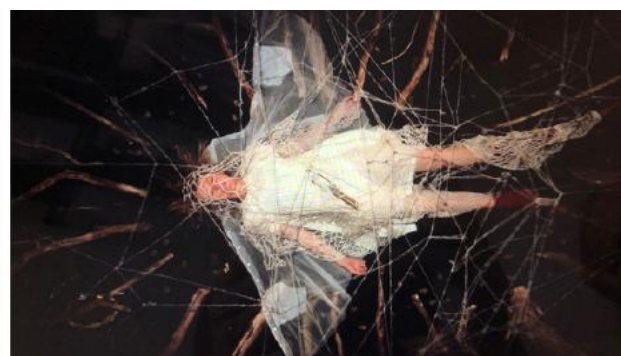
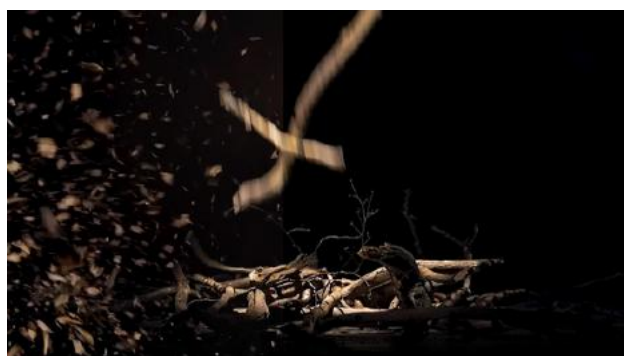
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Live performance 'WoodLand'



Photography: Jonas de Witte

Stills iPod 'WoodLand'



Filming: Jonas de Witte