




# Pan~// Catwalk


DOSSIER 2023

Z W E R M E R S

PERFORMANCE-GEZELSCHAP



From worn out  
denim jacket to  
extravagant glitter  
dress. Our clothes  
are an expression  
of who we are,  
want to be, and  
sometimes need to  
be. What does that  
'second skin' tell  
about us?



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# Content

Photo front page by Jostijn ligtvoet  
Graphic design by Joost Maissan



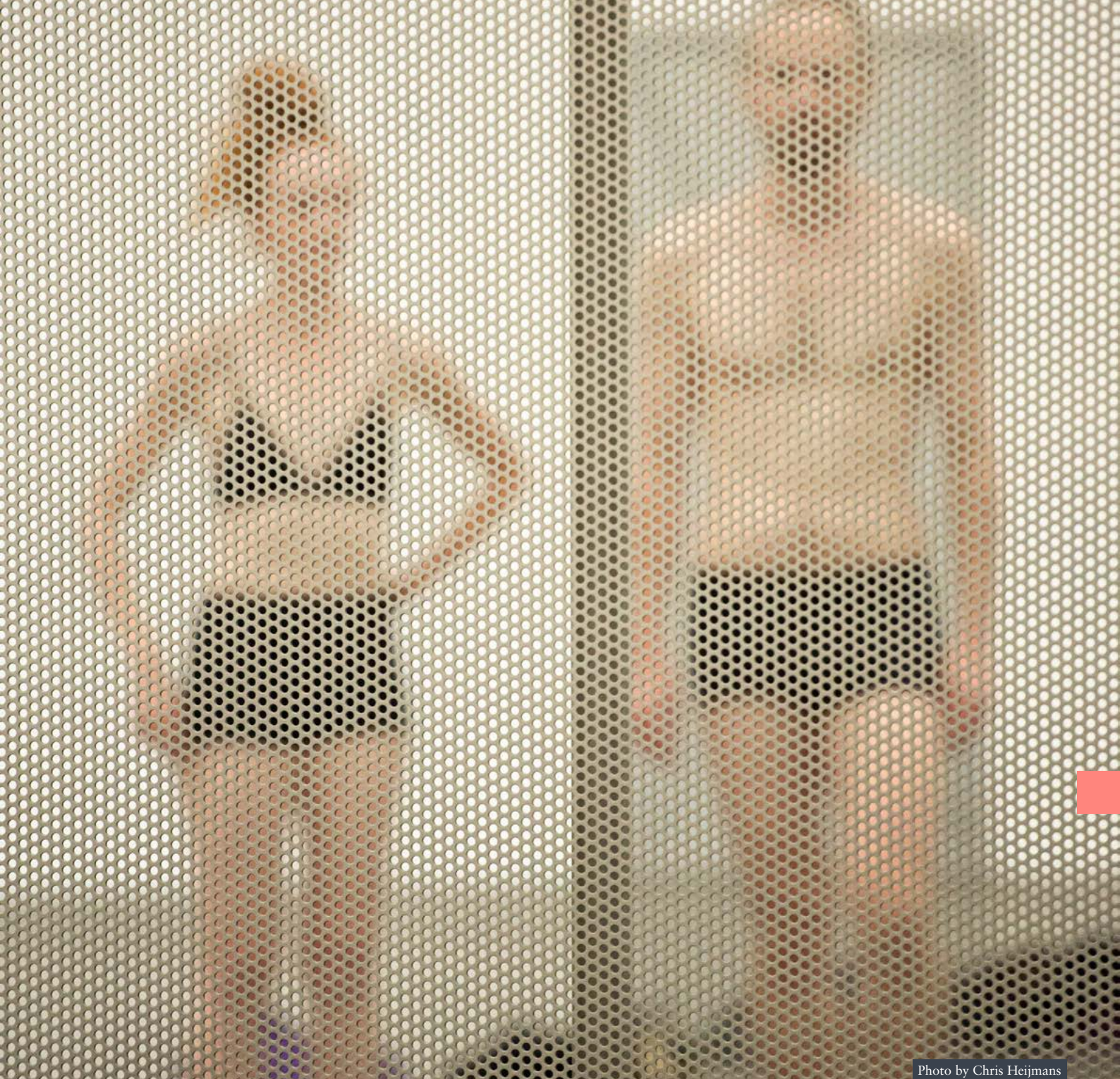


Photo by Chris Heijmans

# Inspiration

Zwormers work is the ongoing artistic project since 2018: Pan~// Catwalk. This project is about clothing and identity, two things that are closely related. Consciously and unconsciously, we

shape ourselves – every day – by what we wear. We are continuously watched and interpreted by others. Zwormers is fascinated by the transformative power of that 'second skin' and works

cross-disciplinary and interactively on all kinds of manifestations of this project, live performances in various forms, (interactive) installations and video works.





Photo by Chris Heijmans

# Performance

With two performers, a violinist and a seemingly endless row of outfits, Zwermers pays tribute to the colorful and versatile nature of the human being. Touching on a multitude of themes like consumerism, fast fashion,

gender fluidity, cultural identity, conformity and individuality. The performance explores people-types and identities, without passing judgement. The interpretation is entirely in the eye of the beholder. Immerse yourself

in a meditative flow of outfit changes supported by a one-man orchestra with violin and loop station, inspired by composers such as Hauschka and Philip Glass.

## VERSIONS

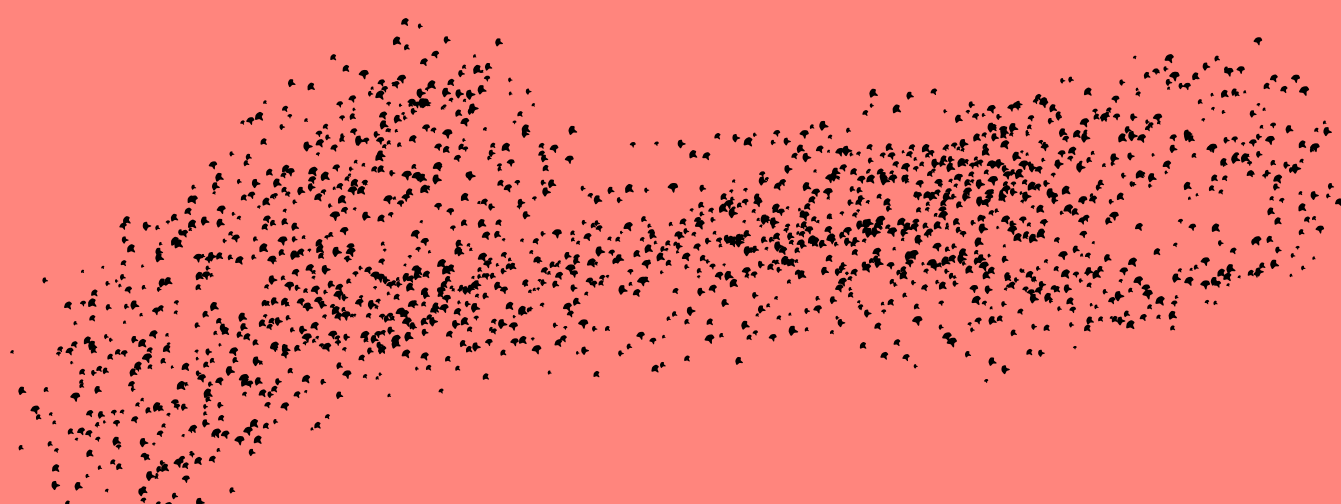
There are two different versions of the performance: a 40 minutes and a 70 minutes version. Both versions show two performers in the simple, continuous act of changing outfits. The combination of repetitive actions and live swelling music creates a hypnotic effect on the viewer. It quickly becomes clear that clothes are never just clothes; they are an expression of who we are, want to be, and sometimes need to be. The build-up is dramaturgical and meticulous; from daily outfits to more and more extravagant ones; from next door outfits to eye candy. The performance shows well known archetypes and proposes exciting new ones. Small

variations keep the viewer very much alert - an exchange of clothing between the man and the woman, a live action cutting of a blazer into a mini-skirt - and always that moment of transformation where the outfits and the characters merge into a new personality type. It brings up questions like: What does our 'second skin' say about us? Does a person wear clothes or is a person worn by clothes?

- The 40 minute version is suitable for: street theatre festivals, (site specific) festivals, and (opening/closing/theme) events, etc
- The 70 minutes is suitable for: theatre festivals, theatres, (site specific) festivals etc.

*Check out the videotrailer >*





**"PAN~// CATWALK MAKES YOU  
WONDER ABOUT HOW CLOTHES  
EXPRESS IDENTITY AND PROVES  
THAT GETTING DRESSED AND  
UNDRESSED CAN BE SUFFICIENT  
TO CREATE FASCINATING  
THEATRE."**

OEROL DAILY NEWSPAPER





De Pont, photo by Chris Heijmans

# Durational performance

This durational version of Pan~// Catwalk is a performance-art installation that continues for hours on end. Audience does not know when the performance started nor when it will end. People can immerse in the infinite outfit changes and live music, leave for

a while and then come back again. This version can be performed both indoors and outdoors. The outfits can be placed in an infinity loop or the performance can cross a town for several days like a pilgrimage from point A to point B. Zwermers is open to specific questions,

ideas and brainstorm on other ways to adapt and show their work.

*Check out the aftermovie >*





# Who's in your wardrobe?

## PAN~// CATWALK, THE EXTENDED PROJECT

### VIDEOWORKS & PHOTOBOOTH

Identity is a fluid concept. Zwermers, in collaboration with photographer Jostijn Ligtoet, has created a photobooth in which they capture people in all kinds of outfits. This project originated during The Self Design Academy at MU Artspace in Eindhoven,

featuring among others the work of Zwermers. This resulted in a diverse collection of people. The portraits have been processed by filmmaker Marike Verbiest in a kaleidoscopic video work. This video work is growing (digital) artwork. Zwermers dreams to expand this work into a film of Koyaanisqatsi-like proportions where inhabitants

from all over the world find their place. We can bring our photobooth with us to portray the people of all the places we visit.

*Check out the videowork >*



Picture by Artsmap Istanbul

# Participation and co-creation

*Our clothing is an expression of who we are, want to be, and sometimes need to be. What does that 'second skin' say about us? Does a person wear clothes or are we carried by clothes?*

In this workshop we explore the question of local identity, and how

our clothing relates to it (or not). We work for about 5 days with a previously recruited group of people. The leading question we ask the participants is: 'Who is in your wardrobe'? The participants are asked to bring the clothes that have significance to them.

Using the participants' own clothes and stories as inspiration we rehearse and present a special community version of Pan~// Catwalk.

*Check out the aftermovie of Istanbul participative project*





**"WORKING WITH YOU WAS  
INCREDIBLE. I AM VERY HAPPY  
TO BE A PART OF THIS PROJECT.  
ESPECIALLY BEING A VOICE ON  
THE ISSUES THAT I THINK- AND  
WORRY ABOUT. WHAT WE FELT  
WAS VERY STRONG."**

**BERNA (PARTICIPANT IZMIR 2022)**



Picture by Artsmap Istanbul



De Pont, photo by Chris Heijmans

# Join the brainstorm

We are curious about your ideas regarding other uses of Pan~// Catwalk. We can imagine that our show and

the many themes it touches can be used to illustrate a message that you would want to give your audience. We

are happy to develop ideas with you, participate in debates, interviews or collaborate with local artists.

*Surprise us!*





# About

Zwermers ('Swarmer') is a performance company based in Tilburg, The Netherlands focusing on location based and interdisciplinary performances. The company is rooted in Tilburg and likes to swarm around (inter)nationally. Zwermers wants to stimulate the imagination and the flexibility of our definition of 'being-human'; how do we as humans relate to the self and the context in which we live. Placing big questions about identity in a tangible and recognizable environment, Zwermers celebrates the

infinite diversity and complexity of humanity.

Zwermers is a structurally funded performance company based in Tilburg, NL. They performed (internationally) on for example the Oerol festival Terschelling (NL), Theater op de Markt (BE), Theater an der Glocksee (D), Fringe Istanbul (TR) and many more theaters and site-specific festivals in the Netherlands and abroad. They did participatory projects in for example Istanbul and

Izmir in collaboration with local partners and the Dutch Embassy. They won the audience prize of the Fries Straattheater Festival in 2022.

# About us

**Inez Wolters** is a versatile artist and entrepreneur in the fields of dance, performance art, (costume) design and live music. Her work and interests revolve around: gender equality and diversity, female empowerment, the (non)future of humanity and art as a form of activism on these subjects. Inez



graduated as a Dancer at Fontys Dance Academy and the Linc Course of the University of Utrecht in business leadership. She worked with Toneelgroep Maastricht, Tanz Backsteinhaus, orchestra Kamerata Zuid and toured internationally with Theatre TOL, as a performer and director. Since 2021 she

works closely together with designer Bart Hess. With her performance band LaPiratesse she tours internationally, for example at Fringe Istanbul (2022) and upcoming: a tour in Mexico, Belgium and the Netherlands. Inez is a strong communicator and has the ability to maintain an overview. Using her interdisciplinary artistic view and entrepreneurship, she is passionately co-directing Zwermers together with the whole team.

**Paul van de Waterlaat** is a versatile artist working in the fields of theatre, visual arts and circus. His work and



interests revolve around; identity formation, queer art & theory, performance art and clothing/fashion. In the past his work was shown in multiple theatres in the Netherlands, exhibited in Textielmuseum (Tilburg, NL); he performed at international theatre company Close Act; was an

associate artist at TENT, house for contemporary circus and performed and created new works for Festival Circolo and circus company Recirquel (Budapest, Hungary). Paul was trained at the Fontys Academy for Theatre in Tilburg and is currently taking the MA Gender Studies program at Utrecht University. As an extension of that he published analytical written work at the Museum for Equality and Difference

(MOED). His interdisciplinary and curious attitude finds its place within the context of Zwermers, which he has been artistically co-directing.

**Wouter de Belder** studied Germanic language and literature at the University of Antwerp, Belgium. From 8 years old he followed classical violin training at the Academy of Music



of Schoten. After that he became a self-taught multi-instrumentalist, learning to play viola, cello, guitar, (double) bass and guitarrón and started composing his own music. Wouter has worked as a composer and musician/performer for Theater TOL and led the production of many performances

for this international company. Wouter is currently playing with Mariachi Los Tarascos and Sindicato Sonico and performed with Barry Hay from The Golden Earring. Together with Inez Wolters he founded the performance band LaPiratesse. His combination of talents fits perfectly with Zwermers; Wouter composes and makes music, and also possesses the talent to monitor the practical overview and to conduct a constructive dialogue about the highest achievable within the framework of available resources and possibilities.

**Sander Verbiest** graduated as a marine biologist. In addition, he has been involved with Zwermers from the



very beginning as a set builder and technician. For example, he designed and built the Juttheater and the Living Landmark Isidore (Oerol 2016). In addition to Zwermers, he makes analogue visuals for the band LaPiratesse and festivals such as Lowlands and Amsterdam Dance Event. He is a

born beachcomber and an autonomous maker and inventor. In his own unique way, he translates Zwermers' artistic vision and ideas into design/decor and performance.





**ZWERMERS**

PERFORMANCE GEZELSCHAP

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*Bookings via Entract >*

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