

DIGITAL PROGRAM
SCROLL TO CONTINUE

JANUARY 10-21, 2024
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PROTOTYPE

see
something
new

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FESTIVAL PROGRAM

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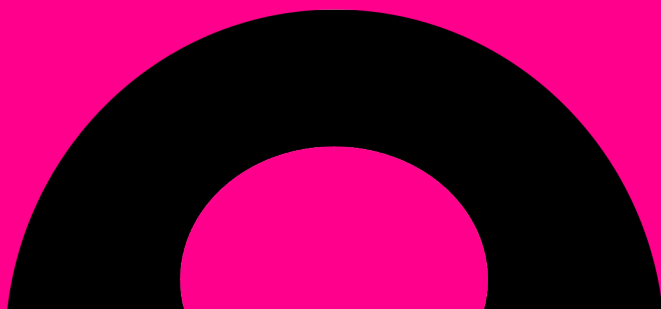
ABOUT CO-PRESENTER

ABOUT PROTOTYPE

STAFF

MEMBERSHIP

SUPPORT



LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

PROTOTYPE pays respect to the Munsee Lenape ancestors past, present, and future. We acknowledge that the work of PROTOTYPE is situated on the Lenape island of Manhattan (Mannahatta), Brooklyn, and more broadly in Lenapehoking, the Lenape homeland.

The performers, artistic teams, and people that make PROTOTYPE possible are located in many different locations in this country and abroad. We acknowledge that this work is situated in various native homelands including those of the Kizh, Mohican, Munsee Lenape, Canarsee, Marechkawieck, and Tongva...

Inspired by the words of Adrienne Wong: PROTOTYPE acknowledges the legacy of colonization embedded within the technology, structures, and ways of thinking we use every day. This production is using equipment and high-speed internet, not available in many Indigenous communities. Even the technologies that are central to much of the art we make leave significant carbon footprints, contributing to changing climates that disproportionately affect Indigenous people worldwide. We invite you to join us in acknowledging all this, as well as our shared responsibility to make good of this time and for each of us to consider our roles in reconciliation, decolonization, and ally-ship.

PROTOTYPE, Stichting WENDE and the Royal Court Theatre
London Present

U.S PREMIERE | CONCERT

THE PROMISE

100 MINUTES, HERE MAINSTAGE

CONCEPT BY

Wende & Chloe Lamford

CREATED BY

Chloe Lamford, Wende, Isobel Waller-Bridge and Imogen Knight

WORDS BY

E.V. Crowe, Sabrina Mahfouz, Somalia Nonyé Seaton, Stef Smith,
Debris Stevenson

PERFORMED BY

Wende, Nils Davidse, Louise Duggan and Midori Jaeger

LIGHTING DESIGN BY

Freek Ros

SOUND DESIGN BY

Bob Willekens

LIGHT ENGINEER

Jolijn van Iersel

CREATIVE PRODUCER

Wouter van Ransbeek

THEATRE PRODUCER/BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

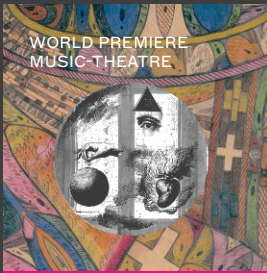
Ulrike Bürger-Bruijs

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Tim van der Does & Rebecca Heikamp

This presentation of THE PROMISE is supported as part of the Dutch Culture USA program
of the Consulate General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in New York.

FESTIVAL PROGRAM



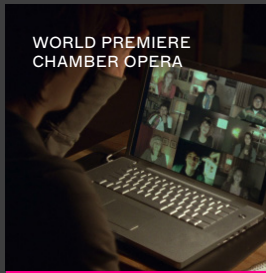
WORLD PREMIERE
MUSIC-THEATRE

TERCE: A PRACTICAL BREVIARY

Jan 10, 11, 17-19: 7pm
Jan 13 & 20: 9am + 3pm
Jan 14: 3pm

60 minutes at The Space at
Iroindale
Heather Christian
Keenan Tyler Oliphant
Mona Seyed-Bolorforosh
Jacklyn Riha

[BUY TICKETS>>](#)



WORLD PREMIERE
CHAMBER OPERA

ADORATION

Jan 12-13 + 18-20: 8pm
Jan 14: 5pm

90 minutes at
The Sheen Center
for Thought & Culture

Mary Kouyoumdjian
Royce Vavrek
Laine Rettmzer

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NYC PREMIERE
CONTEMPORARY OPERA

ANGEL ISLAND

Jan 11-13: 7:30pm

90 minutes at
Harvey Theater
at BAM Strong

Huang Ruo
Matthew Ozawa
Rena Butler
Bill Morrison

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U.S. PREMIERE
EXPERIMENTAL OPERA

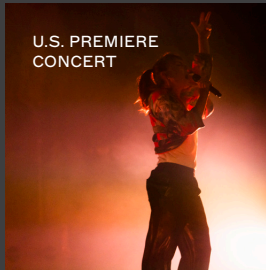
CHORNOBYLDORF

Jan 11, 13, 15, 18-20: 7pm
Jan 14 + 21: 2pm

145 minutes at
La MaMa
Experimental Theatre Club
Ellen Stewart Theater

Roman Grygoriv
Ilija Razumeiko

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U.S. PREMIERE
CONCERT

THE PROMISE

Jan 10, 11, 13: 9pm
Jan 13 + 14: 4pm

100 minutes at
HERE Mainstage

Wende

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WORLD PREMIERE
OUT OF BOUNDS

MALINXÉ

Jan 20: 5pm

30 minutes at
The Playscape
at Battery Park

Laura Ortman
Autumn Chacon

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DIGITAL WORKS

ALL PIECES WILL BE AVAILABLE TO STREAM ONLINE: JAN 10 - 21, 2024



VODALITIES PARADIGMS OF CONSCIOUSNESS FOR THE HUMAN VOICE

Shodekeh Talifero

S6 Percussion



SWANN

Tamar-Kali

Carl Hancock Rux

James Blaszk

Catapult Opera



WHITENESS

Paul Pinto

Kameron Neal

ARTIST BIOS

WENDE | CREATOR, PERFORMER

Wende, born in 1978, is a highly acclaimed Dutch singer, songwriter, and actress known for her versatile vocal range, captivating stage performances, and poetic lyrics. Throughout her career, she has gained recognition for her captivating fusion of pop, chanson, and electronic music, establishing herself as a prominent figure in the Dutch music industry and earning international acclaim for her unique blend of music and storytelling.

Originally born in London, Wende relocated to the Netherlands after spending her early childhood in England, Africa, and Indonesia, where her father worked as a civil engineer. Her deep passion for music and the performing arts became apparent from a young age, leading her to graduate from the theatre academy in Amsterdam in 2003.

Wende made an immediate impact on the music scene following her graduation with the release of her debut album *Quand tu dors.*, which featured a collection of French chansons. This album not only showcased her fluency in the French language but also highlighted her remarkable ability to interpret the emotional depth of the songs. The critical acclaim received by *Quand tu dors* and its subsequent albums, such as *La Fille Noyée* and *Chante!*, firmly established her as an up-and-coming star in the Dutch music scene. With subsequent albums like *No.9* (2009) and the dark electronic *Last Resistance* (2013), Wende underwent an artistic evolution, repositioning herself as a contemporary singer-songwriter and pop artist. Her fresh and innovative sound attracted a new audience of music lovers and earned her regular appearances at major clubs and festivals in the Netherlands.

Wende's latest albums *Mens* (2019) and *Sterrenlopen* (sept. 2023) represent new milestones in her artistic development. To delve deeper into the realms of poetic and introspective lyrics, she turned to the Dutch language and embarked on collaborations with renowned novelists and playwrights from across Europe. Together, they curated themes and crafted songs that evolved into captivating and award-winning theatrical concerts. These performances delve into the human experience through a dynamic fusion of electronic music, storytelling, and theatrical elements. Wende's live shows are renowned for their energy and intensity, as she possesses an extraordinary ability to connect with her audience and deliver emotionally charged performances that leave a lasting impact.

In addition to her solo endeavors, Wende consistently seeks out

groundbreaking collaborations with esteemed artists, musicians, theaters, and orchestras both in the Netherlands and abroad. Notable examples include her collaboration with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra for a performance of Kurt Weill's "The Seven Deadly Sins", her interpretation of 'Winterreise' at National Sawdust NYC, the development of a ballet for the Dutch National Opera and Ballet based on her music, her collaboration with the Royal Court Theatre for her debut show in London titled "The Promise," and numerous concerts alongside Amsterdam Sinfonietta, the Dutch National Choir, and the Metropol Orchestra. More recently, Wende has ventured into producing her own television show called "Kaleidoscope," where she challenges herself and artists from different genres to engage in unique and one-of-a-kind collaborations.

Wende's contributions to the music industry have not gone unnoticed. Throughout her career, she has received numerous accolades, including multiple Edison Awards in different categories and the Golden Harp, one of the highest honors in the Dutch music industry. In addition to her artistic pursuits, Wende is also known for using her platform to champion important social causes. Her thought-provoking lyrics and outspoken advocacy for inclusivity and thinking outside of the box have made her an influential figure in the cultural landscape.

After two decades of artistic adventures, Wende continues to captivate audiences with her unique style and artistry. Her ability to seamlessly blend genres and languages, combined with her powerful stage presence, has solidified her status as one of the most influential and versatile artists in the Netherlands. With each new project, she restlessly keeps on pushing boundaries and in doing so challenges herself and her audience.

HERE

Since 1993, HERE has been one of New York's most prolific producing and presenting organizations, and today stands at the forefront of the city's presenters of new multi-genre art. HERE's aesthetic represents the independent, the innovative, and the experimental. HERE supports work that does not fit into a conventional programming agenda. As the ultimate in hybrid forms, music-theatre and opera-theatre commissioning, development, and producing feature prominently in HERE's programming. Premieres developed and produced at HERE include Kamala Sankaram's first opera *Miranda*, Yoav Gal's *Mosheh*, Christina Campanella and Stephanie Fleischman's *Red Fly/Blue Bottle*, Corey Dargel's *Removable Parts*, Nick Brooke's *Border Towns*, Stefan Weisman & David Cote's *The Scarlet Ibis*, Paul Pinto's *Thomas Paine in Violence*, and Leah Coloff's *ThisTree*, among others. In 2013, HERE joined forces with Beth Morrison Projects to found the PROTOTYPE festival, now acclaimed as "shift[ing] the whole paradigm of what opera is and can be." In addition, HERE has developed such acclaimed works as Eve Ensler's *The Vagina Monologues*; Basil Twist's *Symphonie Fantastique*; Young Jean Lee's *Songs of The Dragons Flying To Heaven*; Trey Lyford & Geoff Sobelle's *all wear bowlers*; and Taylor Mac's *The Lily's Revenge*. HERE has garnered 17 OBIE awards and 2 OBIE grants for artistic achievement, 5 Drama Desk nominations, 4 NY Innovative Theatre Awards, and a Pulitzer Prize nomination. HERE was recently named a Top Ten Off-Off Broadway Theatre by Time Out New York, and The New York Times has called HERE "one of the most unusual arts spaces in New York."

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ABOUT PROTOTYPE



PROTOTYPE is a co-production of Beth Morrison Projects and HERE, two trailblazers in the creation and presentation of contemporary, multi-disciplinary opera-theatre and music-theatre works. The pioneering festival is the only one of its kind in New York City and is a model now emulated around the country - producing and presenting a wide spectrum of works, from intimate black-box experiences to larger chamber opera productions, valuing artistic, curatorial, and producorial risk-taking.

PROTOTYPE is committed to surprising our audiences and confounding their expectations through content, form, and relevance. The festival gives voice to a diverse group of composers, librettists, performers and musicians across all genres, backgrounds, and cultures. In providing a recurring showcase of visionary opera-theatre and music-theatre pieces, the touring life of the work extends around the world. The festival also presents groundbreaking new works by international artists and has become a global reference of artistic excellence in the field of opera and music-theatre.



BETH MORRISON PROJECTS

Beth Morrison Projects (BMP) is one of the foremost creators and producers of new opera-theatre and music theatre, with a fierce commitment to leading the industry into the future, cultivating a new generation of talent, and telling the stories of our time.

Founded by “contemporary opera mastermind” (*LA Times*) Beth Morrison, who was honored as one of *Musical America’s* Artists of the Year/Agents of Change in 2020, BMP has grown into “a driving force behind America’s thriving opera scene” (*Financial Times*), with *Opera News* declaring that the company, “more than any other... has helped propel the art form into the twenty-first century.”

Operating across the US and internationally, with offices in Brooklyn and Los Angeles, BMP’s unique model offers living composers the support, guidance, and freedom to experiment, allowing them to create singularly innovative and impactful projects. Since forming in 2006, the company has commissioned, developed, produced and toured over 50 works in 14 countries around the world, including the Pulitzer Prize-winning chamber operas *Angel’s Bone* and *p r i s m*.

In 2013, BMP co-founded the PROTOTYPE Festival with HERE Arts Center, which has been called “utterly essential” (*The New York Times*), “indispensable” (*The New Yorker*), and “one of the world’s top festivals of contemporary opera and theater” (*Associated Press*).

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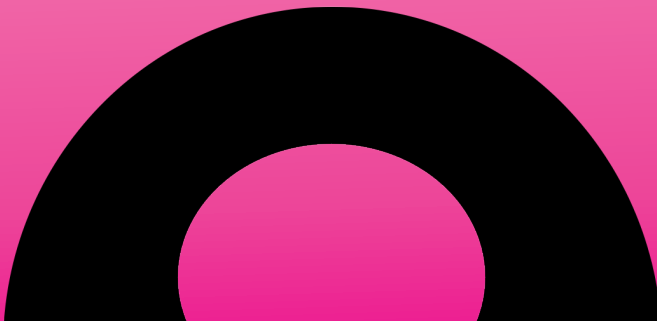
Nathaniel Claridad

MEMBERSHIP

Do you love seeing PROTOTYPE shows every year? Are you ready to take your PROTOTYPE experience to the next level?

PROTOTYPE's 2024 Membership Program is the ultimate way to jump back into live performance this year. By donating \$100 or more, you can join PROTOTYPE's Membership program, and gain exclusive, members-only access to PROTOTYPE 2024!

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)



SUPPORT

PROTOTYPE receives leadership support from Mellon Foundation, Howard Gilman Foundation, and the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation, and is generously supported by the Alice M. Ditson Fund of Columbia University.

Lead commissioning and development support generously provided by:

Charlotte Isaacs (Adoration, Terce)
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Susan Bienkowski (Adoration)
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Cafe Royal Cultural Foundation (Terce)
Dutch Culture USA (The Promise)
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