



Thursday Evening, April 19, 2018 at 7:30
Friday Evening, April 20, 2018 at 8:00
Saturday Evening, April 21, 2018 at 8:00
Power Center
Ann Arbor

COLD BLOOD

A production of
Compagnie Michèle Anne de Mey

Michèle Anne De Mey, Jaco Van Dormael, and the Collectif Kiss & Cry
Creators

Thomas Gunzig
Texts

RENEGHUE

88th, 89th, and 90th Performances of the 139th Annual Season
Theater Series

This week's performances are supported by Altarum Institute, the Herbert S. and Carol L. Amster Endowment Fund, the Ilene H. Forsyth Theater Endowment Fund, Carl and Charlene Herstein, and David and Phyllis Herzig.

Funded in part by the Wallace Foundation and by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Media partnership provided by *Metro Times* and WDET 101.9 FM.

The lobby installation of Leith Campbell's *Slendotron* is made possible by a grant from the Wallace Foundation.

Cold Blood appears by arrangement with Menno Plukker Theatre Agent, Inc.

In consideration of the artists and the audience, please refrain from the use of electronic devices during the performance.

The photography, sound recording, or videotaping of this performance is prohibited.

COLD BLOOD

Original idea / Michèle Anne De Mey and Jaco Van Dormael

In collective creation with / Grégory Grosjean, Thomas Gunzig, Julien Lambert, Sylvie Olivé, and Nicolas Olivier, with the participation of Thomas Beni, Gladys Brookfield-Hampson, Boris Cekevda, Gabriella Iacono, Aurélie Leporcq, Bruno Olivier, and Stefano Serra

CREATIVE TEAM

Mise en scène / Jaco Van Dormael and Michèle Anne De Mey

Texts / Thomas Gunzig

Screenplay / Thomas Gunzig, Jaco Van Dormael, and Michèle Anne De Mey

Cinematography / Jaco Van Dormael and Julien Lambert

Choreography / Michèle Anne De Mey and Grégory Grosjean

Dancers / Michèle Anne De Mey, Grégory Grosjean, and Gabriella Iacono

Cameraman / Julien Lambert, assisted by Aurélie Leporcq

Set Designer / Sylvie Olivé, assisted by François Roux, Juliette Fassin, Théodore Brisset, and Brigitte Baudet

Lighting Designer / Nicolas Olivier, assisted by Bruno Olivier

Sound Designer / Boris Cekevda

Performers / Michèle Anne De Mey, Grégory Grosjean, Gabriella Iacono, Julien Lambert, Aurélie Leporcq, Bruno Olivier, Stefano Serra, and Jaco Van Dormael

Photographer / Julien Lambert

TOUR TEAM

Director / Harry Cleven

Dancers / Frauke Mariën, Gabriella Iacono, and Gregory Grosjean

Camera / Tristan Galand, assisted by Aurélie Leporcq

Lighting / Nicolas Olivier

Sound / Boris Cekevda

Sets and Manipulations / Ivan Fox and Stefano Serra

Interpreters / Harry Cleven, Frauke Mariën, Grégory Grosjean, Gabriella Iacono, Tristan Galand, Aurélie Leporcq, and Nicolas Olivier

Narrators / Toby Regbo

Translations / Gladys Brookfield-Hampson

Technical Coordinator / Thomas Dobruszkès/Astragales asbl

Production / Héléne Dubois/Astragales asbl

Tour Manager / Thomas Van Cottom/MoDul cie

Cold Blood is approximately 75 minutes in duration and is performed without intermission.



Following Thursday evening's performance, please feel free to remain in your seats and join us for a post-performance Q&A with members of the company.



The arts **stimulate** the mind and inspire **creativity.**

Altarum Institute is thrilled to support UMS and provide inspiring and enjoyable cultural opportunities for our team and our community.

Altarum serves the public good by solving complex systems problems to improve human health, integrating research, technology, analysis, and consulting skills.

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www.altarum.org

ARTISTS

Born in Brussels in 1959, **Michèle Anne De Mey** (*creator*) studied at Mudra, Maurice Béjart's dance school from 1976–1979. Her early works include *Passé Simple* (1981), *Ballatum duets* (1984), and *Face à Face* (1986). She collaborated with Anne Teresa de Keersmaecker in the famous *Fase* (1982), *Rosas danst Rosas* (1983), and *Elena's Aria* (1986). In 1989, she founded the company Astragale, to be able to create, produce, and distribute choreographic works around the world. In 1990, she created *Sinfonia Eroïca*, a major piece in her career, which received numerous awards and international success. Thanks to that piece, Astragale became a production center where residencies, workshops, and creations happen. More than 30 original works have been generated by Astragale, where several young artists have had the opportunity to think, share, and work.

Over 15 years, Ms. De Mey has developed a polymorphic dance universe taking its roots in the special space between the dancer and the audience. Intimacy, storytelling, emotion, and deconstruction are at the basis of her choreographic research. The strong and unbreakable link between music and body pushed her to collaborate with music composers Thierry De Mey, Robert Wyatt, and Jonathan Harvey, and eventually cinema directors, painters, actors, and circus artists to stretch beyond the lines of genres and disciplines.

As a teacher, she has developed workshops and taught courses in Brussels, Angers, and Amsterdam that have shaped her students as much as her personal journey as an artist. She was pronounced Doctor Honoris Causa by the University of Mons in Belgium in 2014 and Officier of the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the

French minister of culture in 2016.

In 2005, she became the artistic co-director of Charleroi Danses, the choreographic center of the French-speaking part of Belgium. To celebrate this new chapter, she recreated her central piece, *Sinfonia Eroïca*, for nine young dancers, and toured it around the world for several years. In 2011, with her life partner and filmmaker Jaco Van Dormael, she began working on a collective piece entitled *Kiss & Cry*, a huge success that has since toured on all continents in nine different languages. The story of *Kiss & Cry* and its collective of creators continued in 2015 where a second opus was born: *Cold Blood*. With the same science of balance between genre and disciplines, Ms. De Mey and her collaborators tell a new story that touches audiences profoundly. In 2017, Jaco Van Dormael and Ms. De Mey will present a new original collaboration, *Amor*, a solo piece where cinema and dance meet lovingly in dreamy and metaphysical ways.

After his studies in Paris and Brussels, **Jaco Van Dormael** (*creator*) began his career in the early 1980s with short films and documentaries. Among them, *E Pericoloso Sporgersi* was well-received and won the Grand Prix at the film Festival of Clermont Ferrand.

Mr. Van Dormael's first full-length film, *Toto le Héros*, displays his dreamlike style between humor and innocence. The film won the Camera d'Or at the Cannes Festival and the award of "Best Foreign Film" at the French César Awards. Six years later, Mr. Van Dormael presented his new piece in Cannes entitled *The Eighth Day*. The film is a touching story of friendship between two men, one living with Down syndrome.

The two leading roles won “Best Actors” in Cannes and the film was a huge success in Europe.

Mr. Nobody followed, a co-production between Canada, the US, Belgium, and France, and included Mr. Van Dormael’s favorite themes: childhood, innocence, destiny, and science fiction. The film starred Jared Leto and Diane Kruger and was released in 2010 after being presented at the Festival of Venice in 2009.

Soon after, Mr. Van Dormael returned to the stage, his first love. In 2011, with his life partner and dancer Michèle Anne De Mey, he developed *Kiss & Cry*: a collective adventure with 10 creators that straddles dance, theater, and cinema. In 2012, the Royal Opera of Wallonia asked him to direct César Franck’s *Stradella* for its reopening. In 2016, he directed Mozart’s *Don Giovanni*.

In 2015, Mr. Van Dormael returned to the screen with *The Brand New Testament*. He directed the famous Belgian actor Benoit Poelvoorde and the French icon Catherine Deneuve. The film was presented in Cannes during the Quinzaine des réalisateurs, and won four Magrittes (Belgian Academy Awards) including awards for “Best Movie” and “Best Director.”

Producer / Mars, Mons Arts de la Scène (BE)
Executive Producer / Astragalesasbl (BE)
Associate Producer / Théâtre de Namur (BE)
Co-producers / Charleroi Danses (BE),
La Fondation Mons 2015 (BE), KVS (BE), Les
Théâtres de la Ville de Luxembourg (LUX), Le
Printemps des comédiens (FR), Torino Danza (IT),
Canadian Stage (CA), Théâtre de Carouge (CH),
Théâtre des Célestins (FR)

Astragales ASBL receives funding from
la Federation Wallonie Bruxelles, with the support
of WBI (Wallonie-Bruxelles International).

UMS ARCHIVES

This weekend's performances mark the second UMS appearance by **Compagnie Michèle Anne De Mey**. The Company most recently appeared under UMS auspices in October 2014 in performances of *Kiss & Cry*.

THIS WEEK'S VICTORS FOR UMS:



Altarum Institute



Herbert S. and Carol L. Amster
Endowment Fund



Ilene H. Forsyth Theater Endowment
Fund



Carl and Charlene Herstein



David and Phyllis Herzig



The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation



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Supporters of this week's performances of Cold Blood.