



THÉÂTRE DE LIÈGE



The invisible is not not existent

[April 18th-21st 2023 | Dortmund - Germany](#)

VENEDIG MEER

"Venedig Meer" is a contemporary theater company founded in 2016, advocating fiction as a space for thought, innovation, and survival. They aim to capture how realities occur, co-occur, and reproduce. They seek to identify the collective narratives that determine us. They defend a regime of imagination (and action) that promotes the survival of the entire community of the living. They believe that humor and tragedy are complementary and that one cannot do without the other. They are actively looking for solutions.

The company is based on fundamental common values that guide its work ethics and are implemented at all levels of its activities:

- Care for life
- Intellectual honesty, curiosity, and artistic independence in collaborative practices
- Support, transmission, and training
- Defense of the function and practices of the performing arts within society
- Desire for actions with positive impacts
- Mutualization and commitment to creating ecological tools applicable to the performing arts

ARTISTS INVOLVED



- **Florence Minder**, Co-Director, Author, Actress, and Director. Responsible for fictions, connections, and sharing.
- **Julien Jaillot**, Co-Director, Director of Actors, Director, and Dramaturge. Creation Coordinator.
- **Manon Faure**, Co-Director. Administrative and Financial Manager, Production Strategies.
- **Yorrick Detroy**, Technical director
- **Amélie Géhin**, Light designer

THE RESIDENCY

From 18 to 21 April 2023, the company Venedig Meer was in residence at the Dortmund Theatre in Germany to prepare the show *L'invisible n'est pas inexistant* (The Invisible is not not existent).

This in-progress show aims to explore the invisible and often overlooked elements that nevertheless constitute an integral part of our existence: the connections between individuals, mortality, the gravitational force that keeps us on Earth... The goal of this performance is to restore due recognition to the resources surrounding us that remain unseen, while addressing the crucial question: "What resources are we leaving for future generations? What are we building now that will become a resource for generations to come?"

The show commits to answering these questions through two main approaches: firstly, through its narrative, and secondly, by actively seeking solutions to limit the energy impact of its production. In this regard, the Venedig Meer company is collaborating with engineers from SAFRAN to develop an innovative prototype that illuminates the performance using only the force of gravity. This initiative aims to make visible not only the massive amount of energy required to light a theater but also to explore new environmentally friendly methods of production.

The choice of this lighting system has significant repercussions on the upcoming stage design. During various workshops on the development of gravity lamps, it became apparent that a substantial weight must be lifted to produce a small amount of light (for example, 500 kg must be raised to a height of 7 meters to generate 80 watts for 7 minutes). Therefore, the show cannot be continuously lit or use a significant amount of light. Consequently, careful consideration must be given to how to judiciously use these resources in the narrative, effectively allocating the limited available light.

This is the focus of the artistic residency. The work has primarily focused on light, experimenting and testing various techniques that require minimal energy. The company has contemplated various devices to maximize the diffusion of the produced light: reflections using mirrors, water, and dust; subtle illumination of specific elements (such as hand movements); and the incorporation of elements that autonomously generate light (such as luminous plants in the dark), etc.

UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS) LINKED TO THE WORKSHOP

