

# VERLOREN NASTAAJA



## PLACES LOST

#### LOST PLACES | VERLOREN PLAATSEN

17 August 2018 Het Entrepot - Brugge

Performance by Simone Basani Curated by Alice Ciresola

Performed by Hassanein Ali Al Zubaidi, Bassel Kharmouche, Sonia Si Ahmed, Myrthe van der Mark, Eleonore van Godtsenhoven.

Autobiographical material and narrations from Hassanein Ali Al Zubaidi, Bassel Kharmouche, Simone Basani, Joke aka Juffrów Minéës, Sonia Si Ahmed, Said Sialiti, Eleonore van Godtsenhoven, and others who prefer to stay anonymous. All the stories are true, written and/or verified by the witnesses.

Leaflet designed by Marta Muschietti

Banner image credits: *The Dancing Mania*, by Hondius after Brueghel. Wellcome Collection. CC BY/ Excerpt from the original.

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### WHERE ARE ALL THE PLACES WE HAVE LOST?

### AND WHICH ROLE DO THEY STILL PLAY IN OUR LIVES?

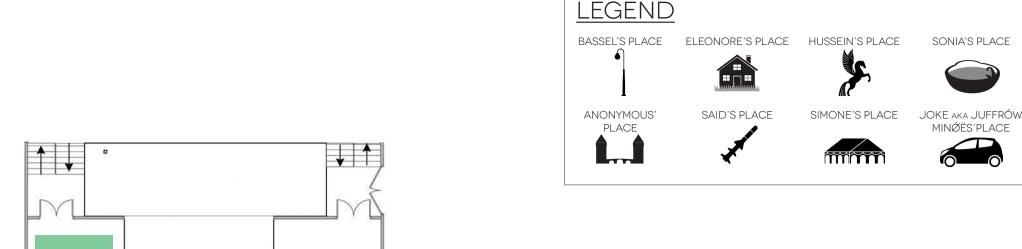
Destroyed by war, transformed because of urban planning, scene of emotional conflicts or turning points in our life. These – and others – are the places we have lost. We don't visit them anymore because it is too dangerous, too painful, because their walls have fallen down or it is apparently pointless. But actually, they are still there, stuck in our memory.

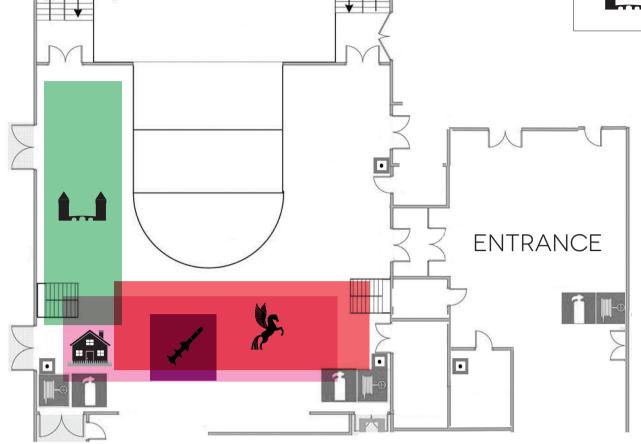
Tonight you are invited to take an archeological tour of them. To walk through their architectural remnants and the memories of who had lived, danced, and loved there.

Along with these lost places, corners of Belgian outdoor life are also physically brought into the concert hall. They just coexist together, often clashing, sometimes resonating with each other.

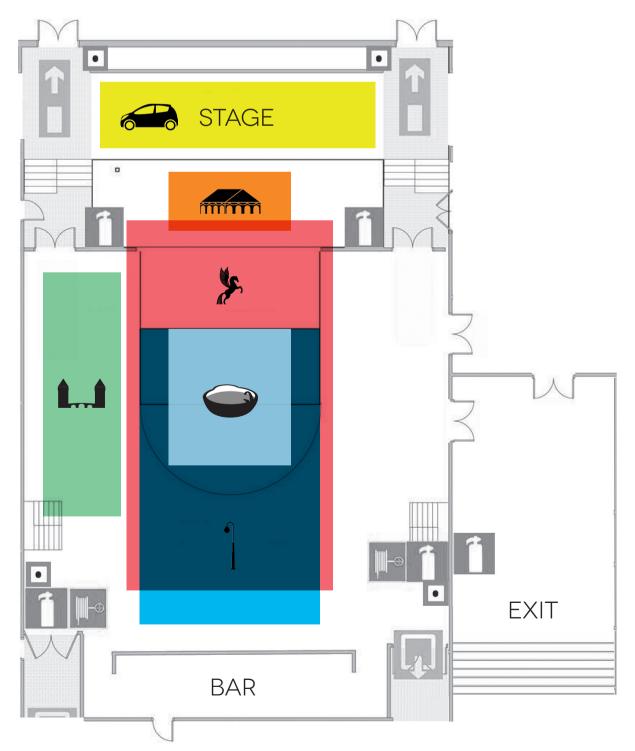
No matter where we are in the world now, we bring with us traces of our (lost) places. We speak about them, we miss them or maybe we are relieved that they are gone forever. We even dream about them.

The moment we decide to share their existence with other people, these places become common heritage. Despite their location in time and space, they might indeed relate to our past and present life and the life of those around us.





#### GROUND FLOOR



- Sometimes, you watch recent pictures of your city and the surrounding villages on Facebook. You cannot go back to your country nowadays, because it is too dangerous. Anyway, you managed to bring with you all the things you learned there.
- After having been sold, this place became inaccessible to you. Its function and look changed. Now it is the house of another family.
- After the American occupation, your Academy of Fine Arts has been demolished and moved somewhere else. A new building stands instead of it.
- This room still exists. But visiting it now would not have the same meaning. What happened there is unique and transformed you forever, in a matter of hours.
- The way you perceive this place has been changing over time. There has been a moment when you haven't felt these streets so familiar and being yourself out there was a struggle. Now you know better how to do it.
- Despite all the stories you heard as a kid, the reality is that you never saw your region as an independent free state. What remains of that time are tunnels in the mountains and your grandparents' memories from the wartime.
- This is a place of incomprehension. Because of the language, new relationships, different rules of social life: it is your new country. On the night you join a local festival, all these elements clash with each other. From that moment you start looking at your integration process with more awareness.
- You can go there whenever you want and need, but not physically. Beloved people's memories and objects close to you are the only bridges to those old, good times.

**DOWNSTAIRS**