

I Don't Want To Be An Individual All On My Own

Teatro Ca' Foscari 2023, Asteroide Amor

Wednesday 19 April 2023, 8 pm

[Teatro Ca' Foscari a Santa Marta](#)

concept, performance, text and music by **Genevieve Murphy**

lighting designer **Prem Scholte Albers**

playwrights **Nienke Scholts, Justa ter Haar**

producer **Nicole Beutler Projects**

in collaboration with **Standplaats Utrecht**

the show is in English with Italian surtitles



Credits: Bas de Brouwer

[Contacts and information](#)

Ever since she was a child, composer and performer Genevieve Murphy has developed an interest in psychology and disability, in how people relate to each other and create emotional bonds. Through her works, she raises awareness of how people behave and react. *I Don't Want To Be An Individual All On My Own* is a search for authentic contact in a deeply individualistic world. Balancing on a tightrope between fear and curiosity for the unknown, she investigates the power of empathy by recounting a “normal” childhood birthday party. Telling the story through a narrative made of pop music, words and sound sculptures, Genevieve invites you to listen to the soundscape of her mind, hoping that her ear will promote a dialogue with her thoughts.

It is Genevieve's eighth birthday. While her mother is busy preparing an unforgettable party, she retreats to the garden. There she discovers a strange man with a child between the bushes. We quickly learn about the colourful characters that make up the family home: the priest grandfather, who was forced to leave Ireland because he fell in love with his grandmother Evelyne, and the grandmother, who after the tragic death of her young daughter Florrie believes more in alcohol than in God. When Genevieve returns, the party has gone wild. The strange man is running towards the children with an umbrella. It is Trancosie, an artist friend of her mother's. Then it is bedtime. But just when the children have gone to bed, Genevieve sees a spider. The children cry and her mother slams her face against a door. The party is over. Her mother is standing in the doorway with a black eye, her grandmother trudges out of the bushes, and Trancosie cleans up the beer bottles and puts them in the prams of the children returning to their parents. Genevieve knows exactly why her relatives are the way they are. But she doesn't understand why the other parents hold their children close and walk away from the garden.

Genevieve Murphy

Genevieve Murphy was born in Scotland in 1988. She studied music and composition at the Conservatories of Glasgow, Birmingham and The Hague. She lives and works in Amsterdam. Over the course of her artistic career, she has combined performance and visual art with contemporary music. Her work is focused on psychology and disability and explores ways to communicate intangible and incomprehensible feelings. After *Something in This Universe* (2018), *I Don't Want To Be An Individual All On My Own* is her second production with Nicole Beutler Projects. Her compositions and performances have been presented at Muziekgebouw aan 't IJ, Concertgebouw Amsterdam, Het Stedelijk Museum, Sectie C Eindhoven, Music Showroom SC Zagreb, ESC Graz, La Fenice Venice, MAXXI Rome and Gaudeamus Utrecht. She has collaborated with artists and ensembles such as Slagwerk Den Haag, Koninklijk Concertgebouworkest Camerata, Ensemble Offspring Sydney, Storioni Trio, Ex Novo Ensemble and International Ensemble Modern Akademie Frankfurt, among others. In June 2019, she was awarded Honorary Membership of the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire on the recommendation of composer Joe Cutler.