**Through the Grapevine - Alexander Vantournhout / not standing**

*Presentation text*

Through the Grapevine is a quirky pas de deux between two men. Performers Alexander Vantournhout and Axel Guérin show their bodies, stripped of all frills.

They are trained but certainly not perfect. They do not try to convince with virtuous movements. Gradually, their athletic bodies collide with physical limitations and their movements guide them in the discovery of the strengths and weaknesses of their own specific physique. The choreography creates an interplay between these differences in proportions and physical strength. With great effort and concentration, the performers search for balance, equilibrium, and harmony without shying away from humour. They challenge one another and drive each other forward, alternately leading the dance. Through constant mutual physical contact, the synergy between touching and being touched unfolds as the base melody of the performance.

The seventh performance by Alexander Vantournhout, following *La Rose en Céramique* (2018) and *Raphael* (2017), is his first true duet and builds upon the thematic aspects of *ANECKXANDER* (2015) to a certain extent. The body is reintroduced in a highly pure form and the performance delves into the creative, kinetic potential of physical limitations, a theme that is reflected throughout his oeuvre. Following the on-scene performance of *SCREWS* (2019), Alexander dives back into the theatre, with partner in crime Axel Guérin, whom we previously saw as one of the performers in *Red Haired Men* (2018).

*Credits*

**Concept & choreography:** Alexander Vantournhout

**Created in collaboration with:** Emmi Väisänen & Axel Guérin

**Performers:** Axel Guérin & Alexander Vantournhout

**Composer:** Andrea Belfi

**Dramaturgy:** Rudi Laermans

**Lighting design:** Caroline Mathieu

**Lighting proposal:** Harry Cole

**Technics:** Rinus Samyn

**Costumes:** Anne-Catherine Kunz

**Concept scenography:** Bjorn Verlinde

**Outside eye:** Anneleen Keppens, Maria Ferreira Silva

**Thanks to:** Sébastien Hendrickx, Vera Tussing, Esse Vanderbruggen

**International première:**

25-27/06/2020 Subsistances, Lyon *(cancelled due to COVID-19)*

3-4/10/2020 Actoral, Marseille

**Dutch avant-première / site-specific:** 13-21/06/2020 Oerol Ter Schelling *(cancelled due to COVID-19)*

**Belgian première:** 8-9/10/2020 Vooruit, Gent

**Distribution**: Frans Brood Productions

**Company manager:** Esther Maas

**Production manager:** Aïda Gabriëls

**Photos:** Bart Grietens

**Co-producers:** Arts Centre VIERNULVIER, Ghent (BE), PERPLX, Marke (BE), CENTQUATRE, Paris (FR), Cirque-théâtre Elbeuf (FR), Subsistances, Lyon (FR), Théâtre de la Ville de Luxembourg, Luxembourg (LU), MA scène nationale – Pays de Montbéliard (FR), Les Hivernales CDCN, Avignon (FR), Malpertuis, Tielt (BE), Theater Freiburg (DE), Théâtre des Quatre Saisons, Gradignan (FR), Théâtre de l’Arsenal, Val-de-Reuil (FR)

**Residencies:** les ballets C de la B, Ghent (BE), Arts Centre VIERNULVIER, Ghent (BE), STUK, Leuven (BE), Subsistances, Lyon (FR), Wood Cube, Roeselare (BE), Workspacebrussels, Brussels (BE)

**Residencies cancelled due to COVID-19:** Arts Printing House, Vilnius (LT) Oerol, Ter Schelling (NL), Le Gymnase CDCN, Roubaix (FR), Grand Théâtre, Groningen (NL)

**Production:** not standing

With the support of the Flemish authorities.

Alexander Vantournhout is artist-in-residence in Arts Centre VIERNULVIER in Ghent, associated artist of le CENTQUATRE Paris and cultural ambassador of the city of Roeselare.

Alexander Vantournhout is supported by Fondation BNP Paribas for the development of his projects.