

Press release

One Song – Histoire(s) du Théâtre IV by Miet Warlop & NTGent triumphs at Festival d'Avignon

Four stars in *The Guardian*, "a more than deserved standing ovation" according to the critic of *The New York Times*, and accolades in the French and Belgian press: the world premiere of the performance 'ONE SONG - Histoire(s) du Théâtre IV' by Miet Warlop & NTGent at the prestigious Festival d'Avignon turned out to be a triumph.

"The most exalted show of the opening days (...) eliciting a massive ovation", writes **The Guardian** (****) in [its report](#) on the 76th edition of the Festival d'Avignon, one of the most important theatre festivals in the world (from 7 to 26 July). The leading British newspaper awards no less than four stars to ONE SONG, a creation that the Belgian artist Miet Warlop made together with NTGent and at the invitation of artistic director Milo Rau, as part four of the series 'Histoire(s) du Théâtre' (1).

The New York Times calls the many standing ovations for ONE SONG – HDT IV in Avignon "more than deserved" and describes the performance in [its review](#) as "loud, preposterous and extremely entertaining". According to *The New York Times*, the Festival d'Avignon has its buzz back after a few difficult years, "and one world premiere captured the boisterous mood better than any other".

The French press is also very enthusiastic about ONE SONG – HDT IV. [Le Monde](#) calls Warlop "a fascinating artist who is finally getting more recognition". According to [Les Echos](#), the performance "enchanted" Avignon. [Theatral Magazine](#) judges the performance to be "a small miracle". A miracle "that awakened the festival" with "a comforting and deeply moving trance, thanks to the power of the collective". [Toute La Culture](#) saw "tragedy, generosity and humour", as well as "beauty with the allure of the great dramas, and it is these that constitute the essence of the history of theatre".

"A rocking primal scream that bursts with zest for life, energy and humour", summarises Belgian leading newspaper [De Standaard](#) (****). "A powerful but salutary knockout," says [Le Soir](#). "Seventeen years after the performance *Sportband*, Warlop's requiem for her brother Jasper, ONE SONG tells us that grief always stays with us, but also that grief - by carrying it together - is transformed, from the intimate to the universal, and allows us to go to the limits of what seems humanly possible".

