

MIET WARLOP

INTERNATIONAL TOUR 2028

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THEATRE PERFORMANCE & MUSEUM INSTALLATION



From the Venice Biennale to the world's stages and museums

What happens when a work of art refuses to stand still? When sculptures come alive, music takes over, bodies are pushed to their limits, and an entire space becomes an instrument?

With IT NEVER SSST, Miet Warlop takes her unmistakable artistic language to new extremes, bringing together living sculptures, explosive physical performance and irresistible musical energy.

An artistic universe in constant transformation

Throughout her career, Warlop has created worlds in which objects and performers come alive together. Sculptures become theatrical creatures, bodies merge with images, and ordinary materials acquire an unexpected life of their own.

From the surreal tableaux of Mystery Magnet to the musical experiments of Fruits of Labor and the relentless physical endurance of ONE SONG, her work gives tangible form to emotions and experiences that often escape words.

From a collective chant to a living sculpture

The origins of IT NEVER SSST reach back to Chant for Hope, developed for the Dhaka Art Summit in Bangladesh in 2023. What began as an exploration of solidarity and the power of raising one's voice together evolved into a monumental artistic creation at the Belgian Pavilion of the Venice Art Biennale 2026.

In Venice, Warlop transformed the pavilion into a living sculpture, where performers brought objects and architecture to life through music, movement and physical action. Sculptural forms were created, transformed and shattered in a continuous cycle of construction and destruction.

At its heart lies a simple yet urgent question: *how do we continue to support one another in a world that seems to be falling apart?*

Taking the universal act of cheering as its starting point, IT NEVER SSST explores our fundamental need for connection and collective strength. Individual gestures become shared rituals, while words, bodies and objects give physical form to our attempts to make sense of a world we cannot fully grasp.

WORLD PREMIERE — JUNE 2028

International touring 2028–2029

Available as a full-length theatre performance or a performance installation for museums and contemporary art spaces.

A new chapter: from Venice to the world

In June 2028, Warlop transforms the performative universe developed in Venice into a new, full-length theatrical creation. Its visual, physical and musical sequences are brought together in a concentrated dramaturgy, giving the work a new rhythm and intensity for the stage.

Part concert, part choreography, part living sculpture, IT NEVER SSST promises an exhilarating experience in which monumental images and visceral physical energy meet moments of fragility, humour and unexpected tenderness.

Alongside the theatre version, the work can also unfold as a performance installation for museums, biennials and contemporary art institutions. In these spaces, the sculptural elements and live actions can inhabit a different rhythm, inviting audiences to encounter the work from within and allowing more time for its images and transformations to unfold.

These two distinct formats offer exceptional possibilities for international presentation, including collaborations between theatres, festivals and museums.

A powerful and poetic celebration of collective energy, human connection and our endless attempts to give shape to the incomprehensible.

“Should cultural collapse be this fun? Yes!”

The Financial Times

“At the Belgium pavilion, that sense of release bursts through the doors.”

The Art Newspaper

“An endless flow of words, performers playing the space like an instrument, and plaster pieces flying everywhere.”

Cultured Magazine

“The promise of an event, an experience, that means you have to be there. With all those pavilions, some nations struggle to stand out. Not Belgium.”

THE NEW YORK TIMES

“Warlop is not a choreographer, nor a theatre director, nor a painter, but all of these things together.”

Il Tempo

“Can a Venice Biennale Pavilion Be Rock ‘n’ Roll? At the Belgium Pavilion, Miet Warlop Makes the Case.”

Cultured Magazine

