

**ANNE TERESA DE KEERSMAEKER REIMAGINES AND SIGNIFICANTLY EXPANDS  
WORK/TRAVAIL/ARBEID FOR PERFORMANCES AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN  
ART**

**Five-Day Live Performance in The Donald B. and Catherine C. Marron Atrium  
Accompanied by Three Days of Workshops for the Public in The Agnes Gund Garden  
Lobby**

***Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker: Work/Travail/Arbeid***

March 29–April 2, 2017

The Donald B. and Catherine C. Marron Atrium

**NEW YORK, February 23, 2017**—The Museum of Modern Art presents *Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker: Work/Travail/Arbeid*, which reimagines De Keersmaeker’s hour-long stage performance, *Vortex Temporum* (2013), choreographed to the eponymous work by the late French composer Gérard Grisey, as an exhibition tailored to the unique dimensions of MoMA’s Donald B. and Catherine C. Marron Atrium. Dancers from De Keersmaeker’s company Rosas and musicians from the Ictus ensemble will perform continuously during public hours over five days, from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 29 through Sunday, April 2, and until 7:00 p.m. on Friday, March 31. The starting point for *Work/Travail/Arbeid* is a simple question: Can choreography be performed in the form of an exhibition? The original hour-long piece has been expanded to a nine-hour cycle, with each hour offering different choreography and combinations of seven dancers and six musicians and a conductor (*Vortex Temporum* is originally a sextet for piano, flute, clarinet, violin, viola, and cello). On March 29, 30, and April 1, dancers from Rosas will teach workshops to the public (ages six and above) consisting of a basic series of movements that form the foundation of *Work/Travail/Arbeid* in The Agnes Gund Garden Lobby at 11:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 2:00 p.m. The workshops will be free with admission and available on a first-come, first-served basis, with sign-up beginning 30 minutes prior to each workshop. Details are available at [MoMA.org/DeKeersmaeker](http://MoMA.org/DeKeersmaeker). *Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker: Work/Travail/Arbeid* is organized at The Museum of Modern Art by Ana Janevski, Associate Curator, with Martha Joseph, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Media and Performance Art; and produced by Lizzie Gorfaine, Performance Producer, with Kate Scherer, Assistant Performance Coordinator.

Throughout her career De Keersmaeker has explored the relationship between music and dance, using music as a defining structure within her choreography instead of simply using dance to illustrate music. The relationship between music and dance in *Vortex Temporum* influenced how she reconceived the piece as an exhibition by emphasizing how time and harmonic space are expanded and condensed to create the “vortexes of space” suggested by the work’s title. *Work/Travail/Arbeid* is not De Keersmaeker’s first project to be performed at the Museum; in 2011 she performed the solo *Violin Phase*, part of her very first piece *Fase: Four Movements to the Music of Steve Reich* (1982), in MoMA’s Donald B. and Catherine C. Marron Atrium.

*Work/Travail/Arbeid* is an itinerant exhibition. It was first staged over nine weeks at WIELS in Brussels in 2015; then over nine days at Centre Pompidou in Paris in a large square space with glass walls, which invited the city itself into the work; then at Tate Modern in London, in the long rectangular space of the Turbine Hall. Each space presented different challenges of adaptation and reconceptualization, a dynamic that continues with the version being re-choreographed and re-created for the unique dimensions of MoMA's Marron Atrium. In each case the result is a project that transforms the very material conditions that have long been essential to dance—and in particular the rigorous structure and choreographic language for which De Keersmaeker is known—into an entirely new form of exhibition. The expanded duration of *Work/Travail/Arbeid* reveals new insights into the complex conceptual, technical, and physical labor that is essential to the practice of dance.

**ABOUT THE ARTIST:**

In 1980, after studying dance at Mudra School in Brussels and New York University's Tisch School of the Arts in New York, Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker (b. 1960) created *Asch*, her first choreographic work. Two years later came the premiere of *Fase, Four Movements to the Music of Steve Reich*. De Keersmaeker established the dance company Rosas in Brussels in 1983, while creating the work *Rosas danst Rosas*. Since these breakthrough pieces, her choreography has been grounded in a rigorous and prolific exploration of the relationship between dance and music. She has created with Rosas a wide-ranging body of work engaging the musical structures and scores of several periods, from early music to contemporary and popular idioms. Her choreographic practice also draws formal principles from geometry, numerical patterns, the natural world, and social structures to offer a unique perspective on the body's articulation in space and time. In 1995 De Keersmaeker established the P.A.R.T.S. (Performing Arts Research and Training Studios) school in Brussels in association with La Monnaie/ De Munt.

**SPONSORSHIP:**

Generous funding for the exhibition is provided by The Modern Women's Fund and by The General Delegation of the Government of Flanders to the USA.

Piano provided by Steinway & Sons.

Additional support is provided by the Annual Exhibition Fund.

The exhibition is organized by The Museum of Modern Art in collaboration with Rosas, Ictus, and WIELS Contemporary Art Centre.

**PUBLIC PROGRAM:**

**Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker in Conversation with Kathy Halbreich**

Wednesday, March 29, 6:00 p.m.

In conjunction with the exhibition *Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker: Work/Travail/Arbeid*, choreographer Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker joins Kathy Halbreich, Associate Director and Laurenz Foundation Curator, The Museum of Modern Art, for a conversation. Tickets (\$15; \$10 members and corporate members; \$5 students, seniors, and staff of other museums) can be purchased online or at the information desk, at the film desk after 4:00 p.m., or at the Education and Research Building reception desk on the day of the program.

Tickets available for purchase starting February, 28 2017.

***Work/Travail/Arbeid* Dance Workshops**

March 29–April 2, 11:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 2:00 p.m.

Experience the principles of Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker's recent body of choreographic work firsthand through newly designed workshops led by dancers in her company, Rosas. Discover the choreographer's work by learning a basic series of movements and seeing how they form the

foundation for *Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker: Work/Travail/Arbeid*, on view in MoMA's Donald B. and Catherine C. Marron Atrium.

Free with admission. Open to everyone ages six and above. Space is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Sign-up begins 30 minutes before each workshop (at 10:30 a.m., 12:00 p.m., and 1:30 p.m.).

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