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Born on 1 February 1945, Jérôme Maeckelbergh studied Fine Arts (painting and sculpture), and drunk too much with actors, who later became directors. This resulted in a scenographers career with a first production in 1974. He has designed more than 50 productions, with work selected for the PQ '83 ("Shunt on to a siding" by Geiffrig) and '87 ("The possessed" by Albert Camus, "The bear and the Pasha" by Eugène Scribe, "Richard III" by William Shakespeare), and for Novi Sad in '84 ("Man is man" by Bertold Brecht, "Around the world in 80 days" by Pavel Kohout, "Oedipus" by Hugo Claus). He designed for drama and musicals as free-lancer, combining this with designing and making special props, masks and sculpture for countless other productions.

He was awarded in Antwerp for designing "Rashomon" by Kanin in 1980, for "Oedipus" in a dramatisation of Hugo Claus in 1981, and for "The possessed" by Albert Camus in 1984. Half of his design work was by order of the famous "Royal Youth Theatre" in Antwerp, where he finally became Head of Design in 1993. Resigned from the Royal Youth Theatre in 2000, he continued to be involved as representative for Belgium in OISTAT, the International Organization of Scenographers, Theatre Architects and Technicians.

OISTAT had a project running, Theatre Words, that started in 1975 where theatre professionals from around the world collected, translated and edited the most common theatre terms into a multilingual dictionary. To keep pace with new developments in the field, a new upgrade of the content was needed together with a switch from printed to digital version. With the support of Michael Ramsaur who managed the adaptations of the content, Jerome then developed Digital Theatre Words as an application with a multilingual interface that was first launched during the Prague Quadrennial 2011. A new upgrade is foreseen in July 2017 for World Stage Design in Taipei.

In May 2012 Jerome for the first time learned by chance, during an Executive Committee Meeting of OISTAT in Egypt by all means, that the historic theatre machinery of the Bourla theatre in Antwerp would be dismantled in sake of modernisation. Being the last large municipal theatre in Europe with its historic architecture combined with the original machinery from 1834 that still is in exceptional condition, this would be a big loss not only for Antwerp but for European theatre culture. Many presentations, peaking in 2014 at the international conference "Wood and Canvas (and rabbit glue) in the Modern World" that Jerome organized with the help of Peter McKinnon under the wings of the York University in Canada, resulted in the nomination by Europa Nostra of this historic theatre machinery as one of the seven most endangered sites of 2014 in Europe. This resulted in a shut down of the renovation plans and a concours for a new approach keeping the heritage machinery on its historic place.



Jerome's quest grew out to a presentation called "**Heritage Theatre Machinery** unexpected possibilities in contemporary productions" that has been shown already on many places in the world. Originating from his presentation with a scale model 1/10 during the Wood and Canvas conference, this evolved to a projected presentation with video captures from the many unexpected possibilities demonstrated in the 1/10 scale model, supplemented with animated drawings explaining the techniques used and the rigging of it. Besides a reevaluation of this historical technique in contemporary theatrical use, this presentation can also be seen as a plea towards designers for out of the box thinking, for students as well as for professionals.

Presentations:

- "Heritage Theatre Machinery, unexpected possibilities in contemporary productions" at World Stage Design in Taipei (Taiwan).....July 2017
- "... unexpected possibilities ..." at the Beuth Hochschule in Berlin.....April 2017
- "... unexpected possibilities ..." touring in Spain and Portugal March 2017
- "... unexpected possibilities ..." at the Lassale College in Singapore August 2016
- "... unexpected possibilities ..." at IFTR conference Stockholm (Sweden)..... June 2016
- "... unexpected possibilities ..." at SIBMAS conference Copenhagen (Denmark) May 2016
- "... unexpected possibilities ..." touring in the USA: at Stanford University (California), Texas State University (San Marcos, Texas), University of the Incarnate Word (San Antonio, Texas), McNay Art Museum (San Antonio, Texas) and at the USITT international conference (Salt Lake City, Utah)..... March 2016
- "... unexpected possibilities ..." for students of the York University on visit in ViennaJuly 2015
- "... unexpected possibilities ..." at Russian Drama Theatre of Lithuania in Vilnius May 2015
- "... unexpected possibilities ..." at the international conference "Conserver et restaurer les théâtres historique (XVIIIe - XIXe siècles): pour qui, pour quoi?" in Paris.....October 2014
- "Bourla heritage machinery in danger" and "... unexpected possibilities ..." at the international conference "Wood and Canvas (and rabbit glue) in the Modern World" in Antwerp..... June 2014
- "Bourla heritage machinery in danger" at World Stage Design in Cardiff..... September 2013
- First presentation on "Bourla heritage machinery in danger" at the international conference "Revaluating Theatrical Heritage" in Kortrijk (Belgium).....January 2013

Studies:

- National High Institute for Fine Arts (NHISK), Antwerp 1963-65
- Royal Academy of Fine Arts (KASKA), Antwerp..... 1961-65
- Royal Atheneum Berchem 1956-61
- Municipal School, Belgiëlei, Antwerp 1950-56

Certificates:

- Certificate BASTT basic course for professional theatre technicians 1989
- NHISK certificate painting department 1965
- KASKA certificate departments of drawing, painting and sculpture 1965

Scenography: selections and awards:

- Selected for the Belgian invoice for the Prague Quadrennial..... 1983, 1987
- Selected for the Novi Sad Triennial (in the former Yugoslavia)..... 1984
- Scenography award from the Municipality Antwerp 1980, 1981, 1984

Experience as teacher:

- BASTT workshop in the use of VectorWorks for theatre technicians..... September 2005
- DKO/KASKA (Royal Academy of Fine Arts, Antwerp) workshops in CAD and 3D, (VectorWorks and RenderWorks,) for scenographers 2005, 2004 en 2003
- University Austin, Texas, Theatre Department: review with the students scenography, together with Jaroslav Malina of the Czech Republic 9 March 2001
- Scenography Commission OISTAT, Santiago de Cuba: use of computer in scenography: CAD en 3D, Photoshop and projection8 July 2000
- Prague Quadrennial, Side Programs for the Students: leading a workshop on exchange of CAD and 3D files between different platforms and software 9 June 1999
- BASTT Theater Technical Days in Gent: leading a workshop on exchange of CAD and 3D files between different platforms and software 28 August 1998
- Education Commission OISTAT, Varna, Bulgaria: demonstration on the use of CAD and 3D in scenography..... 7 June 1997
- NVKT course on scenography in training for directors..... 1996
- Open Living, Berchem, Antwerpen: lectures on scenography 7 to 10 June 1996
- Scenography Commission OISTAT, Beijing, China: demonstration on the use of CAD and 3D in scenography.....6 December 1994
- HKAPA (Hong Kong Academy of Performing Arts): 10-days workshop on the use of Macintosh software for scenographers: layout, sound, CAD and 3D February 1994 en January 1993
- Lecture on scenography for seminar "Light, Sound and Sets in theatre" for FAKREA .2 Feb. 1991
- Lecture on European Art History for BASTT course..... 1988
- Privat workshop Portret and Still Life painting 1972-78
- Founder and teacher of Antwerp Youth Workshop "Jeroen" 1969-74

Productions:

Date	production	author	producer	director	scenography	costume	light	multimedia	sculpture	masks
1999 12-02	Woyzeck	naar Büchner	HetPaleis	Dankaert				●		
1998 20-03	Carmen (locatie)	naar Bizet	KJT	De Weerd	●					
1997 22-09	Zijspoor (locatie)	Simoen	KJT	Verbist	●					
21-03	Gelukkige verjaardag lieve Jelena	Rasumowskaja	KJT	Verbist	●	●				
17-01	De taalschraper	Hoex	KJT	De Paepe				●		
1996 15-09	1496	Verbist	stad Lier	Verbist	●					
17-05	Rode Schoenen	Luccatini	KJT	De Batist	●					
1995 22-12	De tovenaer van Ozstayen	Meewis/Schillemans	KJT	Schillemans	●			●		
13-10	Jacques en zijn Meester	naar Diderot	KJT	Dom	●					
11-03	De kleine zeemeermin	De Neve	KJT	De Neve	●					
04-03	Robinson en Crusoë	De Paepe	KJT	Verbist	●					
1994 28-10	Suske en Wiske, de musical.	Lambert/De Vuyst	KJT	Van Malderen	●					
22-01	Het kleine wilde dier	Reventberg	KJT	Schillemans	●					
1993 01-11	Charabang	vzw CISO	Antwerpen '93	Mertens	●					
21-08	Tand om tand (locatie)	Schuyesman	KJT	De Batist	●					
1991 25-10	Kinderen van een mindere God	Medoff	TAA	Dankaert	●		●			
1990 08-11	Dobbel Shift II	Van Haecke	TAA	Van Haecke	●		●			
09-06	One flew over the Cuckoo's nest	Kesey	TAA	Lancrock	●					
02-02	Dobbel Shift I	Van Haecke	TAA	Van Haecke	●		●			
1989 04-12	Open en bloot	Poiret	KNS	Fabbri	●					
11-11	De Paddeprinses	Dom	KJT	Schillemans	●					
28-04	De mannen van de Luienhoek	Van De Velde	RVT	Van De Velde	●					
22-04	Assepoester	Dom	KJT	Dom	●	●			●	
1988 02-12	De Rat van Sint-Andries	Van Haecke	TAA	Andries	●	●	●			
07-10	Heauton Timoroumenos	Terentius	KJT	Schillemans	●	●			●	
07-06	Reynaert de Vos	De Mont	Brasschaat	Schillemans	●	●				●
1987 02-10	Frankenstein	Leyers	KJT	Schillemans	●					
14-05	Lili en Marleen	Van De Velde	RVT	Van De Velde	●					
29-04	Bij Rubens thuis (tot 22-05)	Verbist	KJT	De Bie						advies & acteur
08-04	Schatteneiland	Shaper & Ornadell	KJT	Verbist	●	●				
1986 -11	Richard III *	Shakespeare	B.G. A'dam	Schillemans	-					
14-06	Richard III *	Shakespeare	RVT	Schillemans	●					
18-03	Bij Rubens thuis (tot 21-11) (* scenografie PQ'87)	Verbist	KJT	De Bie						advies & acteur
1985 04-12	De Beer en de Pasja *	Scribe	KJT	Schillemans	●	●				●
16-01	Assepoester (* scenografie & kostuum PQ'87)	Schwartz	KJT	Schillemans	●	●				
1984 01-12	De Bezetenen *	Camus	Antigoon	Schillemans	●	●				
13-01	Andréa Chénier (* prijs scenografie Antwerpen en scenografie PQ'87)	Giordano	Opera Gent	Roos					●	

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1983 28-12	Cavalleria Rusticana	Mascagni	Opera Antw.	Dua					●	
21-05	De Vrede	Aristofanes	KNS	Tillemans					●	
12-05	In den aap gelogeed	De Ridder	EAT	De Ridder	●					
25-02	102.8	Vander Veken	KJT	Schillemans	●					
21-01	Het hangt in de lucht	Koeck	KJT	Schillemans	●	●				
1982 15-12	In 80 dagen rond de wereld *	Kohout	KJT	Kraus	●	●				
02-12	Man is man **	Brecht	B.G. A'dam	Schillemans	-	-		-		
08-10	Man is man **	Brecht	Meirtheater	Schillemans	●	●		●		
12-05	Als ik de lotto win ...	De Ridder	EAT	De Ridder	●					
23-01	Uitgerangeerd ***	Geiffrig	KJT	Schillemans	●	●			●	●
	(* kostuumontwerp Novi Sad '84 - ** scenografie Novi Sad '84 - *** scenografie PQ'83)									
1981 15-12	Œdipus *	Claus	Antigoon	Schillemans	●	●			●	●
22-04	De superstunt van Mr. Soeps	Nöstlinger	KJT	Verbist	●	●				
	(* prijs scenografie Antwerpen & scenografie Novi Sad '84)									
1980 15-12	Rashomon *	Kanin	Antigoon	Schillemans	●	●		●		
18-09	Tijl Uilenspiegel	De Coster	KNS	Tillemans					●	
	Otello	Verdi	Opera Antw.						●	
19-03	Tosca	Pucini	Opera Antw.						●	
	(* prijs scenografie Antwerpen)									
1979 -11	jubilee KGV (sportpaleis Antwerpen)	Schillemans	KGV	Schillemans	●					●
08-10	Masque of separation	Alcantara	KBVV	Cohan					●	●
22-01	Die Fledermaus	Strauss	Opera Antw.						●	
1978 29-11	Kuifje en het geheim v/d Zwarte Rotsen - Case		KJT	De Bie	●	●		●		
29-09	Alkistes		Opera Antw.						●	
10-05	Roodkapje	De Ridder	KJT	Verbist	●	●				
27-01	Bij Rubens thuis (tot 31-05)	Verbist	KJT	Verbist						advies & acteur
1977 21-12	Kuifje in Amerika	Case	KJT	De Bie	●	●				
12-10	Een bloem op je hoed	Lievensprijs	KJT	Dillen	●	●		●		
08-08	Pietro Paolo uit Antwerpen	Verbist	KJT	Verbist						rekvisieten en tech. advies
23-03	Veel leven om niets	Shakespeare	KNS	De Gruyter					●	
26-01	Orfeo	Monteverdi	Opera Antw.	Corens					●	
1976 01-12	Ali Baba en de 40 rovers	Taube	KJT	Dillen	●	●				
20-10	Het ei van de schatervogel	Lievensprijs	KJT	Dillen	●	●				
21-04	De Bremer Stadsmuzikanten	De Ridder	KJT	De Bie	●	●				●
1975 06-08	De Clowns	workshop	KJT	Verbist	●					
07-05	Drie kleine zwijntjes	Van Marke	KJT	Dillen	●	●				●
1974 18-12	Circus Olalaho	Wunderlich	KJT	Verbist	●					
13-02	Help, ik ben nog een kind!	Sotnik	KJT	De Bie	●					
23-01	Wie vindt, wint!	Kaputt	KJT	Dillen	●				●	
1967	Lieven Gevaert (film)	Kuypers	BRT	Kuypers						assistent art director
1966	Adieu Philipi (film)	Ghysels	Min. v. Cultuur	Kuypers						assistent art director