

AMOUR FOU

a avantgarde-chanson show between music, literature, machine learning and theater



I will lick over your face, sleep with your best friend, caress your amygdala, sew myself a dress out of your beard, want to drink you, love you, strangle you.

Moments of impetuous lust, raging jealousy, overflowing love, grueling doubt, dramatic world-weariness, energetic rage or dull loneliness.

A curious look into the secrets of strangers!

The award-winning show AMOUR FOU by [Scharmien Zandi](#) (Austrian Music Theater Award 2020), meets texts by anonymous authors, performed by [Sarah Scherer](#) and visualized via Machine Learning by [s.myselle](#).

Through the electrifying sound fields of Chanson, Oriental and Experimental, the songs and lyrics depict the weirdness of lust and love, and include social issues such as equality, freedom, individuality, racism and sexism. In exploring these sensitive topics, the artists find themselves simultaneously defending, judging, and executing. The perspectives are full of humor, melancholy, criticism and irony.



Scharmien Zandi is a freelance artist in the field of music, performing arts and multimedia. Her works and participation include music, music-theater, theater, film, text, audio and video installations and have been presented in China (Beijing, Tianjin), Europe (Austria, Germany, Portugal) and the USA (NYC). In 2020 she was awarded the Austrian Music Theater Prize for "*Amour Fou*". In the field of experimental music theater she deals with the form of Opernperformance and presented in 2021 with "*Dione - All Elements*" a world premiere, which represents an innovation within contemporary stage works. Since 2022 she has been a director at the Musiktheater an der Wien for the Opernperformance "*SuperZero, Baby*" and in the same year received the BMKÖS Start Scholarship for Music and Performing Arts. She is invited to present AMOUR FOU for the first time at the Austrian Cultural Forum in the U.S. www.scharmienzandi.com/



Sarah Scherer works as a director, actress and video artist for opera, theatre and film - constantly evolving between lights and shadows. During her artistic career, she stood both in front of and behind the camera and stage for several short- & feature films, theatre-productions, she directed and wrote short films, music videos, commercials and works as a professional speaker for documentaries, commercials and over dubbing. As a director for opera and theatre she worked for well known institutions such as *Bayerische Staatsoper* in Munich, *Theater an der Wien* in Vienna, at international festivals and the independent scene. As a videoartist she worked for *Salzburger Festspiele*, *Händel Festspiele Halle*, *Freies Theater Bozen* and Podium Esslingen. Her movies have been awarded at international festivals. www.sarah-scherer.com



Stephanie Meisl is a multimedia and visual artist. Her work has been presented in Paris, Copenhagen and at the Salzburg Festival, among others. She is the winner of the Salzburg VJ Lab Award and a member of the Schmiede art festival, which was awarded the Austrian Art Prize in 2016. For 2021 she has received the annual scholarship for media art of the city of Salzburg. With the artist figure s.myselle, Stephanie Meisl interprets humans as humanoid intelligence whose data set (information archive) consists of personal experiences and adventures. Her preference for past art movements, artists and thinkers inspires the resulting new works. By looking into the past, she tries to reshape the future and finds herself in a new digital avant-garde. www.myselle.com / www.davantgarde.xyz