Franz West is dead. What remains is a reinforcing bar with a chewed up ball of paper. In a time that knows no time, when the man goes his ideas go too. Future generations will no longer be aware of West. This brilliant man was very much aware of this. When, shortly before his death, he came to see one of Grace’s performances in Vienna, he said to her that she received applause and was recognised and appreciated while he was languishing away. Grace told him he was acting like an old curmudgeon. He didn’t find it funny. West’s work brought him as much recognition as is possible, and yet there was still that bitterness. Why is that bitterness there? He had long reconciled himself to his illness. So is it because the art market is the only place where artists have to spend time against their will in order to survive?

Mike Kelley is dead. He committed suicide at the peak of his recognition. It was for lack of love, they say. The tiresome, transient art market does not admit love. Nor history either. Great artists should know that. Sometimes great artists too are just fools.

The 25th Needcompany season is at an end. Over those twenty-five years the world has become a lot duller. And smaller. Everyone talks about the same things. Everyone is afraid of the same things. Everyone sees the same things. Art is like politics is like economics is like religion is like… whatever you like. It no longer matters whether one thinks left or right or is a believer or an atheist. In the Netherlands, the people who hate Islam are the same ones who take pleasure in closing down one art venue after another. In Turkey it’s the Muslims who do that. Close all the civic theatres in one go because they are too Western. So the world is getting smaller.

Hiwa K, the Iraqi artist, walks around playing Once Upon a Time in the West on his harmonica while throwing himself into the revolution. In the video, which can be seen at the Palais de Tokyo, the best art venue in the world, the serious street artist is flanked by people with their faces smashed in, lemon juice in their eyes, changing their world. An artist doesn’t change the world, but he does have to make sure he witnesses it. Then emotion and love come naturally. And sometimes it turns into art. Whether we like it or not.
[MARKETPLACE 76]
Jan Lauwers
With: Grace Ellen Barkey, Anneke Bonnema, Hans Petter Dahl, Julieta Faure, Yumiko Funaya, Bennet Gab, Song Iin Hee, Roma Louise Lauwers, Emmanuel Schwartz, Maarten Seghers, Catherine Travelliet, Jan Lauwers, Elke Janoms
Production: Needcompany / Coproduction: Ruhrtrieste (Bochum), Burgtheater (Vienna) and Holland Festival (Rotterdam)
World premieres
7, 8, 13, 14, 15 September 2012 Ruhrtrieste, Jährdsdeelái, Bochum +49 703 02 24 36 36
4, 5, 6, 7, 8 October 2012 Kaaithéater, Brussels +32 16 320 300
Belgian premiere
12 October 2012 Cuvilliertheater, Bruges +32 70 22 33 02
24, 25, 26, 27 October 2012 Kaaitheater, Brussels +32 2 201 59 59
23, 24 November 2012 Teatro Central, Seville +34 951 037 200

[THE ART OF ENTERTAINMENT]
NEEDCOMPANY/THESCHOOL OF DIVERSE SERVICES
Jan Lauwers
With: Grace Ellen Barkey, Misha Downey, Julieta Faure, Yumiko Funaya, Bennet Gab, Viviane De Moorck, Dirk Rouffaert, Inge Van Bogaert
(Replaces Elsrentte Valme)
Production: Needcompany / Burgtheater (Vienna)
22 September 2012 De Maraiso, Turnhout +32 4 41 69 69
French premiere
16, 17, 18, 19 October 2012 La Rose des Vents, Villeneuve d’Ascq +33 3 20 61 96 96
22 September 2012 De Maraiso, Turnhout +32 4 41 69 69
French premiere
14, 15 December 2012 Kaaithéater, Brussels +32 2 201 59 59
23, 24 November 2012 Teatro Central, Seville +34 951 037 200

[CALIGULÀ]
Jan Lauwers
With: Anneke Bonnema, Hans Petter Dahl, Nicolas Field, Maria Happei, André Meyer, Cornelius Osb Type, Falk Rosebroch, Henan Schneidt
Production: Burgtheater (Vienna) / in collaboration with Needcompany
18, 20, 21 September 2012 Kaaithéater, Brussels +31 51 444 41 41

[ANALYSIS - THE WHOLE SONG]
MaisonDahlBonnema
With: Anna Sophia Bonnema and Hans Petter Dahl
Production: MaisonDahlBonnema & Needcompany & Ruhrtrieste (Bochum), Burgtheater (Vienna) and Holland Festival (Rotterdam)
14 September - 13 October 2012 Le Kamio, Brussels +32 16 60 86 86

[UNLOCKED]
Group exhibition with work by Lemm&Lemm
14 September - 13 October 2012 Loketannaal, Brussels +31 20 776 68 68

[MARKETPLACE 76]
Jan Lauwers
With: Grace Ellen Barkey, Anneke Bonnema, Hans Petter Dahl, Julieta Faure, Yumiko Funaya, Bennet Gab, Song Iin Hee, Roma Louise Lauwers, Emmanuel Schwartz, Maarten Seghers, Catherine Travelliet, Jan Lauwers, Elke Janoms
Production: Needcompany / Coproduction: Ruhrtrieste (Bochum), Burgtheater (Vienna) and Holland Festival (Rotterdam)
World premieres
7, 8, 13, 14, 15 September 2012 Ruhrtrieste, Jährdsdeelái, Bochum +49 703 02 24 36 36
4, 5, 6, 7, 8 October 2012 Kaaithéater, Brussels +32 16 320 300
Belgian premiere
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24, 25, 26, 27 October 2012 Kaaitheater, Brussels +32 2 201 59 59
23, 24 November 2012 Teatro Central, Seville +34 951 037 200

[THE NEXT FEW MONTHS AT NEEDCOMPANY]
We are starting off the new season with the world premieres of Marketplace 76, the latest production by Jan Lauwers and Needcompany, at the Ruhrtrieste. It is a kaleidoscopic epic tale comprising four seasons and offers a meditative report on a number of villagers who have been overaken and forced forward by time, and who in spite of everything are able to survive, though not always heroically. Market- place 76 retraceis such dark themes as mourning and sorrow, incest and reconciliation such dark themes though not always heroically. Spite of everything are able to survive, though not always heroically.

For its tumblieald series, the Ruhrtrieste will be bringing together the German theatre academic Hans-Thies Lehmann and Jan Lauwers for a conversation on Marketplace 76.

The componies Rombout Willems, Maarten Seghers and Hans Petter Dahl have written music for Jan Lauwers’ lyrics. The CD Marketplace 76 is is ed in association with Studio Luc Derycke’s MER.

The CD Sad Face / Happy Face, with the songs from Isabella’s room, the Lobster Shop and The Deer House will also be reissued and will also be available as an online edition at the Needcompany website.

In early October there will be five performances of Marketplace 76 at the Kasino / Burgtheater in Vienna. The Belgian premiere series begins at the Cuvilliertheater in Brugge on 22 Oc tober and then the production moves to the Kaaitheater in Brussels. In No vember it travels to the Teatro Central in Seville. From March 2013 it will be performed at several more European venues.

The Art of Entertainment will go on in Turnhout and Aalst at the beginning of the season and in October has its French premiere at La Rose des Vents in Villeneuve d’Ascq. This is followed by Bruges and Leuven in January.

This piece contains reflecti ons on a thic reality that we find ourselves faced with. They are possible self-portraits in a parallel world. That doesn’t make it an agreeable world. It is coloured by what Lacan called ‘le raeil’: a situation in which all the familiar contexts by which we understand things have disappeared. War situations are one example.” – Hans Petter Dahl in De Morgen

In December MaisonDahlBonnema will be performing the final part of their opera trilogy – Analysis – The Whole Song, at De Brakke Grond in Amsterdam. This production combines live singing with a 50-minute animation film projected behind the performers. Anna Sophia Bonnema and Hans Petter Dahl engage in dialogue with the film through their alter egos and the songs from Sad Face | Happy Face, with the songs from Isabella’s room, the Lobster Shop and The Deer House will also be reissued and will also be available as an online edition at the Needcompany website.

In May 2012 twenty theatre experts contributed to the German art magazine magazine. They proclaimed Viviane De Moorck’s play La Poursuite du Vent (2006), directed by Jan Lauwers, as one of the best productions of the last decade.

I WANT (NO) REALITY
A film by Anne Brzezska
Productions: Yeti Films / Coproduction: Needcompany
19 August 2012

TRANSLATIYaN – Poznan International Film and Music Festival
Mattioni St, Poznan, Poland