

Sjaron Minailo

Director, Designer, Visual Artist, Performer

Minailo created a spectacle with French elegance, keeping balanced proportions between music, word and movement. Thus, he proved that it is possible to build a bridge connecting the past and centuries-old tradition with a contemporary interpretation. This harmonious performance, created with respect for the music is a tribute to the history and style of French baroque opera. It is exactly the golden mean: unobtrusive perception, not transposed, reflecting the artistic values of the work
Agnieszka Lakner, Magiczny Kraków, Hippolyte et Aricie, Opera Rara, Kraków

Sjaron Minailo is an Israeli opera director and performer living and working in Amsterdam. He is the artistic director of Studio Minailo, a laboratory for experimental music theatre and opera. Minailo is specialized in highly visual site-specific opera performances that break the boundaries of the traditional opera space and experience.

His work is often a reaction to or reflection on social and political developments and aesthetic transformation of cultures. Alongside classical and contemporary repertoire he is also known for new creations based on compositions that were not necessarily created to be staged and new collaborations with living composers. Minailo is the director of numerous multi-disciplinary projects, including the white cube opera trilogy *Pornographia-Megalomania-Nostalgia*; his adaptation of Malevich's opera *Victory Over the Sun* for the Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam; his ongoing installation *Rothko Chapel* based on the compositions of Morton Feldman and his digital work *The Transmigration of Morton F.* commissioned by the Holland Festival and La Monnaie, Brussels; *Before Present*, a collaboration with Dutch National Opera and Amsterdam Dance and *Nightshade: Aubergine* with Claron McFadden for Muziektheater Transparant, an exploration of the common roots of various cultures, focussing on one of the most iconoclastic ingredients in the culinary scene, the aubergine.

He has worked with orchestras such as Asko/Schönberg Ensemble, Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra, Residentie Orkest, Capella Cracoviensis and Cappella Mediterranea and has been featured yearly at the opera festival Operadagen Rotterdam since 2008.

In previous seasons Minailo created and directed the new opera *Medúlla* based on the album with the same title by Björk at La Monnaie in Brussels; a location performance based on Morton Feldman's *Three Voices* for Joan La Barbara (ENOA, La Monnaie, Nuit Blanche Brussels); the opera *To Be Sung* by Pascal Dusapin (La Monnaie), Händel's *Semele* for Operadagen Rotterdam, Rameau's *Hippolyte et Aricie* for Opera Rara, Kraków, *Future Opera* for Bergen National Opera and *Die Zauberflöte* for Teatr Wielki, Poznań, among others. Future plans include returns to Bergen National Opera, Dutch National Opera, Muziektheater Transparant, Opera Rara, Kraków, and various international debuts.

Minailo received the Fast Forward prize from the Dutch Performing Arts fund and is the beneficiary of numerous grants. He was shortlisted in the 'Young Director' category at the 2016 International Opera Awards for his productions *Medúlla* and *To Be Sung* at La Monnaie, Brussels.