

Biography: Marijn de Langen

Marijn de Langen, PhD, is a postdoctoral researcher at Amsterdam University of the Arts (AHK), the coordinator of the Embodied Knowledge in Theatre and Dance (EKTD) research group at the Academy of Theatre and Dance (ATD) – and a theory teacher at the ATD's Mime Bachelor's degree study programme. In 2001 she gained a first-class degree in Theatre Studies from the University of Amsterdam. Since graduation, De Langen has worked as a teacher and researcher at the following art academies and universities: Amsterdam University of the Arts, ArtEZ University of the Arts, Utrecht University of the Arts, the University of Amsterdam, Utrecht University, and University College Utrecht.

Marijn de Langen has held the position of theory teacher at the ATD's Mime Bachelor's degree study programme since 2002, and since 2003 has been working concurrently on her extensive historical and theoretical research into mime in the Netherlands. The AHK funded this research from 2007 to 2011 by means of a four-year 'voucher' to conduct doctoral research, with a further year of funding in 2012 from the Art Practice and Development research group headed by Prof Marijke Hoogenboom. De Langen has been a member of various research groups at the AHK, including the ARTI (Artistic Research, Theory & Innovation) research group headed by Prof Henk Borgdorff, and the theory/dramaturgy platform for teachers.

Academic research conducted by Marijn de Langen has resulted in several publications and seminars. Her articles have been published in the theatre journals *Theater Der Zeit*, *Theater Topics*, *Etcetera* and *Theatermaker*, and she organised the following seminars at the ATD: *Mime Think Tank* (2008), *Mime Memory Boom* (2011), *There is a Discussion* (2014/2015) and *Decroux Café* (2019). On 11 October 2017 she successfully defended her doctoral thesis *Mime Thinking: Dutch Mime as a Mode of Thought in and through Theatre Practice* (Mime Thinking: Dutch Mime as a Mode of Thought in and through Theatre Practice, Utrecht University, Faculty of Humanities, Media and Culture Studies department, PhD supervisor: Maaïke Bleeker). Click here for the [Dutch](#) and [English](#) summaries of this thesis. Preparations are ongoing for the publication of a richly illustrated version of the thesis, in Dutch and English language versions. Publication has been made possible in part by the ATD's Educational Development Fund. Publication of the book is planned for the end of 2020.

From 2012 to 2019, Marijn de Langen was a curriculum developer, teacher and research coach on the staff of the [Theory and Research Honours Programme](#), an English language research programme at ArtEZ University of the Arts (Arnhem, Eindhoven, Zwolle) that mentors a multidisciplinary group of BA students conducting multidisciplinary artistic research. Together with Prof Peter Sonderen from ArtEZ, De Langen initiated, authored and edited ArtEZ [Theory//Arts//Practices \(2017\)](#). She has also taught at the following universities: University of Amsterdam (Theatre Studies BA, 2004-2008), Utrecht University (Media and Culture BA, 2009 and 2016), and Utrecht University College (2017).

De Langen was an independent practising dramaturge from 2006 to 2012. In 2002 she graduated from Studio ST&M's part-time cabaret training in Amsterdam, and from 1995 to 2005 she was a performing cabaret artiste and singer-songwriter.

For a two-year period starting on 1 September 2019, Marijn de Langen will conduct postdoctoral research at the ATD and DAS Research. The title of her research project is: *The Past Bubbles around Us: Mime Archives in the Public Domain*. This research was made possible by funding from the [Social Infrastructure Agenda](#) (SIA, an initiative of NWO, the Dutch Research Council). For further details on this postdoctoral research, click [here](#).

Publications

- 2017 *Mime Denken, Nederlandse mime als manier van denken in en door de theaterpraktijk*. PhD Thesis (Utrecht University, Faculty of Humanities, Media and Culture Studies).
- 2017 *Theory // Art // Practices*. Marijn de Langen and Peter Sonderen, eds. Arnhem: ArtEZ Press
- 2017 'Turning, Turning. Theory is Movement' in *Theory // Art // Practices*. Marijn de Langen and Peter Sonderen, eds. Arnhem: ArtEZ Press, 157-180.
- 2016 *Het is / It is: Negen ontmoetingen tussen theatermakers*. Compiler and editor. Amsterdam: de Nieuwe Toneelbibliotheek.
- 2015 'Nul, nuller, nulst: Decroux' vele manieren van beginnen.' In: *Theatermaker* vol. 19, no. 2, April/May: 31-34.
- 2015 'Mime in Nederland. Les Enfants (terribles) du paradis.' In: *ETCETERA* vol. 33, no. 140, March, 26-31.
- 2015 'Werken met je bast. In Memoriam Will Spoor 1927-2014.' In: *Theatermaker* vol. 19, no. 1, February/March, 78.
- 2009 *Het is / It is: Negen ontmoetingen tussen theatermakers. RTRSRCH* vol.1, no.2, October. ARTI research group, Amsterdam University of the Arts.
- 2009 'Wir nennen es 'Mime' in *Go West: theater in Flandern und die Niederlanden*, herausgegeben von Alexandra Koch und Jörg Vorhaben, Berlin: Verlag Theater der Zeit, 85-95.
- 2005 'Mime: de ontwikkeling van een unieke Nederlandse theatervorm' in *Theater Topics 1: Multicultureel drama?* Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, 127-129.
- 2001 'Geräuschmacher, Klangkünstler und Musikarchitekten: das komponierte theater im Experiment.' In: *Theater der Zeit*, no. 9, 32-33.

Symposiums, seminars and paper presentations

- 2019 Initiator and organiser of Decroux Café (15-18 January 2019), a series of gatherings at which live interviews were conducted with three former pupils of Etienne Decroux (Frits Vogels, Geraldine Brans, Luc Boyer) on the subject of their embodied knowledge. DAS Research and the Mime Bachelor's degree study programme (ATD, AHK).
- 2018 Moderator of Dag van de Mime ('Dutch mime day') at Theater de Meervaart, a collaboration with the theatre companies Schweigman&, Jakop Ahlbom Company, and Golden Palace.
- 2018 Co-organiser of the two-day Fundamental Creativity seminar in collaboration with Marijke Cobbenhagen; the Grey Space in the Middle; the Mime Bachelor's degree study programme (ATD, AHK); Delft University of Technology; Sandberg Institute; Image in Context research group headed by Prof Anke Coumans at Minerva Academy; Hanze University of Applied Sciences, Groningen.
- 2014-2015 Initiator and organiser of There is a Discussion, a seminar series on the theme of the embodied knowledge of theatre practice. Mime study programme (ATD, AHK).
- 2011 Organiser of the Mime Memory Boom symposium on the memory of theatre practice. Mime Bachelor's degree study programme, (ATD, AHK).
- 2009 Organiser of the two-week 'Het is / It is: Gesprekken met Makers' ('Talks with practitioners') event. In what ways do theatre practitioners and performers reflect on the body? A collaboration with Mime Bachelor's degree study programme (ATD (formerly De Theaterschool), AHK), ARTI research group, DasArts.
- 2009 Presentation of paper titled 'Dutch Landscape Theatre' at the Living Landscapes conference, University of Aberysthwyth.
- 2009 Presentation of paper titled 'Performing Neutrality' at the Performing Presence conference, University of Exeter.
- 2008 Organisation and moderation of the two-day Mime-Denktank nr. 1 ('Mime think tank no. 1') symposium. Transgenerational exchange on thinking within theatre practice. Mime Bachelor's degree study programme (ATD, AHK). The collaboration with the Theatre Studies Department at the University of Amsterdam.



Marijn de Langen (r.) in conversation with Jonas Staal and Rob Schröder