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Ellen de Ruiter

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About 5D

The aim of 5D is to achieve that people with a (in)visible disability can take part in the cultural sector as an actor or in a position behind the scenes. Therefore 5D produces several artistic theatre plays independently or in coproduction with mainstream theatre companies.

Disabled actors play next to actors without disabilities. Besides plays 5D develops art installations with a theatrical encounter with the public. The installations can be easily programmed at indoors and outdoors festivals.

Wrap around work:

- 5D organizes theatre courses to beginners and more experienced actors with disabilities;
- 5D presents theatre workshops to a mixed group;
- 5D gives workshops to companies on inclusive participation in the work environment;
- 5D creates work placements where young people with a (in)visible disability are able to gain experience in communications and marketing, theatre production or office management;
- 5D advises cultural festivals on the area of accessibility.

Production information

Art installations: Voelboxen, Vertaalslager and Sound Wheelies. Actors or 5D employees accompany all the installations and the purpose is to interact with the public individually. 'Semtex' is a short solo performance by 5D actor Eric Heijmans, especially produced for cultural festivals. Eric is powerful, strong and spastic.

Quotes and testimonials

"The work of 5D is inspiring, it's great to see their passion in making theatre accessible."

"5D plays enriches the Dutch cultural sector, it can be marked as an example to those theatre companies who don't pay attention to disabled actors."

"Attending a 5D stage fight workshop is besides a lot of fun also a motivation for me to believe in my personal growth. I'm an actor, and yes I'm spastic. 5D gave me the possibility to play in several productions and to produce a solo this year."