

Gaea Schoeters (°1976)

Is a very versatile Belgian author, (screen)writer and librettist. She writes all sorts of texts, from novels, children's books and filmscripts to (music)theatre and opera. Her work is situated between formal experiment and social engagement, and she has a fondness for dialogue with the canon. Interdisciplinary co-creation and music are a key elements in her theatrical work. Her most recent novel, *Trofee*, was shortlisted for various prizes. During her long-term collaboration with composer Annelies Van Parys they worked together on the operas *Private View* and *Usher*, the music theatre pieces *Lost & Found*, *An Archive of Love*, *Het Kanaal* and *Holle Haven*, and other pieces like *Ah, cette fable*, *Shell Shock* and *Medea*. Her work has been performed at venues such as Staatsoper Unter den Linden, Folkoperan Stockholm, Opera Ballet Vlaanderen, Deutsche Oper, Operadagen Rotterdam, Armel Festival Budapest, Concertgebouw Brugge and Theater aan Zee. She also frequently writes columns and essays for various newspapers and magazines.

Internet adress:

www.gaeaschoeters.be

www.facebook.com/gaea.schoeters.3/

www.instagram.com/gaeaschoeters/

Press/English comments on recent works:

On Usher

<https://www.gaeaschoeters.be/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/USHER-FINATIMES.pdf>

<https://www.gaeaschoeters.be/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/usher-tagesspiegel.pdf>

<https://van-magazin.de/mag/annelies-van-parys/>

On Niets / Het Kanaal / Trofee

<https://www.flandersliterature.be/books-and-authors/book/nothing>

<https://www.flandersliterature.be/books-and-authors/book/the-channel>

<https://www.flandersliterature.be/books-and-authors/book/trophy>



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STAGE

THEATRE/OPERA

Paradise – TRANSLATOR – theatre project with text of Kae Tempest commissioned by De Roovers – 2025

Sterf! – AUTHOR – music theatre piece with composers Annelies Van Parys & Wim Henderickx commissioned by Hermes Ensemble & Muziektheater Transparant – (postponed)

I need a break! – LIBRETTIST – semi-staged performance with composer Annelies Van Parys commissioned by Symfonieorkest Vlaanderen – 2024

Cassandra – LIBRETTIST – opera with composer Annelies Van Parys commissioned by B Rock & Blindman – 2024

Dieu et moi – LIBRETTIST – chamber opera with composer Annelies Van Parys commissioned by Jönköpings Sinfonietta, Muziektheater Transparant and Opera Ballet Vlaanderen – 2024

Oh, la mort – LIBRETTIST & DRAMATURGE – semi-staged performance commissioned by Sereni – 2023

Notwehr – LIBRETTIST – music theatre performance with componist Annelies Van Parys commissioned by Biënnale di Venezia, co-produced by Studio Minailo & Hermes Ensemble – 2022

Bad Composers – AUTHOR – series of theatrical interventions for Bijloke Ghent, 2022

Boze bejaarden – AUTHOR/LIBRETTIST – radioplay & performance (based on retexted operettas mixed with new music) with co-author Annelies Verbeke for Volksopera, Hermes Ensemble & Wunderbaum – 2022

Lost & Found – LIBRETTIST – opera (written live in trainstation) with composer Annelies Van Parys, commissioned by Europalia & Casco Phil, co-produced by IOA, Opera Vlaanderen & Muziektheater Transparant, 2022

They have waited long enough – LIBRETTIST – songcycle for composers Annelies Van Parys, Calliope Tsoupaki & Aftab Darvishi commissioned by Lunalia, Antwerp Liedfest en Wonderfeel – 2021

(N)jets – AUTHOR & PERFORMER – performance with componist Annelies Van Parys & het Goeyvaerts Trio – 2021

Holle Haven – LIBRETTIST & PERFORMER – music theatre performance (co-created) with pianist Lies Colman, mezzo Els Mondelaers & composer Annelies Van Parys & photographer Seb Van Mallegem – 2020/21

Eva – LIBRETTIST – spoken opera based on Eva van Carry Van Bruggen with Sjaron Minailo for podcast (8 x 35') – 2020

Adieu – CURATOR – poetryconcerts in collaboration with 123Piano/Poëziecentrum/Vonk&Zonen – 2020

Fragment 39 – AUTEUR – songcycle for ensemble Bel Ayre – 2020

Antigone in Molenbeek / Tiresias – TRANSLATOR – music theatre project with texts of Stefan Hertmans & Kate Tempest and music by Dmitri Sjostakovitsj commissioned by Toneelhuis – 2020

Dead Ladies Show – CURATOR & PERFORMER – café chantant for Passaporta – 2019/...

Dead Ladies Song – LIBRETTO – song for componiser Annelies Van Parys – 2019

Merci – AUTHOR – monologue commissioned by Monty Kultuurfactorij – 2019

Shell Shock – LIBRETTIST – choir piece for composer Annelies Van Parys commissioned by Accentus (FR) - 2018

Usher – LIBRETTIST – opera for composer Annelies Van Parys i.o.v. Staatsoper Berlin, Folkoperan Stockholm, Opera Vlaanderen & Théâtre Nanterre-Amandiers – 2018/19/20/21 - nominated for Opera Awards 2019

An Archive of Love – LIBRETTIST & DRAMATURGE – music theatre piece for Neue Vocalsolisten Stuttgart / mixed music – Operadagen Rotterdam & Sommer in Stuttgart – 2018

Heimat – AUTHOR – theatre text for Het Schrijversgevang, Monty A'pen, played by Het Barre Land, 2017

Schaduwtrein – DRAMATURGE & AUTHOR – theatre project with Trui Hanouille and Neal Lewis: a project with young refugees and Belgian teenagers, Nest Gent, 2017

Het Kanaal – AUTHOR – music theatre piece with composer Annelies Van Parys, commissioned by Queer Arts Festival & Muziektheater Transparant – 2017 (translated in English, French, German)

Ah, cette Fable – AUTHOR – songcycle with composer Annelies Van Parys for Concertgebouw Brugge – 2017 (translated in Dutch, French, German, English)

Private View – SCRIPTWRITER /DRAMATURGE – opera for composer Annelies Van Parys commissioned by Transparant/Opera Vlaanderen/Deutsche Oper Berlin – 2014/15 & 2021 — Fedora Prize 2014

PRINT

NOVELS

Trophäe – 2023, novel, Zsolnay Verlag

(N)iets – 2021, illustrated (children's book) with music, uitgeverij De Eenhoorn, with Gerda Dendooven & Annelies Van Parys, ISBN 9789462915411 (translated in Italian, French, German)

Trofee – 2020, novel, uitgeverij Querido, ISBN: 9789021402826

Tiresias – 2020, poetry translation (Hold your Own / Kate Tempest), Poëziecentrum, with Johanna Pas, ISBN 978 90 5655 398 2

Het Einde – 2020, non-fiction, uitgeverij Polis, with Katrien Steyaert, ISBN: 978 94 6310 521 7

Zonder titel #1 – 2018, novel, uitgeverij Querido, ISBN: 9789021402826

Meisjes, Moslims & Motoren – non-fiction, 2018, Querido Fosfor, ISBN: 978 90 2140 960 3

Het Kanaal – Schoeters & Shakespeare, theatre text 2017, uitgeverij Kartonnen Dozen, ISBN: 978 94 9095 222 8

Marcel – 2017, children's story, Hikkies-series, vzw Caleidoscopia / Literature Flanders

De kunst van het vallen - 2014, novel, uitgeverij De Bezige Bij, ISBN: 9789085424048

Diggers - 2011, novel, uitgeverij Manteau, ISBN: 978 90 2232 621 3

Meisjes, Moslims & Motoren – non-fiction, 2008, uitgeverij Roularta, ISBN 978 90 8679 127 9

Short stories, poetry, columns & essays

FILM/TV/RADIO

Hasse – SCRIPTWRITER – filmadaptation of Hasse Simonsdochter (Thea Beckman) — Bulletproofcupid — 2024

Holle Haven – CONCEPT – film (45') with photographer Sébastien Van Mallegem – 2021

Various podcasts about Gertrud Stein, Paul Van Ostaijen, etc

Various scripts for TV-series in writers' room & alone

AWARDS

Sabam for Culture Literatuurprijs – 2021 — for the novel Trofee

Shortlist Confituurprijs – 2021 — for the novel Trofee

Shortlist Vrij Nederland Thrillerprijs – 2021 — for the novel Trofee

Longlist Boekenbonprijs – 2021 — for the novel Trofee

Longlist BOON Literatuurprijs – 2021 — for the novel Trofee

Shortlist Cutting Edge Awards – 2019 — for the novel Zonder Titel #1

Nominee International Opera Awards – 2019 — for the opera Usher

Fedora/Rolf-Liebermannprijs – 2014 – for the opera Private View

Grote Prijs Jan Wauters (VRT) – 2012 – for virtuous language

Longlist Gouden Strop – 2012 – for the novel Diggers

Residencies in Literarisches Colloquium Berlin, Academia Belgica Rome, Lijsternest, ...

MASTERCLASSES

Slow Writing Lab – COACH – writing project of Literatuur Vlaanderen / Nederlands Letterenfonds — 2022

The Theatre of Words set to Music – LIBRETTOCOACH & SUPERVISOR – PhD-project of composer Lars Skoglund, incl. 4 productions (an opera, a music theatre piece, a radio play and a song cycle) — 2019/2021

Masterclass libretto (Private View) — International Opera Academy, Gent — 2020

RITCS school of arts – GUESTPROFESSOR & COACH – (masterprojects) creative writing — 2019

Future Opera (Masterclass libretto for young composers) – LIBRETTOCOACH – for Bergen Nasjonal Opera, with composer Annelies Van Parys and director Sjaron Minailo – Borealis Festival Bergen, 2018

Gastdocent Interdisciplinary co-creation — Conservatorium Antwerpen, research project with Lies Colman e.a., 2020/21

Interdisciplinary co-creation — Conservatorium Brussel, research project with Annelies Van Parys, 2020/21