

**HABEMUS  
PAPAM**



# BEFORE THE END

by **Catherine Graindorge**

Artistic dossier

BEFORE THE END

## An autobiographical project that blends the personal and sound worlds of Catherine Graindorge

On the 19<sup>th</sup> April 2015, Michel Graindorge passed away. The politically committed lawyer and public figure was also the father of the actor and violinist Catherine Graindorge. A man dies, a daughter loses her father.

Catherine Graindorge tells the story of the bond between father and daughter and the loss of what we love. With words, images and music, she goes back to the last fifteen months of her father's life, to their common past but also and even more so, on the traces left by those who are gone.

As a storyteller, she distils emotions, plays with the absurdity of situations, and handles the poetry of images and humour to construct a story that is at once funny, tender and moving.

Catherine Graindorge always uses the reality of situations, events big or small that concern or move her. In this autobiographical project, her artistic approach is intimate; she chooses to perform a solo act, mixing theatre and sound.

Her work as an actor and a musician blends into a storytelling show. She uses both music (with a special care for the spacialization of sound using all of the possibilities of the theatrical space) and well-balanced narrative and theatrical processes to carry the show into her story.

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PREMIERE AT THE THÉÂTRE LES  
TANNEURS  
IN BRUSSELS, BE  
IN JANUARY 2018

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ON TOUR

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### Losing a loved one

The artist's reaction to the loss of her father is at the centre of the story. The script broaches accurately and with humour the issue of the loss of a loved one. Sometimes considered like a difficult subject, death is reset at the centre of life. Catherine Graindorge tenderly observes the absurdity of everyday events and underlines how life goes on. Before he died, her father asked her to do something for him after his death. She chose to write a show, rooted in her grief and soaked in memories and in how to cope with them.

### Confinement

The issue of suppression of freedom whether in prison or in the context of oppression remains at the centre of the show and of Michel Graindorge's political commitment. Son of a prison guard, the lawyer created a committee for the support of inmates in the 1970's. In 1979, he was accused of helping his client, François Besse (Jacques Mesrine's right-hand man), to make a spectacular escape from the Palace of Justice in Brussels. He was put behind bars for 4 months while waiting for his sentence: total acquittal. In the end, while witnessing the last fifteen months of her father's life in hospital, Catherine Graindorge also experienced a different sort of confinement.

## TEAM

<b>Design, Writing and Acting</b>	Catherine Graindorge
<b>Artistic Management</b>	Bernard van Eeghem
<b>Dramatic Art</b>	Jorge León
<b>Music Composition</b>	Catherine Graindorge
<b>Sound Creation</b>	Catherine Graindorge, Joël Grignard
<b>Technical Management and Lighting</b>	Gaëtan van den Berg
<b>Video Creation</b>	Elie Rabinovitch
<b>Costumes</b>	Marie Szersnovicz
<b>Photos</b>	Gregory Navarra
<b>Diffusion</b>	Habemus Papam (Cora-Line Lefèvre & Julien Sigard)

A coproduction of the Théâtre Les Tanneurs (Brussels, BE) and the Théâtre de Namur (BE)  
With the support of the Ministry of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation (Theatre department) and the  
Théâtre des Doms (Avignon, FR)



EXTRACT

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2015 – 4:15pm**

**My father says « I love you ». He is ready. The substance is injected into his body.**

**4:45 pm**

**He's still awake. He says to Alain: « What's happening? Why am I still here? » « Don't worry, Michel, it takes time. » « Alain, I'm counting on you »**

**5pm**

**He's still awake. The chemical doesn't seem to have a strong effect on him. We stroke his arm, his legs, his forehead.**

**Around 5:30, he dozes off but 20 minutes later he opens his eyes and says: « But death isn't coming! » (...)**



## TOUR OFFER

<b>Fee</b>	2.000€
<b>Set up</b>	Day D-1
<b>Minimal technical stage setting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Width : 6 m</li><li>- Depth : 6 m</li><li>- Height under flies : 5 m</li></ul>
<b>Team</b>	3 persons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 1 actor/musician</li><li>- 1 technician</li><li>- 1 tour/distribution manager</li></ul>
<b>Transport</b>	Team travel: train/car/plane (estimate on demand) Stage set travel: van (estimate on demand)
<b>Accommodation</b>	3 single rooms (arrival D-1)
<b>Expenses</b>	Per diem or meal taken directly (3 pers.)
<b>Duration</b>	1 hour
<b>Copyright</b>	SACD, SABAM
<b>Trailer</b>	<a href="https://vimeo.com/311181728">https://vimeo.com/311181728</a>
<b>Video recording</b>	Available on demand



## CONTACT DETAILS

### Artist

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### Technical

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### HABEMUS PAPAM

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