

THE MARTIANS

A THEATRE, MUSIC & DIGITAL ARTS PERFORMANCE FOR ALL AGES

Based on *Ylla - The Martian Chronicles* - by Ray Bradbury

Music composed by **Moritz Eggert**

Adapted and directed by **Laurent Fréchuret** (*Théâtre de l'Incendie*)

Musical Director **Gilles Dumoulin** (*Les Percussions Claviers de Lyon*)

Digital creative design by **Scenocosme - Grégory Lasserre & Anaïs met den Ancxt**

Narrated by Denis O'Hare



North European Tour 2022

MUSICAL DIRECTOR Gilles Dumoulin
gilles.dumoulin@lespcl.com - +33.609.877.194

COMMUNICATIONS & MUSIC PROMOTIONS OFFICER Myriam Boussaboua
myriam.boussaboua@lespcl.com - +33.685.611.323

THE MARTIANS

SUMMARY

Ylla is a Martian who gets bored with her Martian husband. She dreams every night that a strange man coming from the sky whispers into her ear, and wants to take her to his planet for a happier and greater life...

The husband—who catches his wife laughing and talking in her sleep—becomes jealous of this dream. But can you kill a dream before it becomes reality? Because someone is approaching: the first American astronaut heading to the planet Mars...

There are stories that leave their mark on you as a child and do not leave you as an adult. Among these are the Ray Bradbury's *Martian Chronicles* that have never ceased to fascinate.



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Written in 1950, this cult book brings Mars and the Earth into dialogue and in a series of episodes and alien fables, portrays our society, its possibilities, hopes and disasters. It is composed of a humanist song, an appeal for us to open up to each other, to strangers, to the unknown, to the unexpected for today and tomorrow (the action takes place in 2030) in the company of such 'human' Martians. This work which is often tagged as 'science fiction' is in fact closer to a collection of timeless tales, full of visions and poetry, whose inexhaustible strength touches on myth, and obviously on theatre.

The presence of music seemed obvious to me after the meeting with the Percussions Claviers de Lyon. On stage, the five musicians play vibraphones, marimbas and xylophones, which become the vibrant floor of the Martians' house.

The original music written by German composer Moritz Eggert made it possible to bring together dialogue, speech and music, two worlds that face each other but dream of meeting. Digital artists Anaïs Met den Ancxt and Grégory Lasserre designed and produced the interactive animated images of the Martian woman's dreams. This digital device turns out to be a true acting partner for the actors.

Adults and children on planet Earth are invited to immerse themselves in a real extraterrestrial tale with such a 'human' sensitivity. Because today as in the past, Ylla is the hope of the world, a line of escape, an apology for the outstretched hand, a playful manifesto to resist through pleasure...

So, what about the 'strange' stranger: is it a mark of openness or not?

Laurent Fréchuret

PRESS COVERAGE - LA TERRASSE

« Laurent Fréchuret [...] found great partners in giving the musical score composed by Moritz Eggert to the Percussions Claviers de Lyon. Sylvie Aubelle, Renaud Cholewa, Jérémy Daillet, Gilles Dumoulin and Lara Oyedepo perform wonders to create an almost magical universe. »

Catherine Robert (26 November 2019)

La Terrasse - French top-tier media specialized in culture

THE MARTIANS

A theatre, music and digital arts performance for all ages - Total duration: 1h05
Narrated in English, dialogues in French with English subtitles

ARTISTIC TEAM

Actors

Claudine Charreyre, Mychel Lecoq

Les Percussions Claviers de Lyon

Gilles Dumoulin, Sylvie Aubelle, Jérémy Daillet, Renaud Cholewa, Lara Oyedepo

Composer

Moritz Eggert

Narrated by

Denis O'Hare

Adaptation and direction

Laurent Fréchuret

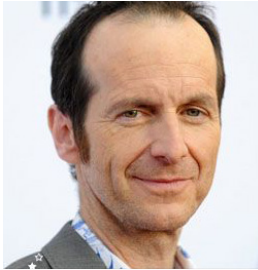
Music Coordinator

Gilles Dumoulin

Interactive digital creation

Scenocosme - Grégory Lasserre et Anaïs met den Ancxt

NARRATION



© All rights reserved

DENIS O'HARE - ACTOR

Denis O'Hare (born in 1962) is an American actor, singer, and author noted for his award-winning performances in the plays *Take Me Out* and *Sweet Charity*, as well as portraying vampire king *Russell Edgington* on HBO's fantasy series *True Blood*. He is also known for his supporting roles in such films as *Charlie Wilson's War*, *Milk*, *Changeling*, and *Dallas Buyers Club*. In 2011, he starred as Larry Harvey in the first season of the FX anthology series *American Horror Story*, for which he was nominated for a Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Miniseries or a Movie in 2012. He returned to the show in 2013, playing Spalding in *American Horror Story: Coven* and once more as Stanley in *American Horror Story: Freak Show*, show which awarded him with a second Primetime Emmy Award nomination. For his performance in *American Horror Story: Hotel* as Liz Taylor, Denis O'Hare received critical acclaim.

« I love this piece, I love the book, I love Ray Bradbury. And I think it hasn't been done as a theatre piece. That's a really crazy idea that this had not been brought to life in this way. »

DENIS O'HARE ABOUT THE MARTIAN CHRONICLES

TEASER AVAILABLE [HERE](#)



THE MARTIANS

« *Je est un autre* »

« *I is someone else* »

Arthur Rimbaud

AROUND THE PERFORMANCE

An interactive installation created by Scenocosme may accompany the presentation of the performance.

Before or after the performance, the audience then personally experiences the device used on stage.

Around the performance, the artists set up practice workshops around the Martian Chronicles including their percussion instruments, and the practice of acting in relation to the music.

These workshops - supervised by the director, one musician and/or one actor - are privileged moments that are open to all audiences in a spirit of sharing and creativity.



LAURENT FRÉCHURET

Laurent Fréchuret founded his theater company Le Théâtre de l'Incendie in 1994. He directed plays by Beckett, Lewis Carroll, Copi, Cioran, Dario Fo, Valletti, Burroughs, Bond, Pasolini, Bernard Noël, Cocteau, Artaud, Genet... As an unrepentant reader, he likes writers who invent words, worlds, and actors who will likely play with stories. From 2004 to 2012, he was appointed Artistic Director of the National Drama Centre in Sartrouville, next to Paris. He staged classics like Shakespeare's *Richard III*, Beckett's *Waiting for Godot*, and contemporary playwrights' production including Blandine Costaz, Werner Schwab, Michel Tremblay and Hervé Blutsch.

LES PERCUSSIONS CLAVIERS DE LYON

Five brilliant musicians and their keyboard percussion instruments, constantly striving for musical excellence since 1983, reach out to their audiences with original performances of pieces from our musical heritage, multidisciplinary shows as well as works by contemporary composers. The result: an eclectic repertoire of transcriptions and new works composed especially for the quintet. From Lyon (France) to Beijing and New York, the Percussions Claviers de Lyon are surprising audiences with their spirited rhythms and subtle melodies, with their interpretations of Debussy, Ravel, and Bernstein as well as exciting new pieces for percussion.



MORITZ EGGERT

Moritz Eggert is considered one of the most versatile and adventurous voices of contemporary music. He worked in all musical genres as a composer – operas, ballets and works for dance and music theatre, instrumental and vocal music... He is a renowned and experienced pianist and he is also appearing as a conductor, actor and singer, performing in operas and theatre.

Moritz Eggert's music is performed worldwide. He composed the music for the opening ceremony of the Football World Cup in 2006.

The Martians
© Cyrille Cauvet

Denis O'Hare / Laurent Fréchuret / Moritz Eggert
© All rights reserved

Les Percussions Claviers de Lyon
© Cédric Roulliat

A Théâtre de l'Incendie - Percussions Claviers de Lyon production. Associate production: Théâtre de l'Incendie. Coproduction: Théâtre de la Croix-Rousse-Lyon. With the artistic contribution of ENSATT. The Théâtre de l'Incendie is funded by the Ministry of Culture - DRAC Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, the Auvergne Rhône-Alpes Region, the Loire department and by the City of Saint-Étienne. www.theatredelincendie.fr
The Percussions Claviers de Lyon are funded by the Ministry of Culture - DRAC Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes, the Auvergne Rhône-Alpes Region and by the City of Lyon. www.lespcl.com