
structure



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The Beginning of (Reading)

text **Pascal Rambert**

read by **Audrey Bonnet et Pascal Rambert**

electric guitar by **Alexandre Meyer**

This text, published by the edition Les Solitaires Intempestif, was created on commission for France – Culture and received the Aide a la Creation d'oeuvres Dramatiques (DMDTS/Ministere de la Culture). This performance is played in French.

structure production
c/o théâtre des bouffes du nord
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SIRET 822 350 898 000 18 - code APE 9001Z

The Beginning of **(reading)**

Created in January 2005, at the Comedie Francaise by pascal rambert, with Audrey Bonnet and Alexandre Pavloff, members of the Comedie Francaise, *Le Debut de l'A* was also regularly presented under the form of an acoustic lecture by the protagonists of the story: new york performer Kate Moran and Pascal Rambert. For this lecture – performance, Audrey Bonnet and Pascal Rambert, who are starring the new creation are accompanied by Alexandre Meyer on the electric guitar.

“In fact, I wrote *Le debut de l'A*, in Paris during the month of august 2000. I rarely write in Paris. But that time, I wrote in Paris. In the heat of Paris during the month of august. In solitude. And missing the woman I loved. Truly. We had just finished creating a beautiful project together : the epic of Gilgamesh for the Festival d’Avignon. She was a part of the American distribution and when the festival finished, she went back to New York. My body and my spirit, like after every show, were devastated. I was devastated and like after each show, I was more poor than before. It is in this poverty that I wrote. And I hid nothing. Everything is true. Everything that I relate is true. Except the accident at the end, which sees us die. But everything is true. I didn’t even think to give names to the characters: they are named after us. I hid nothing. I did nothing but listen to what my lack had to say. I retranscribed. I observed myself. I silently spoke each day with the loved one. I closed the shades in the middle of the day and I clenched my teeth.

What I recount is this unique moment at the beginning sentiments of love that we never want to see end. When finally it all begins.

Pascal Rambert, November 2004

The Beginning of credits

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Read by **Audrey Bonnet** and **Pascal Rambert**

Electric guitar **Alexandre Meyer**

Production direction **Pauline Roussille**

Production **structure production**

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Thanks to **Lucien Attoun** and **Stéphane Caron**.

The Beginning of

Statement of intent

“In fact, I wrote *Le debut de l’A*, in Paris during the month of august 2000. I rarely write in Paris. But that time, I wrote in Paris. In the heat of Paris during the month of august. In solitude. And missing the woman I loved. Truly. We had just finished creating a beautiful project together : the epic of Gilgamesh for the Festival d’Avignon. She was a part of the American distribution and when the festival finished, she went back to New York. My body and my spirit, like after every show, were devastated. I was devastated and like after each show, I was more poor than before. It is in this poverty that I wrote. And I hid nothing. Everything is true. Everything that I relate is true. Except the accident at the end, which sees us die. But everything is true. I didn’t even think to give names to the characters: they are named after us. I hid nothing. I did nothing but listen to what my lack had to say. I retranscribed. I observed myself. I silently spoke each day with the loved one. I closed the shades in the middle of the day and I clenched my teeth.

What I recount is this unique moment at the beginning sentiments of love that we never want to see end. When finally it all begins.

Pascal Rambert, november 2004

The Beginning of

Excerpts

[...] *The Parisian with arrow*
You have a contract
This contract is your first contract
You don't know another
This contract opens in two exemplaries:
one part the *contracted*
the other part the *contacted*
You descend into the heat of Paris
In the middle of july
The heart light
In the het of july
your contract drafted by modesty
You leave for a meeting

The contacted
In the heat of july
Open hearted
You receive your contract charged with modesty
You are the *contacted*
In New York
In the city
In the heat of the summer
You leave for a meeting [...]

[...] In the airport bathroom provoking in struggle the neon light I ask the mirror that gently speaks to me I say mirror you see well my face is merciful in my face the soot the suffer and the extinguished sparks the marks of fireworks past and the joy still alive the chagrin the bursts of happiness the traces of life to repurchase when they arrive face hide nothing offer yourself as life makes you hold in you there there where you are the most visible in the neon light hide nothing don't search to seem more beautiful more formidable more remarkable show yourself put yourself under the neon in the position of the ravished in the position of the brutalized [...]

[...] Le debut de l'a. le debut de l'a. le debut de l'amour
the beginning of. the beginning of. the beginning of love.
Is a strange moment.
That makes us drown.
Le debut de l'a. le debut de l'a. le debut de l'amour
The beginning of. the beginning of. the beginning of love.
Is a strange moment.
I am willing to disappear [...]

The Beginning of

Biography of Pascal Rambert

Pascal Rambert is a French writer, choreographer, and director for the stage and screen. He was born in 1962. In 2016 he receives the “ Grand prix de l’Académie Française pour l’ensemble de son oeuvre” / “Theater Prize from Académie Française for his entire body of work”.

From January 2017 he has been the partner artist at the Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord in Paris, at El Pavón Teatro Kamikaz from September 2017 and from 2014 the partner playwright at the National Theatre of Strasbourg.

For 10 years, 2007-2016, he served as the Director of TG2-Théâtre de Gennevilliers, which he has transformed into a national dramatic center for contemporary creation, exclusively devoted to living artists (theater, dance, opera, contemporary art, film, and philosophy).

Rambert’s theatre plays and choreographies have been produced by *structure*, supported by the French Ministry of Culture and Communication, and staged in Europe, North America, Asia, Russia, South America, Middle East.

His writing (theater, stories, and poetry) is published in France with the press Solitaires Intempestifs and has been translated, published, and staged in many languages: English, Russian, Italian, German, Japanese, Chinese, Croatian, Slovenian, Polish, Portuguese (From Portugal and from Brazil), Spanish (Mexican and Argentinian), Castilian, Catalan, Dutch, Czech, Thai, Dansk and Greek.

His dance pieces, including the most recent, *Memento Mori*, created in 2013 with the lighting designer Yves Godin, have been performed at major festivals and contemporary dance festivals: Montpellier, Avignon, Utrecht, Berlin, and Hamburg as well as New York, Tokyo and Los Angeles.

Pascal Rambert has directed several operas in France and in the United States.

The short films he has directed have been selected and awarded at festivals in Pantin, Locarno, Miami, and Paris.

His play *Clôture de l’amour (Love’s End)*, created at the 65th Festival d’Avignon in 2011 with Audrey Bonnet and Stanislas Nordey, was an international success. The script won the prize for public theater in the Theater 2013 – Ditea competition, the prize for best new French-language play from the Syndicat de la Critique (Critics’ Union) in 2012, and the Grand Prize for dramatic literature from the Centre national du théâtre (National Theater Center) in October, 2012.

In 2017, *Clôture de l’amour* was staged more than 180 times in France and much more all over the world, and translated in 23 languages. Pascal Rambert has adapted *Clôture*

de l'amour into ten languages: for the Moscow Art Theatre; in New York, Zagreb, Modena, and Rome, and at Milan's Piccolo Teatro; in Shizuoka, Osaka, and Yokohama; in Berlin and at the Thalia Theater in Hamburg; in Barcelona at the Grec Festival and in Madrid at the Festival de Otoño; and in Copenhagen, Aalborg, Aarhus, and Odense, in mandarin in China in Beijing, in arabic in Cairo in Egypt.

Rambert created *Une (micro) histoire économique du monde, dansée (A (micro) history of world economics, danced)* at T2G, Théâtre de Gennevilliers, in 2010. After its French tour, Rambert has adapted the work for further performances in Japan; in Hamburg and Karlsruhe, Germany; in the United States in New York, Los Angeles and Pittsburgh; and in Cairo, Egypt.

His play *Avignon à vie (Avignon for Life)*, read by Denis Podalydès, was first staged at the 2013 67th Festival d'Avignon in the Cour d'Honneur du Palais des Papes.

His most recent play, *Répétition (Rehearsal)*, written for Emmanuelle Béart, Audrey Bonnet, Denis Podalydès of the Comédie Française, Stanislas Nordey, and Claire Zeller, premiered December 12, 2014 at T2G, Théâtre de Gennevilliers- national dramatic center for contemporary creation as part of Festival d'Automne in Paris. It was afterward performed in Lyon and toured nationally and internationally in the fall of 2015.

At the end of 2016, he will direct the italian version of the play, *Prova*, at the Teatro Arena del Sole de Bologna and at the Piccolo Teatro di Milano, and in 2017 *Ensayo* the spanish version in Madrid. For *Répétition (Rehearsal)* Pascal Rambert was awarded from the French Academy with the annual prize 2015 of literature and philosophy.

In June, 2015, in the bare space of the Bouffes du Nord Theater in Paris, Rambert will present five of his plays: *Memento Mori*, *Clôture de l'amour (Love's end)*, *Avignon à vie (Avignon for life)*, *De mes propres mains (With My Own Hands)* and *Libido Sciendi*.

In January, 2016, he did premier his play *Argument*, written for Laurent Poitrenaux and Marie-Sophie Ferdane, at the CDN (National Theater Center) Orléans / Loiret / Centre, then present it at La Comédie in Reims and at T2G, Théâtre de Gennevilliers - national dramatic center for contemporary creation

He has recently written *Actrice (Actress)* which he will create on December 12nd 2017 at the Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord in Paris, starred for the main roles by Audrey Bonnet and Marina Hands, which will tour in France from January to march 2018.

Currently he is writing *GHOSTs* for some Taiïwanese actors, he will direct it for the opening of the Performing Art Festival in Tapei in august 2017.

In may 2017 at the Théâtre du Vieux Colombiers in Paris, he will direct the text *Une vie (A life)* that he wrote for the actors of the Comédie-Française in Paris.