

Visual Story

Se prendre



January 29 at 7:00
January 30 at 7:00
January 31 at 6:00, 8:00
February 2 at 6:00, 8:00
February 3 at 6:00, 8:00
February 4 at 6:00, 8:00

The venue is a private estate in Shaughnessy
We will send you the address after you buy a ticket

During the performance you walk around and there will be a flight of stairs to take.

About Se prendre

What to expect

- This is NOT a relaxed performance but the team is happy to adapt to special needs.
- You come see the show in a house, you will be watching the acrobats perform in different rooms of the house, you will be walking around to follow them.
- You will be standing up for most of the performance.
- Sometimes, you can sit on the floor or on chairs and sofas.
- It is a pretty low light performance.
- The performers will be close to you, sometimes almost touching you.
- You can't use your electronic devices during the show, even on silent mode.
- You can't take pictures or make calls during the show.
- If you want to leave the performance at any time, you can leave through the front door whenever you want
- There will be a volunteer sitting by the entrance of the house but not following the audience, unless you ask them to help you.
- It is impossible to use the toilet during the show, but before and after, yes.
- If you leave during the show, you can't come back

Performance time

- The performance will aim to start at **6pm or 8pm**, depending on your ticket
- The performance is about 70 minutes long
- There will be a no intermission
- It will finish around 7:15pm or 9:15pm

The House



This is what the house looks like and the street it is on.



The House



This is what it will look like when you enter.



The Performers



Mira Leonard



Claudel Doucet

Mira and Claudel play characters that have no specific names, they are inspired by their own personalities.

Here are some people who worked behind the scenes

NOTE:

These people helped creating the show in Montréal, so you will not see them.



Cooper Lee Smith
Original Cast,
Co-creator and composer



Félix-Antoine Boutin
Dramaturg



Étienne René-Contant
Light, props and
costume design

About the Story

The venue for *Se prendre* is a private estate in Shaughnessy

In groups of 10, the audience follows two people from room to room as they come together. Sometimes this will look like violence, tenderness, and desire.

It is like dance and acrobatics and movement coming together. There is no clear story. You can interpret it in different ways. For a lot of people it feels uncomfortable sometimes. And that is ok, to not feel comfortable.

This show has:

- Intimacy:
some choreography look like people are hugging, caressing
- Anger:
some choreography look like people are wrestling
- Long silences
- Laughter:
Sometimes when people in the audience feel uncomfortable they might laugh

[You can watch a trailer, a video with little part of the show if you click here.](#)

Sounds and lights

- There will be no flashing lights or fireworks
- The lights are pretty low throughout the show.
- The sound are not very loud. In the first scene, in the living room, the performer may surprisingly jump from on top of some furniture and make a loud noise. Another loud “bang” happens in the 3rd scene, when the mattress is flipped over. In the hallway scene, some doors might be slammed.

However, these are the times that you may still find intense:

- The first 20 min are in near silence.
- The second scene involves A LOT of stage smoke. It is safe to breath but it is confusing and dizzying to enter a room full of it.
- In the third scene we make ghosts out of sheets. It might look like the performer is having a hard time to breath but they are fine.
- The forth scene is very long and nothing really happens. It’s normal to feel stressed out by the quietness.
- In the bathroom scene, you will be very close to other people in a small space.

Maybe you will like the play, and maybe not, that is ok. It's alright to feel happy or sad or scared or angry after seeing a show.

At the end of the play, people might clap. That is a way to say thank you to the people who made the show. It is also a way to say you like the show.

It's ok to cover your ears if that is too loud. You can also wave your hands instead of clapping.

Se prendre: Everything that happens

SPOILER ALERT :
The next few pages tell you exactly what happens,
if you want to be surprised, don't read them.

Entrance

At the beginning, a usher will take your ticket and you will see little signs to show you where to go sit. You will sit in a large living room, on a chair, cushion or sofa.

The usher will come and pick up the little signs and turn off the lights. You will hear a door close and open.

1st scene, living room

The light will go suddenly bright. In front of you stand 2 women, in their early 30s. They are white, one with blond bleached hair, the other with long darker hair.

They will slowly and carefully test each other's bodies in silence, poking each other's chest, testing how much weight they can put on each other.

Slowly they will start climbing over each other. They will be very close to the audience. You could probably touch them if you stretch your arm. You will hear their breath and see them sweat.

They will also be asking each other questions such as "What is your favorite color?" or "Are you afraid of the dark?". Mira has a light Swedish accent and Claudel a light French Canadian one. They are both wearing shorts and t-shirts.

As the conversation and choreography continues, you will see them sometimes fail at supporting each other.

At some point Mira will start music, and then the performers will use the wall to continue their acrobatic choreography. At the end of this part, Mira will be stuck up high, on a piece of furniture.

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Then Claudel will compliment her and put a plant next to her. Claudel will ask Mira to tell her a story. Mira will invent a story about plants. In the story there are plants that die. Mira will look uncomfortable. Claudel will then approach Mira and Mira will jump on Claudel, creating a loud “bang”.

Afterwards, Claudel will give a strange hug to Mira, like she is trying to swallow her with her entire body. Then Mira will react by trying to enter Claudel’s body as well. They will put their fingers in each other’s mouth.

Then Mira will lift Claudel and make her feel weightless, like walking upside down. When they come down, Mira will leave the living room, inviting Claudel to follow her.

Claudel will turn off the lamp that was lighting the living room.

Carrying another small light, she will be walking towards the light emerging from where Mira left. She disappears. The audience might be confused for a second and then go look for the performers. Everyone will walk towards the room with pink light and a lot of smoke.

2nd room, the bliss pink room

The audience enters this new room. There is no furniture except for a few plants. It is full of smoke and completely lighted in bright pink. At the center, Mira and Claudel are sitting on the floor, eating ice cream. There is a new soundscape, more intense. The audience stands around the couple, leaning on the wall or sitting, however they want.

Claudel and Mira get up and dance as they feed each other ice cream. They start picking each other up with bliss and tenderness. Then they separate, drop the ice cream and start jumping around, having fun. They jump simultaneously, their feet stomping in harmony. Their movements move around the room quickly. Their feet pass very close to the audience. They look deep in each others eyes, swirl around each other’s bodies. They help each other jump higher.

At the end, they collapse, exhausted and blissful. Mira leaves the room. Claudel takes a moment to get up and then picks up a small guiding light, she opens the door and move toward the next room, the audience follows her.

3rd scene: the ghostly blue bedroom

The audience walks into a bedroom lightly light in blue. There is a double bed and Mira is laying on it, on her back, staring at the ceiling.

There is a plant by her side. The plant is not very healthy.

The audience stands or sit around the bed.

Claudiel steps on the bed and picks up a sheet. She wears it like a cape like in this picture →



Then, laying on top of Mira, covers both of them with it. We see slow soft movements under the sheet. Slowly Claudiel start lifting, like levitating from the bed, over Mira. Their faces are very close.

Like this picture →



Slowly Claudiel will get higher and end up sitting on top of Mira's feet like on a high chair, still wearing the sheet like a cape.

Afterwards, Claudiel covers Mira with the sheet, like putting her to sleep.



Then she notices that Mira is not looking at her, she forces her face to point towards her. Like in this picture ←

She keeps organising the sheets, then re-orientes her face a second time. When she notices for the third time that Mira is not looking at her, she moves on to cover Mira's head with the sheet, turning her into

sort of a mummy. She tightens all the sheet around her body, making Mira look wrangled in the white fabric.

She then lays next to Mira who looks like a mummy but slowly goes on top on the mummy, like wanting to be closer to it.

Claudiel lifts the mummy to stand. She still tries to get closer, by hugging the mummy. She gets tangled in the sheet herself and slowly, she becomes the mummy as Mira is being uncovered.

The new mummy is leaning against the wall, Mira is standing in the middle of the bed. Mira roughly picks the Mummy up and makes her lie down on the bed. Then she lies next to the

4th scene: the kitchen

Then audiences follow Mira to the kitchen. There, Claudel is sitting at the table, facing a large pink prism. The large object shines in the dark and looks magical.

When Mira sits down facing her, Claudel gets up to turn on the kitchen light. It's the 1st time we see "the normal lights" of the apartment turned on since the beginning of the performance.

Claudel and Mira eat snacks, hummus, carrots and cookies. The scene is silent. Eventually they are just sitting on each side of the prism, across the table. It is really quiet, long and boring. We can feel that there are things unsaid, bitterness and resentment.

After a long awkward moment, Claudel gets up, turns off the kitchen light, takes the prism and leaves with it.

Mira eventually leaves, guiding the audience with a light.

Hallway scene

The two women go in and out of doors in the hallway, never coming across each other. The light is blue and the audience watches from one end of the hallway.

Sometimes they don't exit from place they originally went into. Like a magic trick.

After a while, they both happen to be in the hallway at the same time. Mira passes Claudel quickly. When Mira comes back, Claudel is still there. Mira approaches Claudel from the back, then slides on the wall, collapsing. Mira slides her body in between Claudel legs making her collapse.

They wrestle, Mira is trying to get up and Claudel is climbing upside down over Mira. This looks violent. At the end of this wrestling, Claudel is floating over the floor, holding with her arms and legs against the wall, it looks like she could fall easily. Mira leaves her hanging like this, then comes back and collapses into her. They wrestle again and after that Claudel being pushed against the ceiling, and she could easily fall.

Mira then realises how she has put Claudel in dangerous position and carefully puts her back on the ground.

Claudel leaves through one of the doors. We see the pink prism with slime on it through another door. Mira leaves through another door. She comes back wearing a bathing suit and carefully carrying one little plant. She walks into the bathroom, inviting the audience to follow her.

5th scene: the bathroom

The audience squeezes in the bathroom. Inside, Mira and Claudel are sitting on each side of the bathtub, that is being filled with water. Their feet are in the water. Only a candle lights the room. Both in bathing suits, Mira wears goggles and Claudel a bathing cap.

They start talking very quietly.

Mira: "Did you know the bathtub is the safest place to be during a tornado?"

Claudel: "No...Can you swim fast?"

Mira: "No...not really. Are you afraid of drowning?"

Claudel: "No. Are you afraid of sharks?"

Mira: "No, I've never seen one."

After Mira goes in the bathtub.
Filling it completely with her body.

Mira: "Would you like to join me?"

Claudel: "Ok. But where?"



Claudel squeezes herself
in a tiny spot in the tub.

Mira: "I like your swimsuit."



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They get up and hug each, they start turning around, together, in the tub, like if they are on a dancefloor.

Mira sing very softly into Claudel ears, you can't hear what she sings, but the melody is delicate and soft.

When the song ends, they let go of each other and Mira lifts her swimming goggles. Claudel asks: "Would you like to have a popsicle?"

Mira makes a yes sign.

Claudel gets out of the tub, she is excited, she grabs a towel and leaves the bathroom. Mira turns on a small lamp, blows the candle out and follows.

6th scene: the end

Mira guides the audience outside. Maybe you will have to put your jacket and shoes back on.

When the audience arrives outside, Claudel and Mira play a little game of trust with each other. Each time, they save each other, catching each other. You can tell that they are having fun and trust each other.

They are still in their bathing suit even though it is cold. The light on them is orange.

After a while Mira goes and sits somewhere. Claudel goes to her and very carefully lifts her. Slowly Mira climbs over Claudel till she is standing on top of her. Claudel then walks a few steps and turns to look back at the house. Mira slowly climbs down and Claudel puts her carefully on her feet.

They start walking away, next to each other. A speaker close to the audience start playing the Rhythm of the Night, a song by the artist Corona. This 90' dance music is energetic and has a very dynamic party vibe. The two women starts running away in the distance.

It keeps playing as Mira and Claudel disappear.

The usher brings the audiences little ice cream cones.

Mira and Claudel come back to bow.

The show is over.