

# The Guardians of Sleep

David Weber-Krebs

Press-kit



Pietro Antonio Rotari, "Sleeping Girl with Her Beau" (1750-55), oil on canvas, 106 x 84 cm. Alte Pinakothek, Munich

## THE GUARDIANS OF SLEEP

While sleeping, the human body is vulnerable. In times past it was considered the task of the absolute ruler to protect his sleeping subjects against nocturnal dangers. Nowadays there are other forms of social protection. But what happens when these suddenly fall apart? With *The Guardians of Sleep* David Weber-Krebs creates a quivering and intense microcosm within theatre's coordinates of time and space. How responsible can you feel towards someone you don't know? When does caring for someone become a power relation? A look often stays on the surface of things. We can only guess what happens inside the head of the one we watch sleeping.

### CREDITS

Concept & direction	David Weber-Krebs
Performance	Julien Bruneau, Luanda Casella, Alondra Castellanos Arreola, Matthew Day, Zoë Demoustier, Irena Radmanovic
Lighting design	Martin Kaffarnik, Jan Fedinger
Costumes	Anne-Catherine Kunz
Dramaturgical advice	Sébastien Hendrickx, Lara Staal,
Artistic advice	Marie Urban
Sound advice	David Helbich
Illustration	Eva le Roi
Production manager	Leonie Persyn
Production	Infinite Endings
Thanks to	Loes van der Pligt, Hidde Aans-Verkade, Ayrton Fraenk, Len Pillen, Dennis Tiecken, Jurriaan de Vos, Luuk Weers, Vincent van Woerkom, Annemie Boonen, Lahja Demoustier, Misha Demoustier, Klaas De Somer, Nicola Arthen, Carol Quintanilha, Olivia Casella Heytens, Anouk Llaurens, Valère Bruneau, Sabine Demannez, Nikolaus Gansterer, Xavier Gorgol, Aurore Dal Mas, Réjean Dorval, Fridolin Weber-Krebs.
Co-production	Kaaitheater, Kunstencentrum Buda, Zeitraumexit.
With the support of	the flemish authorities and of the flemish community commission.
Thanks to	Pianofabriek, Mimeopleiding Amsterdam.

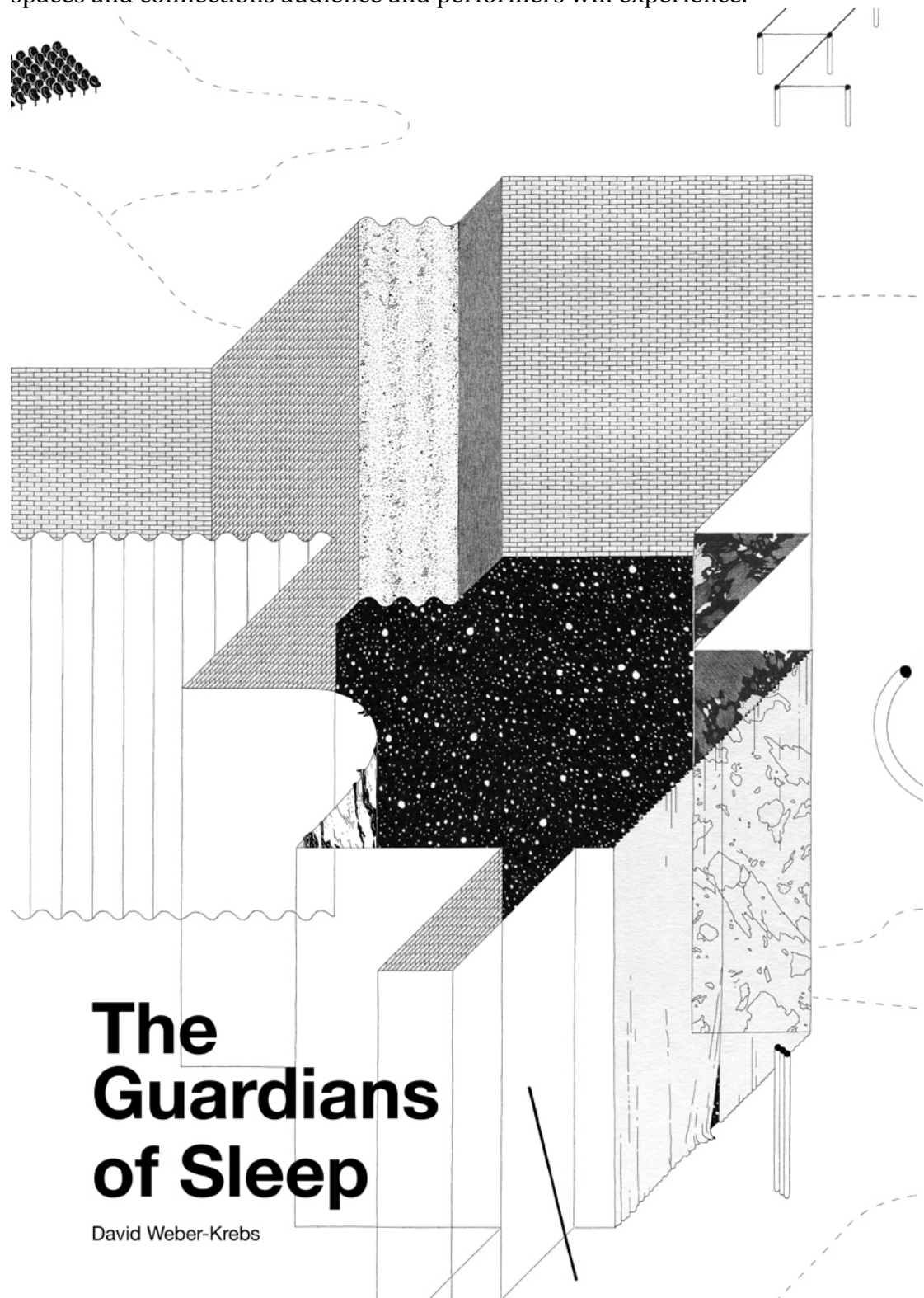
David Weber-Krebs is affiliated as an artistic researcher to KASK & Conservatory / School of Arts.

### TOUR

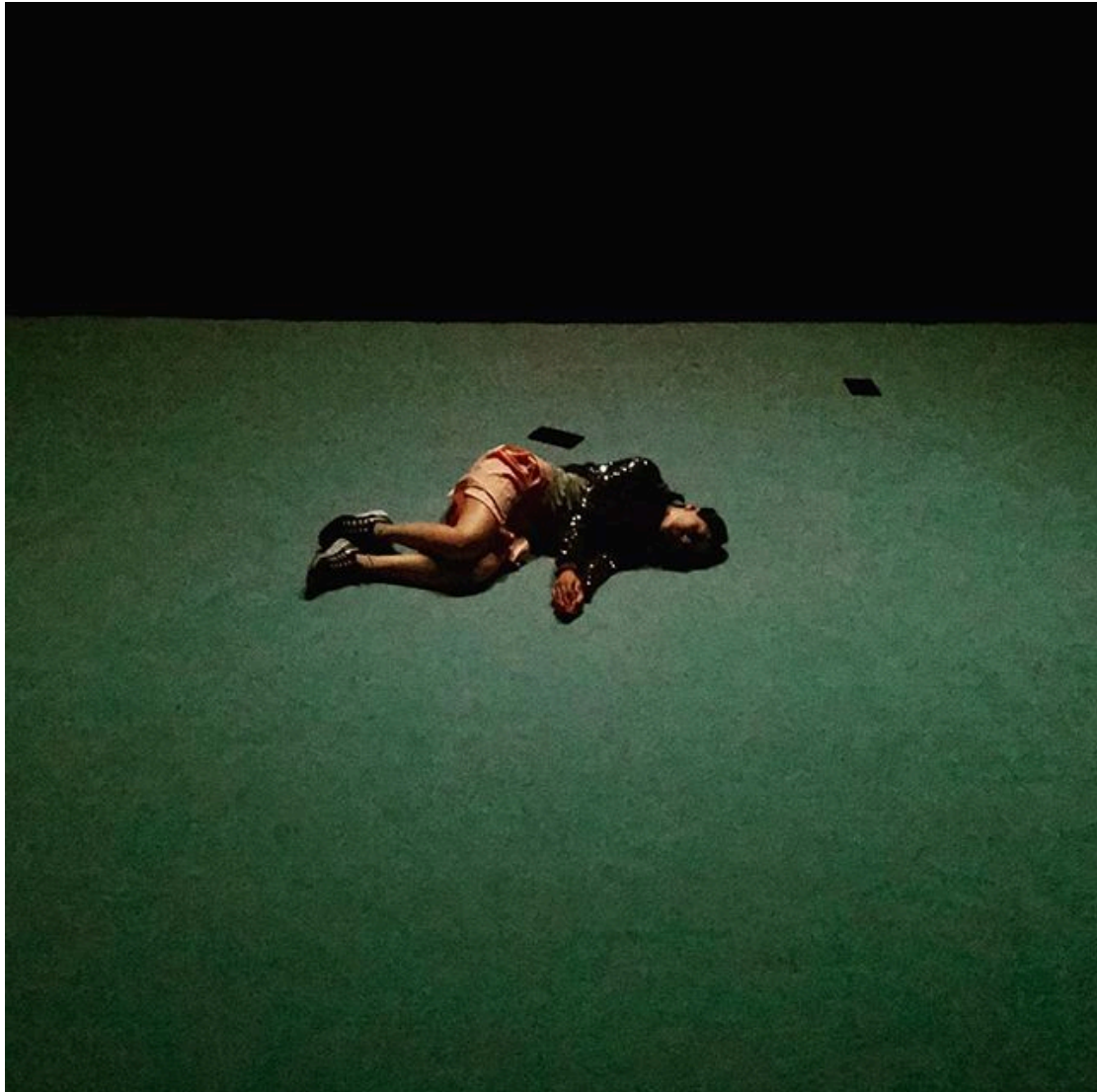
September 14 – 15, 2017	Zeitraumexit – Mannheim (DE)
October 6, 2017	BUDA – Kortrijk (BE)
December 15 – 16, 2017	Kaaitheater – Brussels (BE)

## Illustration by Eva Leroi

In close collaboration with David Weber-Krebs, Eva Leroi made a graphical interpretation of the performance by opening up to the diversity of textures, spaces and connections audience and performers will experience.



## PICTURES



Picture by David Weber-Krebs, Rehearsal August 2017 @ Pianofabriek – performer: Alondra Castellanos Arreola

## TEASER

<https://vimeo.com/232789506>

## PRESS (REVIEW)

*The Guardians of Sleep* works as an intensifier for the senses: you perceive every movement and every noise in the room, you feel being observed by the now-and-then open eyes of the performers, and you are an observer yourself, responsible to watch over the others' dozing off. Thereby, Weber-Krebs succeeds to create an intense connection between his performers and each one of the spectators.

Mannheimer Morgen.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION - ARTICLE NEW YORKER

By Rachel Aviv

In Sweden, hundreds of refugee children have fallen unconscious after being informed that their families will be expelled from the country.

<http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2017/04/03/the-trauma-of-facing-deportation>

## BIOGRAPHY – DAVID WEBER-KREBS (BE/DE)

**David Weber-Krebs** (BE/DE) is an artist and a researcher based in Brussels. He studied at the University of Fribourg (CH) and the Amsterdam School of the Arts (NL). David explores various contexts as a basis for an experimental process, which questions the traditional relationship between the work of art and its public. Recent works are the performances *Tonight, lights out!* (2011/2013), *Balthazar* (2013) with Maximilian Haas, *Into the big world* (2014), and the installation *Immersion* (2014) at the Weltkulturen Museum, Frankfurt. David collaborates on a regular basis with different artists and theorists and he teaches at different visual arts and performance academies.

**David Weber-Krebs** creates situations engaging the spectator in a complex game between getting absorbed or merging with an art piece, and keeping his critical distance towards it. Be it by staging actors (ex. *into the big world*), a donkey (*Balthazar*), a minimalist sculpture (*Performance, Robert Morris revisited*) or a public space (*Miniature*), the form is ever reduced to its simplest expression. It becomes like a projection screen, inviting the spectator into a mode of active contemplation where meaning is not given but produced by the spectator. The theatre performance *Fade out* (2005) for example, is based on the slow extinction of the lights until the whole space lays in complete darkness. Two performers accompany this drama of irreversible disappearance and until its final consequence. The public is both witness and active participant of this highly sensitive process. While the lights are fading-out, the eyes of each spectator must adapt to the new situation until everything is plunged into darkness.



## WORK - OVERVIEW

[Here](#) you can find my cv

[Here](#) you can find press texts and reviews.

### GESELECTEERDE WERKEN

**this performance** performance. Empty stage with interventions, 1 performer, 45 min. 2004. produced by Gasthuis and Mousonturm. shown at Plateaux, Mousonturm Frankfurt/Main/ Gasthuis, Amsterdam/ 05, Theaterkikker, Utrecht/ Something Raw, Frascati, Amsterdam/ Politik im freien Theater, Berlin (Sophiensaele)/ IETM, Absolute Theatre, Utrecht/ IBT, Arnolfini Bristol.

**Fade out** performance. Light fading on a stage, 2 performers, 50 min. 2005. produced by Gasthuis and Mousonturm. shown at Gasthuis, Amsterdam/ Kikker, Utrecht/ Plateaux, Mousonturm/ Sophiensaele, Berlin/ Something Raw, Frascati, Amsterdam/ Singel (de Donderdagen), Antwerpen/ Springdance Preview, Tseh Dance Agency, Moscow/ 100 dessus dessous, La Villette, Paris/ 2007 Panorama Festival – Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

**Among the multitude** film. 16/9, stereo, colour, no language, 25 :00 min. 2009. performance. People looking back at people, 65 performers, 45 minutes, 2009. produced by Frascati and Infinite Endings. shown at I the spectator, Frascati, Amsterdam and STUK, Leuven.

**Conversation (in the woods)** video. 4/3, stereo, colour, English spoken, 11 :24 min. 2009. produced by Infinite Endings. shown as a preview at LISA live(s) in Kikker, Utrecht.

**Performance (Robert Morris revisited)** performance. Column standing/column falling, no performer, 10 min. 2009. produced by Infinite Endings. shown at Something Raw, Frascati, Amsterdam/ Licht an, Licht aus, Zeitraumexit, Mannheim, Studium Generale Rietveld Academie.

**Balthazar** performance for one animal performer and 6 human performers, 60 minutes, 2011 produced AHK and Infinite Endings (2011) produced by Kaaithater and Kampnagel (2013) produced by HAU Hebbel am Ufer and Next Festival (2015).

**Tonight lights out!** performance. Social experiment in communal immersion. min. 60 minutes. 2011. produced by Infinite Endings in co-production with STUK, Zeitraumexit and Theater Zeebelt. thanks to Frascati. shown some 50 times across Europe. Infinite Endings in co-production with STUK, Frascati, Zeitraumexit, Theater Zeebelt (English and Dutch version), Theater Freiburg (German version) en Far (French Version).

**The Collection (excerpt)** mural piece and audio. Scan scan from the complete collection of the museum. 2014. Weltkulturenmuseum, Frankfurt

**Into the big world** performance and book. 60 min. 2015 produced by Infinite Endings in co-production with STUK, Kaaithater and WP Zimmer.

**On enclosed spaces and great outdoors** conference. 2015. met Andrea Bozic, Nikolaus Gansterer, Maximilian Haas, Jeroen Peeters, Andre Eiermann, André Lepecki, Mette Ingvarsten. in the context of *Are You Alive Or Not*, festival/conference Rietveld Academie, Amsterdam.

## **PREVIOUS WORK ON TOUR**

### **Tonight, Lights out!**

September 23, 2017

Zeitraumexit – Mannheim (DE)

October 14, 2017

Veem – Amsterdam (NL)

### **Animal form/ula/s**

October 1, 2017

Sophiensaele – Berlin (DE)

### **On enclosed spaces and the great outdoors**

February 10, 2018

Kaaitheater – Brussels (BE)

## **CONTACTS**

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