

“‘Ramble Song’ van BERLIN: Dromen van leven en dood \*\*\*,” Magali Degrande, Het Nieuwsblad, 03.07.2021. Translated to English by Patrick Lennon

**Review. ‘Ramble Song’ by BERLIN: Dreams of life and death \*\*\***

ANTWERP – The documentary and multimedia work of BERLIN cannot always be called ‘theatre’ in the strict sense of the word. But their distinctive approach did earn them the Flemish Culture Award for Performing Arts in 2015. Their performance ‘True Copy’, about the art forger Geert Jan Jansen, was named one of the year’s most surprising performances in 2018.

In BERLIN’s latest creation, ‘Ramble Song’, the narrative voice disappears, making way for music and film. The spectator sits in an arena around four musicians and looks at a 360° screen stretched around them. While the musicians perform a score by Peter Van Laerhoven – who is also the film composer of Fien Troch’s ‘Een andere zijn geluk’ – the audience crawls into the skull of an invisible character.

Unlike ‘True Copy’, this is not an improbable story with a factual background, but a series of fragmentary dream sequences about life and death. For instance, we see a little girl raising hell in a fast-food joint with a cuddly rabbit or a man digging his own grave. While the combination of cello, guitars and drums makes a profound impression, ‘Ramble Song’ raises questions like: what do you do when the same road appears to lead to both happiness and misery? It’s hard to say, but if you can choose a path that allows you to experience ‘Ramble Song’ – in the audience or through the vinyl record – take it. You won’t regret it.

‘Ramble Song’ can be seen until 19 January 2022 at various locations in Belgium.

Tickets and info: [www.berlinberlin.be](http://www.berlinberlin.be)