

ANNELIES VAN PARYS

concerto
for
clarinet

ANNELIES VAN PARYS

composer

ANNELIEN VAN WAUWE

clarinettist

About the clarinet concerto

Award-winning composer Annelies Van Parys and clarinettist Annelien Van Wauwe, former BBC New Generation Artist and winner of the ARD International Music Competition in Munich, are collaborating on a new Clarinet Concerto written for Van Wauwe. The work stems from a shared artistic wish to develop a substantial new piece for the instrument. It will receive its world premiere with the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra at the Concertgebouw Bruges in autumn 2028.

Plea for emancipation

The work can be understood as a metaphor for emancipation. The soloist initially engages in a dialogue with the orchestra from just offstage, gradually becoming fully integrated into the ensemble before moving increasingly to the forefront, ultimately concluding the piece in a brilliant, front-and-centre culmination. With a female soloist such as clarinettist Annelien Van Wauwe, this reading gains additional resonance: the work can be heard as a narrative of, and a plea for, emancipation—where the woman was once invisible, later merely “tolerated,” and today is able, and allowed, to claim her rightful place at the centre of the stage. The concerto for clarinet and orchestra will last approximately 20–25 minutes. As with many of Van Parys’s works for soloists, it will be written specifically for the performer. The orchestration will be similar to Debussy’s *Première Rhapsodie* for clarinet and orchestra and serves as a kind of 21st-century response to it. The aim is to explore the clarinet’s agile and colourful character in all its sensuality.

Van Parys’ sound world

Annelies Van Parys’ musical language is rooted in spectralism but also draws on elements of modernism, ensuring sufficient drive and momentum. Whether in concert music or music theatre, her work always relies on intricate dramaturgy. A new work by Annelies Van Parys promises a unique musical experience, full of unexpected turns, colour and expressive depth.

Annelies Van Parys



www.anneliesvanparys.com

Annelien Van Wauwe



www.annelienvanwauwe.com

Info

SCORING:

3.3.2.3.-4.2.0.0. Perc(2), Hp, Str,
Solo-Cla

LENGTH & STRUCTURE:

20-25 minutes

TIMELINE:

Rotterdam
Philharmonic Orchestra
21 – 22 October 2028
Rotterdam, de Doelen
Bruges, Concertgebouw
(world premiere)

Exclusivity for soloist Annelien
Van Wauwe until 31 - 12 - 2030

PROGRAM SUGGESTION:

C. Debussy: Première Rhapsodie pour clarinette et orchestre (8 min)

3 flutes, 2 oboes, English horn, 2 clarinets, 3 bassoons, 4 horns, 2 trumpets. triangle, cymbals, 2 harps, strings

[LISTEN](#)

A. Van Parys: commission (20-25 min)

Biographies

Annelien Van Wauwe

Belgian clarinetist Annelien Van Wauwe, former BBC New Generation Artist, winner of the ARD Music Competition and a Borletti-Buitoni Trust Award, highlights the clarinet as a solo instrument on the international stage.

Van Wauwe records exclusively for the Pentatone label. Her debut album *Belle époque* with the Orchestre National de Lille and conductor Alexandre Bloch was released in 2019 and received an Opus Klassik Award in 2020. Her concerto recording *FLOW* with the NDR Radiophilharmonie under Andrew Manze features bass clarinet concerti by Mozart and Wim Henderickx and was released in 2022. Her next album, featuring concertos by Aaron Copland and Gerald Finzi with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra under Nicolò Foron, will be released in February 2027 on Pentatone.

She has performed with leading orchestras and conductors worldwide, including the DSO Berlin, NDR Radiophilharmonie, Deutsche Radiophilharmonie, Konzerthausorchester Berlin, Symphonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks, Dresdner Philharmonie, SWR Symphonieorchester Stuttgart, Frankfurt Opera and Museum Orchestra, Mozarteum Orchestra Salzburg, Residentie Orchestra Den Haag, Dutch Radio Philharmonic Orchestra, Brussels Philharmonic, Antwerp Symphony Orchestra, Kyiv Symphony Orchestra, NOSPR Katowice, NFM Wrocław Philharmonic, Malmö Symphony Orchestra, Tokyo Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra, Symphony Orchestra of India, Sichuan Symphony Orchestra, Auckland Philharmonic Orchestra, Münchner Kammerorchester, Wiener Kammerorchester, Zürcher Kammerorchester, Swedish Chamber Orchestra, Salzburg Camerata, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, and all BBC Symphony and Philharmonic Orchestras.

She has appeared as a soloist at the BBC Proms at the Royal Albert Hall three times since 2017, including Mozart's Clarinet Concerto (2018) and Copland's Clarinet Concerto (2023).

Her interest in new music has led to close collaborations with Wim Henderickx, resulting in *SUTRA*, a concerto for bass clarinet and electronics based on the philosophical principles of yoga, premiered in 2022 with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra. Future concerto collaborations include Benjamin Attahir (*Love is Louder* for clarinet and perfumer, 2026) and Annelies Van Parys (2028).

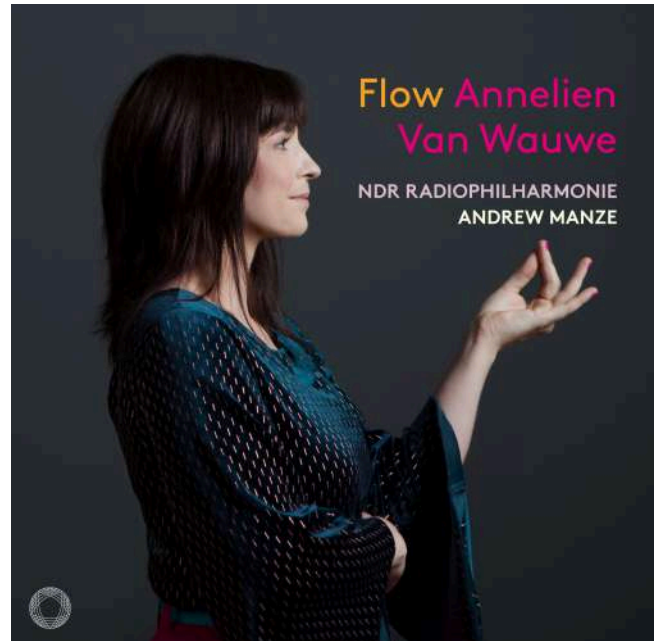
A dedicated chamber musician, she founded the Brussels ensemble *CAROUSEL* in 2019, bringing together twelve international musicians.

As a pedagogue, she regularly gives masterclasses and teaches at the Royal Conservatoire The Hague.



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Annelies Van Parys (born 1975)

Annelies Van Parys (b. 1975) is one of Belgium's most prominent composers, having earned acclaim for both orchestral compositions and solo and chamber works. She also cherishes a love for the human voice, and often writes for opera and musical theatre: since 2007, most of her musical theatre work has been hosted by Muziektheater Transparant, where she is composer in residence.

She has received commissions directly from organisations including the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, the Belgian National Orchestra, the European Union Youth Orchestra, Bozar, the Staatsoper Unter den Linden in Berlin, Folkoperan Stockholm, the Biennale Musica di Venezia, the Queen Elisabeth Competition, and the Ernst von Siemens Music Foundation, and has written for ensembles such as Ensemble Recherche (Freiburg), Ictus, KammarensembleN, Carousel Chamber Music Ensemble, Quatuor Diotima, Askol|Schönberg, Neue Vocalsolisten Stuttgart, EXAUDI, and the SWR Vocal Ensemble. Her music has been played in a wide range of European concert halls, including the Palau de la Música Catalana, the Elbphilharmonie Hamburg, the Wiener Musikverein, the Barbican Centre, Den Norske Opera & Ballett (Bergen), the Deutsche Oper Berlin, Staatsoper Unter den Linden (Berlin), Theater an der Wien, and the Royal Opera House, London. Her many prizes and awards include the Fedora–Rolf Liebermann Prize for Opera.

Annelies Van Parys currently works as professor of composition at the Royal Conservatoire of Brussels, a department of the Erasmus University College Brussels.



[LISTEN](#)

Perusal scores

[PIANO CONCERTO](#) 2022

[EUTOPIA for orchestra](#) 2023

[ECO...DEL VUOTO](#) (2019)

Reviews

Orchestral work EUTOPIA (2023) – Klassiek Centraal

"The orchestration – masterfully balanced – was reminiscent of Mahler and Ligeti at the same time: layered, abrasive, sometimes threatening. At times, the orchestra was both the symbol of an idealistic future and its tragic demise. Kazushi Ono led his musicians with a steady hand through the complex structure, with a keen sense of tension building. At times, the audience remained quietly restrained: Van Parys had something essential to say, and it resonated."

[28-09-2025 Klassiek Centraal](#)

Debut CD TUNING TIME (2026) – BBC Music Magazine

"There is something brilliantly strident about the music of Belgian composer Annelies Van Parys. A spectral composer – her musical structures are grounded in the acoustic properties of sound itself – Van Parys creates music that exudes a terrific power, both intellectually and emotionally. [...] A challenging but enormously rewarding disc."

21-5-2026 BBC Music Magazine, Kate Wakeling

Bookings

Europe, except the territories covered by the following *

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