



Be  
Claude

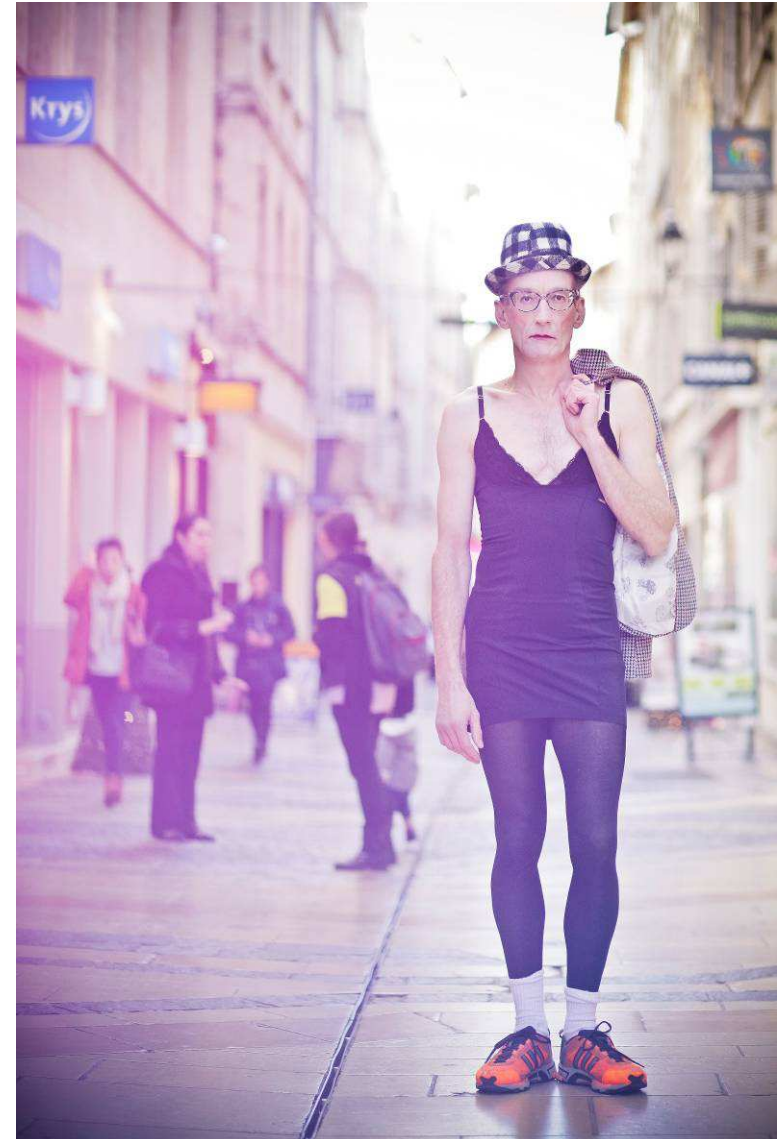


Diffusion : Productions Bis  
+ 0033 1 64 48 71 01/ +0033 6 48 93 42 00  
contact@productionsbis.com  
[www.productionsbis.com](http://www.productionsbis.com)

## Starting Point...

“Be Claude” is a celebratory philosophical digression which embarks the character Claude on a route through a series of streets and squares, where he performs a burlesque ritual made up of a mixture of intimacy and immediacy. It is a journey, a moment of freedom, a D.I.Y manual on how to live, an escape route.

Claude is someone who we can all become...





## THE SUBJECT...

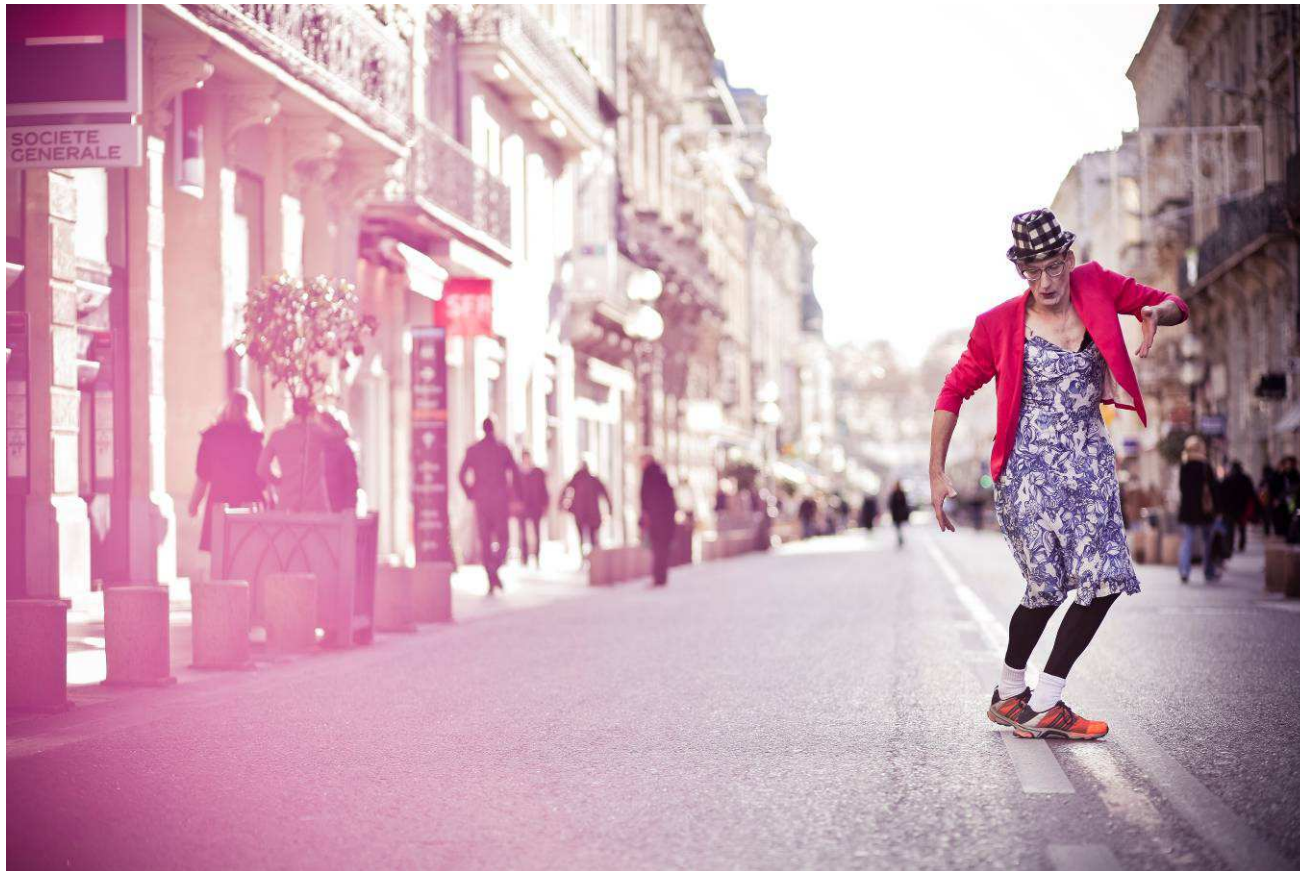
There he is, a man washing a window. It's Claude. Long, lanky body, brimming over with energy, he soaps, wipes, absorbs, cleans and polishes. He puts his back into it, gives it all he's got, rubs, dries, goes beyond cleanliness to the point of transparency, as if within him something wants to become as radical and prodigious as a tunnel of light.

In fact maybe he is washing his soul. Or making space for something. Who knows. And because he is completely involved, he soon feels totally free, on the edge of things and of the world, in perfect imbalance, available and naturally connected with one of the biggest mysteries of the human condition: the feminine part. Claude knows that no man is complete without this part, it has been this way since the invention of glass due to a fusion of elements at a high temperature.

Ever since, Claude never tires of extolling his feminine part (FP). He feels that he has grasped the best bit of himself, the part he will never be. Propelled by a magical kick up the arse, he takes off. He has never felt so enormous. At present, he possesses two sexes which couple in the street with poems. He could be an angel. His children are laughter. He is the father of the pavement, the son of the lamp post, the lover of your wings.

## ...A SHORTER VERSION FOR PROGRAMMES

There he is, a man washing a window. In fact maybe he is washing his soul. And because he is completely involved, he soon feels totally free, on the edge of things and of the world, in perfect imbalance, and naturally connected with one of the biggest mysteries of the human condition: the feminine part.



## A LOGICAL ROUTE IN LEAPS AND BOUNDS

### **Act 1: PASSING THROUGH**

Claude appears in black and white. In theory, he is at your service. But he feels a leap coming on, a changing state, a muscular sensation.

He washes a window, rubbing relentlessly, making space. He embraces the action, with his hands, arms, back and body. His sound box talks to him, reminding him of the rules of life and opening the way to his FP.

#### **1<sup>st</sup> interlude: THE FP**

He wanders gently. The box talks about the quest for his feminine part. He delves in to himself and rummages around. First steps. Unforeseen stops. Sudden departs. He feels shaky, unbalanced. He will fall.

### **Act 2: THE ACCIDENT**

Accidents happen because of a change of balance, because Claude is not himself. He falls, leaps up and falls again. It is pathetic and liberating. His body is transformed through accidents. Ouch. This is joke number 4 in the big book for clowns, senseless, stylish and idiotic.

We need to talk.

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> interlude: WE NEED TO TALK**

He has been visited by his FP, a frolicking spirit. Words are thrown to the wind. He tells all.

### **Act 3: ECSTASY**

This is it, Claude lets go, an impulse of delight, leaps and bounds through a busy thoroughfare. Claude is positive, incongruous and carefree. He dances, elegant, excessive and exuberant.

## THE PRODUCTION

### The creative Team :

Claude is: **Pierre Pilatte**

Artistic direction: **Sophie Borthwick**

Texts and narration: **Jean Cagnard**

Sound composition: **Erwan Quintin**

Costumes: **Sharon Gilham**

Production: **Claire Joyaux**

Special thanks to: Monica Muntaner, Alexandre

Théry, Isabelle Antoine, Hélène Rocheteau

**1 Watt • Sophie Borthwick, Pierre Pilatte**  
+ 00 33 6 10 59 55 19  
[s.borthwick@1watt.eu](mailto:s.borthwick@1watt.eu)

**Diffusion : Productions Bis**  
+ 0033 1 64 48 71 01/ +0033 6 48 93 42 00  
[contact@productionsbis.com](mailto:contact@productionsbis.com)  
[www.productionsbis.com](http://www.productionsbis.com)

**Management/production • Claire Joyaux**  
+ 00 33 6 14 22 19 77  
[c.joyaux@1watt.eu](mailto:c.joyaux@1watt.eu)

[www.1watt.eu](http://www.1watt.eu)

### A 1 Watt Production

#### Residencies et coproductions :

Culture Commune, Scène Nationale du Bassin Minier à Loos en Gohelle

Pronomade(s), CNAR en Haute Garonne

La Paperie, Chez Jo Bithume, CNAR à Saint Barthélémy d'Anjou

La coopérative 2r2c à Paris

Le Lieu Noir à Sète

L'Atelline à Villeneuve lès Maguelone

Furies à Châlons en Champagne

Le Citron Jaune, CNAR à Port-Saint-Louis-du-Rhône

#### Financial support :

SACD – Bourse « Auteurs d'Espace »

DGCA/Ministère de la Culture et de la Communication

CG du Gard

The 1 Watt Company is financed by the Conseil Général du Gard

## 1 WATT IN THE STREET



«**Be Claude** » is 1Watt's fourth street production.

Our previous productions are :

“**Nice Work**” : a three hour burlesque, sound and visual performance which takes the form of a path in a public place.

We propose a different use of an urban space with specific tools developed by the enterprise: protean survey instruments, signposting, unexpected sounds, gas and smoke, mobile view points, planks of wood...

« **Perfect working order** »: a movable street solo with Pierre Pilatte. Partly written and partly improvised, it takes place in squares or streets with shops and local life.

« **The Wall** » : a burlesque outdoor performance in four episodes lasting two days with Pierre pilatte (clown), Alexandre Thery (dancer), a builder and a technician.

The aim is to build a wall 4m long and 2m high with bricks and mortar.

It gradually grows over the four episodes, and is finally knocked down.



## 1 WATT IN SO MANY WORDS

**1 WATT**, a company that is burlesque, absurd, surrealist, and sometimes all of these together, or none of these at all.

**1 WATT** is Sophie Borthwick and Pierre Pilatte, and also Françoise Sourd, Isabelle Antoine, Jean Cagnard, Léon Touret, Greg Barbedor, François Tomsu, Crek Juan, Diego Pognioli, Luc deGroeve, Alexandre Thery, Régis Roiron, David Boutry, Nadir Bouassaria...

**1 WATT** proposes the following performances:

- “**Like a Sunday**”, indoor show created 2001.
- “**Perfect Working Order**”, street show created 2003.
- “**In My Philosophy**”, indoor show created 2004.
- « **The Wall** », street show 2008
- « **Nice Work** », street project 2011
- « **Be Claude** », street project 2013
- “**Free Watt**”, an outdoor project, work in progress
- « **Oyster** », indoor project 2014



*Dans 1 WATT, il y a Watt, personnage de S. Beckett.  
« La pensée de quitter la ville lui était douloureuse, dit Monsieur Hackett, mais celle d’y rester ne l’était pas moins. Il se dirige donc vers la gare, souhaitant à demi manquer son train. »*



## TECHNICAL RIDER

- The show lasts 60 minutes .
- 150 people can comfortably follow it.
- It is performed during the day
- Claude is accompanied by his sound box (100Watts)
- A previous visit is recommendable. Alternatively, a virtual visit is possible on Google Map

### ✓ The following is important, in order to establish a suitable route for the show

- The distance from the starting point to the finishing point is between 50-100 metres
- The public is invited to gather at a meeting point near the first scene of the show. A “guide” will greet the public and take them to the first scene.
- The first scene takes place in front of a large window or glass shop front (2/3 metres high and 2/4 m wide). The actor washes and dries the window.
- The actor and the guide will then take the public through a calm street, with walking actions along the street, followed by a static scene. There is preferably no traffic.
- The following scene (The accident) should take place in an open square. At the end of this scene, the actor needs a place to change costumes. The public and the guide wait for him in the square
- The actor returns and says a short monologue, in the square if it is quiet enough, or in a quieter place nearby.
- The actor leads the public on a walk, which lasts 3-4 minutes. A long street is preferable. During this walk, we listen to the sound box. It is important to be able to walk together behind the actor.
- Last scene : takes place in a busy thorough fare or cross roads (we arrive there at the end of the walk). The actor plays with cars, roundabouts, pavements, bus stops, passers-by.

### ✓ Managing the public during the show

- At least two people should accompany the show, in order to guide the public along the way, and to place people during the scenes. Normally there is no need to block the traffic, but sometimes we ask drivers to wait, or to take another route during certain scenes or interludes.

### ✓ Please note

- We need all day access to a dressing room near the starting point, which is large enough to warm up in, with running water and toilet facilities. Access to a plug socket.

