JULIE BEAUVAIS

Opera Director, Transdisciplinary Artist, Educator

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WINDHORSE

Contemporary Opera Laboratory

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2026

JULIE BEAUVAIS DEPLOYS CONTEMPORARY AND MAJORITY WORLD OPERA, TRANSDISCIPLINARY PERFORMANCES, AND OPEN RESEARCH SINCE 2000.

Bio & Trajectory *p. 2* | **Works & Productions** *p. 4* | **Academic Experience** *p. 10* | **International Network** *p. 13*

JULIE BEAUVAIS

OPERA DIRECTOR, TRANSDISCIPLINARY ARTIST, EDUCATOR

Based in the mountains of southern Switzerland and northern India, Julie Beauvais explores the fundamental tenets of opera across global traditions: the embodiment of cosmoperceptions, vibrations traveling through vastness, and ever-changing fields of entanglements. Her creations have been presented internationally since 2001.

After graduating from the École Internationale de Théâtre Jacques Lecoq in Paris in 2000, Beauvais co-founded several companies in the United States, Switzerland, and Denmark. For the next decade, she explored Epic Theatre in diverse political contexts, leading to long-term collaborations with Brazilian, Mongolian, and Nicaraguan companies. In 2006, she began staging operas, soon focusing on contemporary and Majority World repertoires. In 2013, she created a platform for her experiments by founding Windhorse, a multicultural laboratory dedicated to exploring how contemporary opera can contribute to sustainable development and global cooperation.

Invited to share her research and passionate about the continuity of practices and the mutation of processes, she regularly collaborates with institutions including ZHdK–Zürcher Hochschule der Künste, Hochschule für Musik FHNW in Basel, Hochschule Luzern–Musik, EPFL–École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, the HEMU–Haute École de Musique, Arthaus.Berlin International Training and Research Center, and the SMI–Srishti Manipal Institute of Art, Design and Technology in Bangalore, among others. She also leads workshops and masterclasses internationally.

Selected recent works include ***The Witness*** (since 2018), a translocal opera practice weaving Earth's changing messages with the voices of indigenous wisdom holders; ***Sonic Matter***, an experimental music platform and festival based in Zurich (founded and co-directed 2020–2022); and ***ALTER–*** (2021-2024), a high-altitude residency program fostering collaboration among artists, researchers, and local inhabitants in response to environmental crises. Recently, she directed ***ORLANDO***, a New Paradigm Opera co-produced by La Bâtie–Festival de Genève. This production has toured extensively, appearing at the FIBA–Festival Internacional de Buenos Aires, the Festival de Santiago a Mil, the Mostra Internacional de Teatro de São Paulo, the O. Festival in Rotterdam, the Manifesta13 European biennial in Marseille, and throughout India.

Julie's current collaborative field research focuses on Himalayan operas and their potential to create new narratives that reflect both local heritage and global paradigm shifts.

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PROFESSIONAL JOURNEY

1978 | Born in Switzerland (Swiss and French nationality)
1998–2000 | Alumna of the École Internationale de Théâtre Jacques Lecoq (Professional Training in Physical Theatre and Performing Arts), Paris FR
2000–2002 | Co-founder, Co-artistic Director, and Stage Director | *Sprung Theatre*, Chicago USA
2002–2010 | Founder, Artistic Director, and Stage Director | *Cie Mondes Contraires*, Geneva CH
2005–2008 | Co-founder and Performer | *Hopballehus Theatre*, Silkeborg DK
2005–2014 | Artistic Director and Stage Director | *Ouverture Opéra*, Sion CH
2009–2010 | Teacher training - Certified Teacher (Lecoq Pedagogy and Performing Arts) | *London International School of Performing Arts (LISPA)*, London UK
& *Arthaus.Berlin*, Berlin DE
2013–Present | Founder and Artistic Director | *Windhorse Platform* (International Contemporary Opera Laboratory), Valais CH
2018–Present | Founder and Director | *The Witness* (Translocal Opera, Cooperative Practice, Network of Communities), Active worldwide WW
2020–2022 | Co-founder and Co-director | *Sonic Matter Festival*, Zurich CH
2021–2024 | Co-founder, Co-director, and Co-curator of the Residency Program | *ALTER– Altitude Laboratory, Transition Experiments, Research*, Val d'Anniviers CH
2026-Present | Student, Nalanda Diploma Course in Buddhist Philosophy | *Tibet House*, Delhi IN

AWARDS

Cultural prize Cie Ouverture Opéra – 2014 État du Valais CH
Cultural prize Julie Beauvais – 2011 État du Valais CH

JURY & COMMISSIONS

Canton Basel, Commission Music - Expert, 2023-2024 Basel CH
Concours Nicati 2019, Open Space category - Jury president, 2019 Bern CH

PUBLICATION

Space without fear: The art of Julie Beauvais
Espace sans peur: L'art de Julie Beauvais
Le Diable, la plume et le pinceau
2015 – Edited by Les Amis de Muret, Lens, et les ayant droits
Texts by Winsome Brown, photos by Robert Hofer
ISBN: 978-2-8399-1727-8

RESEARCH VOYAGES AND RESIDENCIES

Research trip *Himalayan Operas*, 2025 Ladakh IN
Field research *MANA*, 2021 Polynesia FR
Research trip *The Witness*, 2021 Mozambique, South Africa, Uganda
Field research and residency *ORLANDO* – Pro Helvetia, 2019 Patagonia AR
Research residency *Excuse Me While I Kiss The Sky*, 2015 Bagan MM
Research residency *The Fervor*, 2014 New Mexico USA
Research trip *Krãsis*, 2012 Amritsar, Dehradun, Varanasi, Konarak IN
Red House Manhattan Residency – Etat du Valais, 2011 New York USA

WORKS & PRODUCTIONS

SELECTION 2000-PRESENT

Project / Production	Details / Collaborations / Repertoire	Role	Period	Location
ALTER-	**Artist Residency** Altitude Laboratory, Transition Experiments, Research www.alter-anniviers.com	Co-Director, Co-Curator	2021–2024	Val d'Anniviers CH
THE WITNESS	**Experimental Opera** Field Research, Translocal Practice and Network of Communities Africa, Asia, Americas, Europe, Oceania www.thewitness.earth	Director, Curator	2018– Present	Mingxiu Batik Workshop CN Faculty of Fine Arts in Brno CZ Gustav Mahler Private University for Music, Klagenfurt AT Harkat Studios, Mumbai IN Museum Tinguely & Basel Academy of Music FHNW - Music and Scene in Transformation (MuST), Basel CH Zurich University of the Arts ZHdK, Department MA Transdisciplinary Studies, Zurich CH Carnegie Hall, New York USA Museum Rietberg, Zurich CH India Music Experience, Bangalore IN 2022 - Centre Culturel Les Changeurs, Agbodrafo TO Canda region and the Cities of Inhambane and Xai Xai MOZ Gessnerallee & Sonic Matter Festival, Zurich CH Llanchama Cocha Soundscape Collection, Llanchama Cocha ECU THEATRUM: Re-Formation, Moscow RU Srishti Manipal Institute of Art, Design and Technology & National School of Drama, Bangalore IN Arthaus.Berlin International Training and Research Center, Berlin DE

ORLANDO	**Experimental Opera** for Seven Movements, One Voice and One Horizon **India Tour**	Director, Choreographer	2022–2023	Kochi-Muziris Biennale, Kerala [IN] The Giving Tree (Imphal), Charshung Phungreitang & Zaishin Dance Rooftop Ukhrul, Yumpham Arts Space, Manipur [IN] Goethe Institute, Bangalore, Karnataka [IN]
ORLANDO	**Experimental Opera** for Seven Movements, One Voice and One Horizon **South America Tour**	Director, Choreographer	2019–2020	Santiago a Mil Festival [CL] FIBA-Festival Internacional de Buenos Aires [AR] MITsp-Mostra Internacional de Teatro de São Paulo [BR]
ORLANDO	**Experimental Opera** for Seven Movements, One Voice and One Horizon **Europe Tour**	Director, Choreographer	2018–2020	Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne [CH] La Bâtie-Festival de Genève [CH] Dock 11 & EDEN**** [DE] REGIONAL19, Kalt, Strasbourg [FR] La Ferme-Asile, Sion[CH] O. Festival, Rotterdam [NL] The European Nomadic Biennial Manifesta13, GMEM et CCN Ballet national de Marseille [FR] Chandolin[CH]
DENSITY 21.5	**Performance** Repertoire: Edgard Varèse	Choreographer	2017	The Kitchen, New York [USA]
TOCCATA E FUGA	**Long Duration Duo Performance** Repertoire: BWV 565 (flute) by Johann Sebastian Bach	Co-Creator, Performer	2017	La Ferme-Asile, Sion [CH]
CATALOG	**Experimental Recital** Repertoire: Haendel, Mozart, Verdi, Bowie	Director, Researcher	2017	La Ferme-Asile, Sion [CH]

SUNBATHING IN MY TEARS	**Solo Opera Performance** in Four Movements for Soprano and Electronic Orchestra Repertoire: Sino alla morte and Lagrime mie by Barbara Strozzi, Nova/Minraud by Olga Neuwirth, Sunbathing by Blaise Ubaldini	Stage Director	2017–2018	La Ferme-Asile, Sion [CH], EPFL, Lausanne [CH]
HEROINE	**Solo Opera Performance** Repertoire: Arias by Georg Friedrich Haendel	Stage Director	2017	La Ferme-Asile, Sion [CH]
COSÌ FAN TUTTE	**Opera** Buffa in Two Acts composed by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart Libretto by Lorenzo Da Ponte Cie Ouverture Opéra	Stage Director	2014	La Ferme-Asile, Sion [CH]
KRÃSIS	**Experimental Opera, Monumental Installation**	Director	2013–2014	Funkhaus Berlin [DE] Münsterplatz Bern [CH] Fest. Scènes Valaisannes, Sion [CH] La Bâtie-Festival & Grand Theatre de Genève [CH]
THE SOLDIER'S TALE	**Experimental Opera** based on The Soldier's Tale Composed by Igor Stravinsky Libretto by Charles Ferdinand Ramuz	Stage Director	2013–2014	Fondation Pierre Arnaud, Lens [CH]
THIS IS NOT FOR YOU	**Performance**	Co-Creator, Performer	2013	Philadelphia Fringe Festival [USA]
HANSEL AND GRETEL	**Opera** composed by Engelbert Humperdinck Libretto by Adelheid Wette	Stage Director	2013	Opéra de Lausanne [CH]

ALCINA	**Opera** Seria composed by Georg Friedrich Haendel Libretto by Antonio Fanzaglia, Based on Orlando Furioso by Ludovico Ariosto Cie Ouverture Opéra	Stage Director	2012	La Ferme-Asile, Sion [CH]
ORFEO ED EURIDICE	**Opera** composed by Christoph Willibald Gluck Libretto by Ranieri de' Calzabigi Cie Amabilis	Stage Director	2012	Amabilis, Lausanne [CH]
RADAMISTO	**Opera** Seria composed by Georg Friedrich Haendel Libretto by Nicola Francesco Haym	Stage Director	2011	Zürcher Hochschule der Künste [CH] Winterthur Theater [CH] Kurtheater Baden [CH]
MONODRAMAS : ***ERWARTUNG /*** ***NEITHER /*** ***LA MACHINE DE L'ÊTRE***	**Operas** composed by Arnold Schönberg, Morton Feldman, John Zorn Libretti by Marie Pappenheim, Samuel Beckett, Antonin Artaud	Assistant Director to Michael Counts	2011	New York City Opera, Lincoln Center's Koch Theater, New York [USA]
DON GIOVANNI	**Opera** in Two Acts Composed by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart Libretto by Lorenzo Da Ponte Cie Ouverture Opéra	Stage Director	2010	La Ferme-Asile, Sion [CH]
EL CIRCULÒ DE TIZA	**Theatre** The Caucasian Chalk Circle by Bertolt Brecht Cie Mondes Contraires & Collectivo de Mujeres de Matagalpa	Project Director, Co-Creator, Actor	2009–2010	Matagalpa Nicaragua tour [NI] Théâtre St Gervais, Genève [CH] Théâtre Interface, Sion [CH]

LA BOHÈME	**Opera** in Four Acts Composed by Giacomo Puccini Libretto by Luigi Illica and Giuseppe Giacosa, Based on Scènes de la Vie de Bohème by Henri Murger Cie Ouverture Opéra	Stage Director	2008	La Ferme-Asile, Sion [CH]
PHILOMENA PARADE	**Performance** Hopballhus Theatre	Co-Creator, Performer	2007	Oslo Festival [NO]
EL MONKEY	**Theatre** The Monkey by Isak Dinesen (Karen Blixen) From Seven Gothic Tales Hopballhus Theatre	Co-Creator, Performer	2006	Odin Teatret, Holstebro [DK] Tilcara [AR] Centro Cultural de la Cooperación, Buenos Aires [AR]
EMIR ET CADOR	**Theatre** Mask Duet performed in Theaters and Reception Centers for People Seeking Asylum Across Switzerland Cie Mondes Contraires	Co-Creator, Actor	2006	Comédie de Genève [CH] Théâtre Pitoeff Genève [CH] Toured centers for people seeking asylum across Switzerland
LE NOZZE DI FIGARO	**Opera** Buffa in Four Acts Composed by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart Libretto by Lorenzo Da Ponte Cie Ouverture Opéra	Stage Director	2006	La Ferme-Asile, Sion [CH]
ROMEO ET JULIETTE AU VILLAGE	**Theatre** Romeo Und Julia Auf Dem Dorfe by Gottfried Keller Cie Mondes Contraires & Performers, Actors, Dancers, Musicians from Mongolia Cie Mondes Contraires	Project Director, Co-Creator, Actor	2005	Premiered in Ulaanbaatar and toured across the Mongolian steppe for nomadic communities [MN]

TRANSSIBÉRIEN	**Theatre** Mask Trio Performed in the Trains Between Geneva and Ulaanbaatar Cie Mondes Contraires	Project Director, Co-Creator, Actor	2005	Trans-Mongolian train [MN]
APPEL EN ABSENCE	**Theatre** Creation by Cie Mondes Contraires	Project Director, Co-Creator, Actor	2003	Théâtre de l'Usine, Genève [CH]
SEEP	**Theatre** Creation by Sprung Theatre	Co-Creator, Stage Director	2002	Links Hall, Chicago [USA]
A ALMA BOA DE SETZUAN	**Theatre** The Good Woman of Sichuan by Bertolt Brecht Cie Mondes Contraires & Movimento Pró-Criança	Project Director, Co-Creator, Actor	2001	Pro Criança, Recife [BR]
LA CONTADINA ASTUTA	**Theatre** Creation Dir. Antonio Fava	Co-Creator, Actor	2001	Teatro Reggio Emilia [BR] Petit Théâtre de Sion [CH]
AND SO I MAY RETURN	**Theatre** Creation by Plasticene Dir. Dexter Bullard	Co-Creator, Actor	2001	Plasticene, Chicago [USA]
CAPSIZE	**Theatre** Creation by Sprung Theatre Dir. Jon Sherman and Julie Beauvais	Co-Creator, Co-Stage Director	2000	Links Hall, Chicago [USA]

ACADEMIC & TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2010-PRESENT

Institution	Role	Period	Location
Bern Academy of the Arts HKB – Contemporary Arts Practice CAP	Mentor	2026	Bern CH
Basel Academy of Music FHNW – MuST	Lecturer	2023–2024	Basel CH
Zurich University of the Arts ZHdK – Transdisciplinary Studies	Guest Lecturer	2023–Present	Zurich CH
Lucerne School of Music HSLU	Guest Lecturer and Mentor	2022	Lucerne CH
Basel Academy of Music FHNW	Guest Lecturer and Mentor	2021–Present	Basel CH
Glion Institute of Higher Education GIHE	Lecturer	2019–2024	Montreux CH
Srishti Manipal Institute of Art, Design and Technology SMI	Guest Lecturer	2019–Present	Bangalore IN
International Theatre School of Russia	Guest Lecturer	2019	Moscow RU
arthaus.berlin International Training and Research Centre for Devised Theatre and Performance	Guest Teacher	2018–Present	Berlin DE
École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne EPFL	Guest Lecturer	2014	Lausanne CH
Zurich University of the Arts ZHdK – Music	Guest Lecturer and Mentor	2013–Present	Zurich CH
Haute École de Musique HEMU	Lecturer	2010–2013	Lausanne/Fribourg CH

WORKSHOPS & MASTERCLASSES

2002-PRESENT (SELECTION)

Module/Workshop	Partner/Host	Year	Location
Making Sanctuary	Ladakh Arts and Media organization LAMO The Ladakh Academy of Art, Culture & Languages LAAC&L Embassy of Switzerland in India and Bhutan under the *Sustainability with a plus* initiative	2026	Leh, Ladakh IN
The Witness Openlab	thewitness.earth Full list of venues and occurrences	2018–Present	Active worldwide
ORLANDO The Future Is Fluid	Goethe Institute Max Mueller Bhavan	2023	Bangalore IN
ORLANDO Building Integral Spaces	Imphal University and Ukhrul	2023	Manipur IN
Design Ecologies	Zurich University of the Arts ZHdK, Department Design	2022	Zürich CH
ORLANDO The Future Is Fluid	MITsp-Mostra Internacional de Teatro de São Paulo Festival Santiago a Mil FIBA-Festival Internacional de Buenos Aires	2020 2019 2019	São Paulo BR Santiago CL Buenos Aires AR
The Witness Openlab	Srishti Manipal Institute of Art, Design and Technology SMI National School of Drama	2019	Bangalore IN
ORLANDO Talk	Alice Boner Institute	2019	Varanasi IN

Masterclass	International Theatre School of The Russian Federation STD Festival Artmigration	2019 2019	Moscow [RU] Moscow [RU]
Investigation and Development of a Scenographic Device	LAPIS EPFL/ENAC, Fire 3 Conference	2017	Lausanne [CH]
Music-Body-Space Strategies	Ferme-Asile	2017	Sion [CH]
The Neutral Mask	Ferme-Asile	2017	Sion [CH]
Sublime and Realism, Spatial Treatment of Baroque and Contemporary Music	LAPIS EPFL/ENAC, Fire 3 Conference	2016	Lausanne [CH]
The Tragic Space / Expressive Masks	Performers House	2016	Silkeborg [DK]
Invisible Architecture	EPFL + ECAL lab, Fire 3 Conference	2015	Lausanne [CH]
Krãsis	École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne EPFL	2014	Lausanne [CH]
The Body in Exile, Theatre Workshops with and for Women Experiencing Displacement	City of Geneva and Camarada Maison du Monde CEFAM, Camarada, F-Information centers	2010–2011 2009–2011 2008	Geneva [CH] Monthey [CH] Geneva [CH]
Brecht & Epic Theatre	Colectivo de Mujeres de Matagalpa	2008	Matagalpa [NI]
Introduction to Lecoq Pedagogy	University of Buenos Aires	2007	Buenos Aires [AR]
The Poetic Body	De Kalb Northern Illinois University	2002	Chicago [USA]
Brecht & Epic Theatre	Movimento Pro-Criança	2002	Recife [BR]

INTERNATIONAL NETWORK

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, CANTONS & CITIES

DDC — Direction du Développement et de la Coopération

Embassy of Switzerland in India and Bhutan

Pro Helvetia — Swiss Arts Council

DRAC — Direction Régionale des Affaires Culturelles Grand Est

CNC — Centre National du Cinéma et de l'Image animée

Artlink SüdKulturFonds

Alliance Française de Kampala

République et Canton de Genève

Canton du Valais

Kanton Bern

Loterie Romande

Délégation valaisanne à la Loterie Romande

Ville de Genève

Stadt Zürich

Stadt Bern

Burgergemeinde Bern

Ville de Sion

Commune d'Anniviers

Commune de Vandœuvres

Ernst Göhner Stiftung

Pour-cent culturel Migros

Anniviers Tourisme

ACADEMIES, UNIVERSITIES & RESEARCH HUBS

EPFL — École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne

ZHdK — Zürcher Hochschule der Künste

FHNW — Hochschule für Musik Basel

ECAL — École Cantonale d'Art de Lausanne

HEMU — Haute École de Musique

HEAR — Haute École des Arts du Rhin

NSD — National School of Drama in Bangalore

SMI — Srishti Manipal Institute of Art, Design and Technology in Bangalore

ITSRF — International Theatre School of the Russian Federation in Moscow

arthaus.berlin ITR Centre for Devised Theatre and Performance

Accélérateur de Particules Strasbourg

Colectivo de Mujeres de Matagalpa

Movimento Pró-Criança Recife

GIHE — Glion Institute of Higher Education

Les Roches Global Hospitality Education

THEATRES, OPERAS, MUSEUMS & CREATIVE SPACES

Goethe-Institut Max Mueller Bhavan Bangalore

Grand Théâtre de Genève

Opéra de Lausanne

BNM — Ballet National de Marseille

Museum Rietberg Zurich

Museum Tinguely Basel

Funkhaus Berlin

GMEM — CNCM-Marseille

The Kitchen New York

CCC — Centro Cultural de la Cooperación Buenos Aires

Zürcher Gessnerallee

Stadttheater Schaffhausen

Winterthur Theater

Kurtheater Baden

Théâtre Saint-Gervais Genève

Théâtre de l'Usine Genève

Dock 11 & EDEN*** Berlin

Links Hall Chicago

La Ferme-Asile Sion

Nachom Arts Foundation

LAMO — Ladakh Arts and Media Organisation

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVALS & BIENNIALS

Manifesta 13 Marseille — The European Nomadic Biennial

La Bâtie — Festival de Genève

FIBA — Festival Internacional de Buenos Aires

Santiago a Mil Festival

MITsp — Mostra Internacional de Teatro de São Paulo

Fringe Festival Philadelphia

Pearl Rhythm Festival Kampala

Rotterdam O. Festival

Sonic Matter Festival Zurich

THEATRUM — Re-Formation Moscow

Regionale 19 Strasbourg

Festival Scènes Valaisannes