

## **GUY COOLEN**

**Guy Coolen** (°1966) studied Germanic Philology at Antwerp University and graduated later in Theatre and Communication Sciences at Ghent University.

Since 1994 he is general and artistic director of the production company Muziektheater Transparant (Antwerp), a company that offers residencies to composers, vocalists and theatre-makers and that realizes very appreciated music theatre projects throughout the world.

Muziektheater Transparant was invited at many international podia and festivals: Cultural Capitals 2008 and 2018, the Holland Festival, Festival d'Avignon, Edinburgh and Singapore International Festival, Kunstenfestivaldesarts, Melbourne and Sydney Festival, Beijing Music Festival ...

Since 2008 Guy Coolen is also artistic director of the annual O. Festival for Opera. Music. Theatre., in 2015 in London nominated as best opera festival and for the 'Innovation Award' of Classical Next. Both the festival and the company Muziektheater Transparant have the same aim: to stimulate and innovate opera and music theatre.

Guy Coolen is member of numerous organizations including the European Cultural Parliament. He is the president of the International Theatre Institute (ITI) Music Theatre Comity and of ITI Belgium-Flanders and the president of the ITI Music Theatre Now Network. He is also the president of the board of the B'Rock baroque music ensemble. He is member of the board of the Laika theatre group and of the CVN Cultural Treaty Flanders-Netherlands.