

## ULTIMA 2016 AMATEUR ARTS FORUMTHEATER RADICALISERING (RADICALISATION FORUM THEATRE)

After the attacks in Paris in 2015 and Brussels in 2016, concerns grew among a group of women about the radicalisation of young people in the neighbourhood of Molenbeek. Forum Theatre, a form of participatory theatre, encouraged them to put together a new group to create scenes about sensitive and complex issues: racism and radicalisation. Their own experiences and concerns, taken from real life, form the starting point. How do you recognise the first signs of radicalisation? How do you improve communication between parents and children? How do you create trust and mutual respect?

In the autumn a group of women from the organisation Caleidoscoop at [De Vaartkapoen](http://www.vaartkapoen.be) community centre in Sint-Jans Molenbeek/Molenbeek-Saint-Jean and [Vormingplus Citizenne](http://www.citizenne.be) produced a co-creation under the direction of Har Tortike. These are short scenes which end badly. The actors and actresses perform without costumes, make-up, special lighting or sets. The audience feels involved and can join in with the discussion during the show. The scenes are then acted again with the solutions that emerge from the discussion. This direct involvement gives everyone the power to break down taboos and regain self-respect. After the attacks in Paris, a shadow of shame, unrest and powerlessness fell over Brussels and Molenbeek in particular. This is a forum to express fears, dreams and wishes. As the women say themselves, Forum Theatre becomes 'forum therapy'. The lack of fourth wall ensures that everyone in the room knows that they are not alone...

Forumtheater Radicalisering is still touring cultural centres in Flanders and Brussels and also went to France and the Netherlands at the end of last year.

This video provides more information about [Forumtheater Radicalisering](https://vimeo.com/191790262): <https://vimeo.com/191790262>

<http://www.vaartkapoen.be/file/forumtheater-radicalisering>  
<http://www.citizenne.be>