

About Ivo Van Hove

Ivo Van Hove (Belgium, 1958) started his career as a theatre director in 1981 with his own productions such as "Disease germs" and "Rumours". Even then, he liked to stage his productions in unusual locations such as harbour warehouses, an old laundry or cellars. He was artistic director of the theatre group AKT-Vertikaal and of De Tijd theatre in Antwerp. From 1990 to 2000 he was director of Het Zuidelijk Toneel in Eindhoven and from 1998 to 2004 he managed the Holland Festival in Amsterdam. From 2001 to September 2023, he was director of the Internationaal Theater Amsterdam (ITA), formerly Toneelgroep Amsterdam, the largest theatre company in the Netherlands. In November 2023 he has been appointed as artistic director of the Ruhrtriennale for the 2024–2026 seasons

Ivo Van Hove's productions have been performed at the Festival d'Avignon, the Edinburgh International Festival, the Venice Biennale, the Holland Festival, the international theatre festival Theater der Welt and the Wiener Festwochen, among others. He has directed the ensembles of La Comédie-Française, Deutsches Schauspielhaus Hamburg, Schaubühne Berlin, Staatstheater Stuttgart, the National Theatre London, Vienna Burgtheater and the New York Theatre Workshop and has worked with actors such as Gillian Anderson, Juliette Binoche, Bryan Cranston, Isabelle Huppert and Jude Law. His productions have been performed all over the world, from New York, London, Chile, Argentina, and Sydney to Taipei.

He directed the musical "Rent" for the theatre and musical producer Joop van den Ende. At the Vlaamse Opera, he staged "Lulu" by Alban Berg and the entire "Ring des Nibelungen" by Richard Wagner (2006–2008). At the Dutch National Opera in Amsterdam, he directed Janáček's "The Makropulos Affair" (2002), Tchaikovsky's "Iolante" (2004), Schreker's "The Treasure Hunter" (2012) and "Salome" (2017) by Richard Strauss. In 2014, he directed the world premiere of the opera "Brokeback Mountain" at the Teatro Real. Van Hove directed "A View from the Bridge" (2015) and "The Crucible" (2016) by Arthur Miller on Broadway. He also directed David Bowie's last work, the musical theatre show "Lazarus".

In the past, Ivo Van Hove has been invited to the Ruhrtriennale with the co-productions "Die stille Kraft", "Die Dinge, die vorübergehen" and "Kleine Seelen" by Louis Couperus (2015 - 2017), with "Rocco und seine Brüder" by Luchino Visconti (2008) and "Teorema" after Pier Paolo Pasolini (2009).

Ivo Van Hove staged "Network" by Lee Hall with actor Bryan Cranston at the National Theatre in London in 2017. A year later, the production premiered at the Cort Theatre on Broadway. It was nominated for five Tony Awards, the most prestigious American theatre prize. At the National Theatre in London, he also directed "All About Eve" with actress Gillian Anderson and staged Hanya Yanagihara's novel "A Little Life" (2023). Van Hove has directed at the Opéra de Paris, De Nationale Opera Amsterdam, Komische Oper Berlin, De Vlaamse Opera and De Munt in Brussels, among others. In 2023, he made his debut at the Metropolitan Opera New York with two opera productions: Mozart's "Don Giovanni" and "Dead Man Walking" by Jake Heggie. In February 2020, Van Hove and choreographer Anne Teresa de Keersmaecker created a radical new production of the musical "Westside Story", which premiered at the Broadway Theatre in New York. This was immediately followed in March 2020 by Van Hove's production of "The Glass Menagerie" by Tennessee Williams with leading actress Isabelle Huppert, which premiered at the Théâtre de l'Odéon.

At the Toneelgroep Amsterdam, Ivo Van Hove has directed, among others "Angels in America" by Tony Kushner, "Scenes from a Marriage", "After the Rehearsal / Persona" and "Cries and Whispers" by Ingmar Bergman, "Opening Night" and "Husbands" by John Cassavetes, "Ossessione" by Luchino Visconti, the "Antonioni Project" after Michelangelo Antonioni, "The Human Voice" by Jean Cocteau, "Summer Trilogy" by Carlo Goldoni, "Children of the Sun" by Maxim Gorky, "The Miser" by Molière, "Elektra Must Mourn" and "A Long Journey into the

Night" by Eugene O'Neill, "The Russians! " by Tom Lanoye after Anton Chekhov, "The Fountainhead" by Ayn Rand, "Maria Stuart" by Friedrich Schiller and his adaptation of Shakespeare's dramas as "marathon performances" lasting several hours.

Van Hove's work has received numerous awards, including two Obie Awards for Best Director in an Off-Broadway production in New York (for "More Stately Mansions" and "Hedda Gabler"), the Flanders Oeuvre Prize (1995), the Theatre Festival Prize (1996), the Archangel Award at the Edinburgh Festival (1999) and the Commandeur dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (2004) in France and Commander in the Order of the Crown in Belgium. In 2007 he was honoured with the Critic's Award in the Netherlands. In 2008, together with Jan Versweyveld, he received the Prosceniumprijs, a Dutch work prize, and in 2012 the Amsterdam Business Oeuvre Award. In 2014, Van Hove received an honorary doctorate for general merit from the University of Antwerp and the Flemish Minister of Culture, Sven Gatz, awarded him the Flemish Culture Prize for general cultural merit. In 2015, Van Hove was honoured with two Olivier Awards for "A View from the Bridge" and the Amsterdam Award for the Arts, together with Jan Versweyveld. In 2016, Ivo Van Hove received two Tony Awards, two Drama League Awards, two Drama Desk Awards, two Outer Critics Circle Awards and two Grands Prix de la Critique. In December 2023, he received the Gold Medal of the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium for Science and Art, and in April 2026, he won for "All My Sons" the Olivier Award for Best Revival.

