

# THE WOUND IS THE PLACE WHERE THE LIGHT CAN ENTER YOU

A theatrical concert based on texts by the Sufi mystic Rumi

Concerto Copenhagen  
Aylin Sezer - soprano  
Emma Farnell-Watson -  
Dance  
Ottoman instrumental  
soloists

## Rumi

In 1207, the great Persian Sufi poet and mystic Rumi was born. In Turkey, this "master alchemist of love" is revered as a national hero and in the United States, he is considered the most widely read poet. His texts have a transformative power and offer insight. Every story, every poem, and every statement contains a message about how to lead a meaningful life, about how love and pain can lead to personal growth.



## Concerto Copenhagen

Concerto Copenhagen is considered one of the most prominent Baroque ensembles in the world. The company consists of the most talented musicians from seven different countries.



*"The wound is the place where the light can enter you"*, merges the poetic works of the Sufi mystic

Rumi from the 13th century with the rich sound of a baroque ensemble, traditional Turkish instruments, percussion and a soprano's voice. Additionally, a dance performance enhances the show by interpreting Rumi's profound words. The production delves into the themes of love, yearning, and the quest for spiritual enlightenment. The character of the music is distinctly lyrical, interspersed with highly virtuosic passages, and moves between echoes of traditional Ottoman music to a grand monumental sound world. **Watch the Trailer**

## Journey

During the concert the audience will embark on a journey through the texts of Rumi, starting in a state of spiritual ignorance. As the performance progresses, the audience will be guided through Rumi's powerful poetry and the transcendent music and dance.



## Aylin Sezer Soprano

The Turkish-Dutch soprano Aylin Sezer studied singing at the Royal Conservatory of The Hague. She continued her studies at the Dutch National Opera Academy, where she graduated with the distinction of "exceptional artistic quality". She was a finalist at the Leyla Gencer Voice Competition 2010 in Istanbul. She won the Schaunard Award 2017 and the HOTIAD Award for Turkish Artist of the Year.



## Hakan Uyum Ney

Hakan Ronas Uyum, born in Amsterdam, fell in love with the sound of the Ney at a very young age. He received Ney lessons in Istanbul with Mustafa Hakan Alvan and in 2015 he was admitted to the conservatory of Rotterdam where he was the student of the legendary Kudsi Erguner. Hakan is considered of being the most talented Ney player of his generation. He is a regular member of the Tevazu Sufi Music Ensemble.

## Ney (bamboo flute) and "Breath" meaning "Spirit"

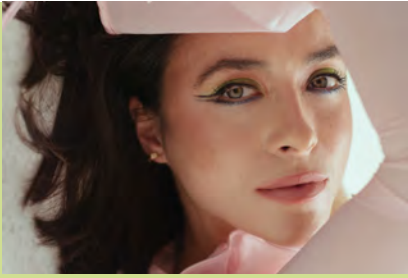
This concert exclusively features ancient traditional instruments.

In addition to the baroque ensemble, traditional instruments and percussion, a 'Ney' (bamboo flute) has also been chosen, which will play a prominent musical role for an important symbolic reason.

The reed flute is in Sufi tradition used as a symbol for the soul longing for its offspring. The plaintive sound of the reed flute gives voice to the pain of the soul. The flute is played by the breath. In several languages, the term 'breathing' is derived from the word for soul. For instance, English's 'respire' and French's 'respirer' both originate from the root word for 'spirit.' In German, 'Atem' and Dutch's 'adem' are similar, while in Sanskrit, 'atman' translates to soul.

## Form

The concert begins with an overture that sets the tone for the performance and seamlessly transitions into the first part, where Rumi's texts focus on the pain of human suffering, starting in a "valley" of darkness and despair. However, as the concert progresses, the tone of the lyrics and music shifts. The recurrent use of the quote "The wound is the place where the light enters you" serves as a reminder that suffering is not an end in itself, but rather a necessary step on the path to enlightenment. The music gradually becomes lighter and more uplifting, mirroring the transformation described in Rumi's poetry, until reaching a final state of enlightenment.



## Emma Farnell-Watson Dance

Emmas career spans over both the contemporary and commercial fields. She has toured internationally with Jasmin Vardimon Company and currently with Hofesh Shechter Company.



## Rijndert van Woudenberg Composition

Composer Rijndert van Woudenberg (publisher Donemus The Hague) has an impressive list of compositions to his name. After years of working in the Dutch classical, theater, and film world, he was given the opportunity in 2009 to write a new composition for the renowned NOMAD ensemble from Tokyo on the occasion of 400 years of trade relations between the Netherlands and Japan. The performance of this work led to a series of Japanese commissions. From 2009 to 2022, Van Woudenberg exclusively premiered new works in Japan. In addition to these commissions, he dedicated 5 years to research for the historical opera Dejima.

In preparation for composing the score of *"The wound is the place where the light can enter you"*, Rijndert conducted extensive research on Ottoman music and Sufism.

## Dance

The audience experiences this journey from darkness to enlightenment through the performance of a soprano, whose true identity is only revealed at the end of the show. This revelation happens when the dancer, who embodies the soprano's false self or ego, finally dies.



### [Watch the Trailer](#)

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