

Poetry full of testosterone

Wonderbras & Pepper Spray

ANDY FIERENS

'Wonderbras & Pepper Spray' by Andy Fierens is revealing in its contemporaneity. Fierens is entirely aware of the traditions his writing inhabits without getting stuck in them. Those who still think that poetry always sings about sublime subjects in a sacred, respectful tone will have to fundamentally rethink their opinions after reading these poems.

The poems of Andy Fierens are repositories of language material (brand names, puns and word play, quotations, fragments of texts heard on the streets, mangled texts, jokes...) which is woven boisterously as well as humorously into highly readable texts that also work well on stage.

He composes exuberant poems that sometimes come flying off the rails – which is actually quite refreshing considering how stagnant the world of poetry so often is

TZUM

In Fierens' universe we meet an anti-hero who seduces women with a fake erection. Loudness shouts down moments of silence. But black humour and disrespect oscillate into a sensitive longing, a lack or a fear of abandonment. In a seemingly naive way Fierens mixes vulgar and revolting impropriety with light, tender beauty. Attraction and repulsion are playing with each other. This poetry is hard, but not heartless.

Andy Fierens
Wonderbra's & Pepperspray



AUTHOR



Andy Fierens (b. 1976) is a poet and performer, cartoonist, organiser, and frontman of the literary trash band Andy and the Androids. Humorous texts and overwhelming live performances made Andy Fierens a frequently invited guest on stages in Belgium, the Netherlands and South Africa. In 2010 'Big Disgusting Butterfly' was awarded the Herman de Coninck Debut Prize. 2014 saw the publication of his second collection, 'Wonderbras & Pepper Spray'.
Photo © Charlie De Keersmaecker

ORIGINAL TITLE Wonderbra's en Pepperspray (2014, De Bezige Bij, 92 pp.)

TRANSLATION RIGHTS Marijke Nagtegaal - m.nagtegaal@debezigebij.nl, Uta Matten - u.matten@debezigebij.nl

TRANSLATION GRANTS Patrick Peeters - patrick@flandersliterature.be