

Travel stories from a stay-at-home traveller

Tuesday Land. Sketches of Belgium

DIMITRI VERHULST

'Tuesday Land' is a collection of travel stories about Belgium, written by a stay-at-home traveller. Alongside forays into his own (childhood) experiences, Verhulst takes a closer look at various aspects of Belgian society, such as pigeon racing, bowls, camping and mountaineering in the Ardennes, cycling, Eddy Merckx and the Tour of Flanders, Mary and other holy virgins, the Belgian carhorse, health resort Spa, and so on.

Verhulst is extremely witty as he describes the little things that make Belgians happy.

ELSEVIER

'Tuesday Land' is a declaration of love to the Belgian in the street, wonder at his pastimes, an ode to his beautiful, but archaic turns of phrase. It is also a deliberately fragmented narrative about a Belgian childhood, a chronicling of the things that pass.

All this Verhulst describes, ponders and pokes fun at in his unique and inimitable style: fluent and smooth, incisive and ironic, as well as over-the-top and hilarious, but never without compassion.

This stylistically strong writer holds his readers' attention with a great sense of timing and narrative skill

DE TIJD



AUTHOR



Dimitri Verhulst (b. 1972) is one of the most successful contemporary writers in the Dutch language. He produces a steady stream of literary work which has been translated into 25 languages. He is renowned for his pitch-black worldview, his tragicomedies, juicy language, social engagement and intimate portraits. Verhulst's style can only be described as 'Verhulstian': raw, archaic and with an eye for the grotesque. His texts are suffused with alliteration, rhyme and word play. Many of his characters inhabit the fringes of society and it is these people he wants to give a voice. He draws extensively on his own life, including his childhood, for his novels. *Photo © Ringel Goslinga*

ORIGINAL TITLE Dinsdagland. Schetsen van België (2004, Contact, 175 pp.)

TRANSLATION RIGHTS Hayo Deinum - hdeinum@atlascontact.nl

TRANSLATION GRANTS Marieke Roels - marieke@flandersliterature.be, Elise Vanoosthuysse - elise@flandersliterature.be, Yannick Geens - yannick@flandersliterature.be