

NONFICTION

History comes alive

The Burgundians

BART VAN LOO

'The Burgundians' takes the reader on a journey through a thousand years of European history, calling at cities such as Dijon, Paris, Lille, Ghent, Bruges and Delft, up to the time when the Seventeen Provinces arose and the Burgundian Empire came to an end. It tells a scintillating account of pyres and banquets, plagues and jousts, Joan of Arc, Jan van Eyck, Philip the Good and the Golden Fleece. Bart Van Loo is unmatched in his ability to bring the powerfully evocative middle ages to life. His quest takes him to the emergence of the Dutch nation in the fifteenth century, and we learn that the Low Countries were a Burgundian invention.

A born storyteller

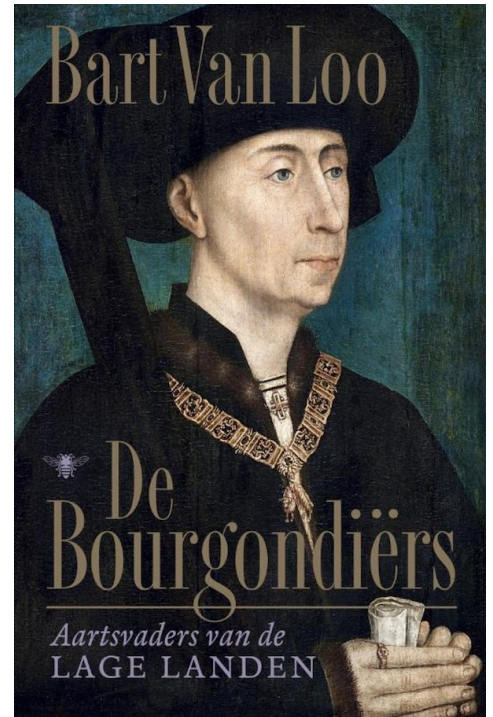
DE STANDAARD

'The Burgundians' is an astonishing account of emerging cities, awakening individualism and dying knightly ideals, of schizophrenic kings, bold dukes and brilliant artists. While the Burgundian dukes forged the fragmented Low Countries into a unified whole through battles, marriages and reforms, they spurred artists like Klaas Sluter, Jan van Eyck and Rogier van der Weyden to produce unforgettable works. Along the way, Bart Van Loo's equally thrilling and educational exploration of the middle ages develops into an impressive cultural history.

Bart Van Loo is in top form. 'The Burgundians' is impossible to put down and hits like a sledgehammer. A masterpiece.

DE MORGEN

 **FLANDERS
LITERATURE**



AUTHOR



Bart Van Loo (b. 1973) has developed a rare twin talent over the years. While drawing big crowds in the theatre, he is also the author of the universally praised France a Trilogy and the bestseller Chanson. Friend and foe alike have to admit that Van Loo is a born storyteller, with a unique ability to combine enthusiasm, humour and expertise. The Burgundians, his most recent book, takes the reader on a fascinating journey through a thousand years of European history. *Photo © Stephan Vanfleteren*

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