

Think up a new story

Presentation of an Uncensored Joke Book

REBEKKA DE WIT

‘That’s simply how it works.’ It’s a statement we all get to hear from time to time, or perhaps use ourselves. But it doesn’t satisfy Rebekka de Wit in her ‘Presentation of an Uncensored Joke Book’. Her monologue focuses on the consumerism-addled human, the little man and his lack of courage to resist the structures that overpower him. A malaise, incidentally, to which the author does not regard herself as immune.

In this brilliant work De Wit puts paid not just to a certain way of thinking but to a certain tradition of theatrical endeavour.

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‘Everyone does it.’ It is that particular tone – with its implied conclusions about the mechanisms of reality and its support for the mentality of stoical resignation – that makes De Wit crotchety. Especially since rather than being descriptive it actually creates reality, getting in the way of change.

‘Presentation of an Uncensored Joke Book’ is a response to a generational instinct to find new significance in life despite awareness of the naive and deceitful nature of grand narratives and conceptual constructs. An optimistic activist, De Wit expresses the need for a real conversation and an investigation of morality, in order to find a new narrative, or counter-narrative.

Rebekka has not written a joke book but an ethical argument that will blow your socks off.

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AUTHOR



Rebekka de Wit (b. 1985) is a writer and theatre producer. In 2015 she published her first novel, ‘We’re Still One Miracle Short’, although she still writes mainly for the theatre. Most of her work is philosophical and socially engaged, although combined with plenty of humour, often at her own expense. With her graduation monologue ‘How This Became the Story’ (2011) she won the KBC-TAZ Youth Theatre Prize. Since 2017, along with Freek Vielen and Suzanne Grotenhuis, she has been one of the artistic directors of theatre company De Nwe Tijd.

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