

Graphic masterpiece for every captain in the making

Boats

JAN VAN DER VEKEN

In 'Boats' we dive into the wonderful world of ships and shipping. The book includes a quirky selection from the technical aspects of ships, and is peppered with extraordinary facts and anecdotes. Van Der Veken explains with great clarity exactly what ships look like and why. He introduces readers to several magnificent ships and captains that have helped to make maritime history. He also looks in detail at communication at sea, including morse code and semaphore, and the way lighthouses work. All through the book, Van Der Veken focuses on the beautiful, remarkable and poetic aspects of technology. In the final chapter he looks at myths and at superstition among sailors.

Van Der Veken's line is so sharp that his world is beautifully streamlined. He transports us back to a time when the modern was exciting and artists knew how to draw.

THE NEW YORKER ON 'FABRICA GRAFICA'

Jan Van Der Veken combines the organic structure of the book with playful illustrations in 'ligne claire' style and in extensive technical drawings. They place the book, as they did his 'Planes', in a unique position among nonfiction titles for children. No well-trodden paths here, and the book is not intended to be encyclopaedic. Despite that, 'Boats' will undoubtedly stir the interest of adults too.

The longer you look, the more individuality is revealed and the artist's unique style becomes apparent.

ENOLA ON 'FABRICA GRAFICA'



AUTHOR



Jan Van Der Veken (b. 1975) runs his own design studio, Fabrica grafica. He creates custom-made retro-futuristic illustrations that hover between past and future. Influenced by Hergé's iconic atomic style, art deco, and classic modernism, his distinctive technique bridges the gap between contemporary design and timeless mastery. His work has been on display at several national and international exhibitions and has been published in The New Yorker. When Van Der Veken is not at the drawing table, you will find him high in the sky, piloting a plane.

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