

Science becomes an art

Why Nobody Understands Quantum and Everybody Needs to Know Something About It

CÉLINE BROECKAERT & FRANK VERSTRAETE

Quantum physics gives us an understanding of matter that is so broad, powerful and precise that practically all of modern technology depends upon it. At the same time, quantum is uncommonly hard to fathom. No other theory contradicts our intuition so strongly or has led to so much controversy.

Vividly and playfully, a scientist and a writer tell the improbable story of quantum physics from the perspective of the scientists who made the theory great. This book starts out from a belief that quantum physics is not impossible to understand at all. On the contrary, there are a number of basic ideas, such as symmetry, the exclusion principle or the uncertainty principle, that ensure everyone can gain a greater understanding of our atomic world.

The philosophy of this book is to help the reader focus on the ideas that surround the theory, because they are far more intuitive and important than its precise logical deductions. Broeckaert and Verstraete have no ability or desire to explain quantum physics in a book without formulae. What they want to achieve is to make the reader see and feel new things, and afterwards to look at the world from a fresh quantum perspective.

WAAROM NIEMAND
KWANTUM
BEGRIJPT

Frank Verstraete Céline Broeckaert

EN IEDEREEN ER
TOCH IETS
OVER MOET WETEN

AUTHORS



Céline Broeckaert (b. 1981) is a novelist and writer who also creates work for the theatre. With this book she continues on her mission to enable us to discuss difficult but relevant subjects. Frank Verstraete (b. 1972) is the Leigh Trapnell Professor of Quantum Physics at the University of Cambridge and professor of physics at the University of Ghent. In 2018 he was awarded the Francqui Prize, the most important science prize in Belgium, for his contribution to quantum mechanics.

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