

DRAMA

An in-depth exploration of identity, history and self-understanding

European Man. A Chronicle

CARL VON WINCKELMANN

In 'European Man. A chronicle', Carl von Winckelmann looks back at his forefathers and focuses on the next generation, his daughter. What do parents hand down? What do you do with that legacy? And what do you yourself pass on? Now that the narrator is a father, those questions have become increasingly powerful.

In a layered narrative, Von Winckelmann disentangles his family history and brings stories, some never before told, to life. The text switches between different layers of time and different perspectives, and connects family events with the larger history of the past 150 years: colonialism, slavery, the Second World War, nationalism and migration.

Its precisely composed language makes this extremely personal text feel like a universal, urgent story that deserves to be widely read and performed.

JURY OF THE TONEELSCHRIJFPRIJS 2025

In conversations with his daughter, his father and others, including an official who serves on a commission for war victims, Von Winckelmann digs deeper and deeper into the essence of a colonial heritage and a bi-cultural identity. In this meticulously composed, authentic and poetic play, he challenges the audience to contemplate their own place in the world.



AUTHOR



Carl von Winckelmann (b. 1982) is a theatre director and playwright. He created performances for the theatre company fABULEUS and, together with Freek Mariën, is one of the co-artistic leaders of the theatre company Het Kwartier. Von Winckelmann also works as a coach and executive director for several creators of theatre and is affiliated with the Drama and Writing for Performance course at the LUCA School of Arts in Leuven. In 2025 he was awarded a doctorate in the arts with his thesis 'Mise en Relation. Playing and making theatre in a more-than-human world'. For his script 'European man. A chronicle' he was nominated for the 2025 Toneelschrijfprijs (best Dutch-language play in 2025). Photo Carl von Winckelmann © Yuri van der Hoeven

ORIGINAL TITLE: Europese man. Een kroniek (2024, Het Kwartier/De Nieuwe Toneelbibliotheek, 72 pp.)

CHARACTERS: 1 character (M), première 27 April 2024

AGE: 16+

PRIZES: Nominated for the Toneelschrijfprijs 2025 (best Dutch-language play)

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