Visit www.flandersliterature.be for information about translation grants.

The Making of

BRECHT EVENS

The Making Of is a work of art, an absolute gem from start to finish. An artist responds to a rather pompous call to participate in a festival in the village of Beerpoele. It turns out to be a makeshift event for all of the amateurs in the village: a strange band of local people, who compensate for their lack of ability with their enthusiasm and optimism. Surprised and flattered by the response of the locals and the influence he is able to exert, the artist begins to take charge and recruits the group to help out with his own, bigger plan for the festival. The micropolitics, hostility and sexual tension at the festival slowly build up, culminating in slapstick and a rainstorm.

Brecht Evens (b. 1986) published his first comic book when he was 19, for which he won the Flemish Comic Book Debut Award. The Wrong Place represented his breakthrough in Flanders and the rest of the world. Since then Evens has stood out for the style so typical of his work: he doesn't use contour lines or balloons for text, but paints exuberant scenes and familiar dialogues in sequence, using an overwhelming colour palette. Evens surprises readers with each new book, and with each new page. In 2019, he was awarded the Prix Spécial du Jury at the Angoulême Comics Festival for The City of Belgium.

"Remarkable. A real pleasure."

The Guardian

"Evens is the quirkiest of illustrators."

The Observer

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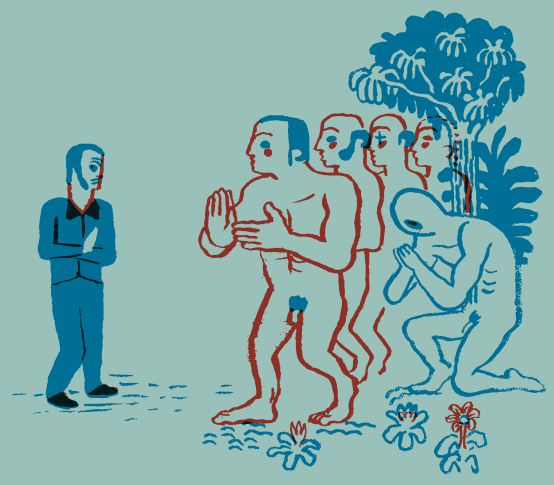
Prizes:
Winner of the Flemish oeuvre-prize
De Bronzen Adhemar 2024



Observation and interpretation!

What you need to remember is:
The artist's task is to keep extending
the boundaries of his perception

...And to communicate, as clearly as possible, what he has seen, so the observer can understand it.
Tell me, Yannick: What do you SEE?
An apple and a vase.
Yes.
Or we could go back to the pheasant.
Who'd rather draw the pheasant?
Me!
Me!

We've already sold half of them! Told you so!
You could sell anything.
Three cheers for me!
BRAVO, BRAVO!
Our golden calf! The gallery has never been so packed!
And the visitors have never been so high!
Coke helps people appreciate my work.
Mm!
Hey, if you'd like some...
Yeah, if it helps.
You look a bit tired to me.
Peterson always gets tense... when there are too many people around.

What a lovely couple you make. Two lovely, lovely people. Come here, Peterson.

Amélie.

You're so beautiful.
Me too, right?

You too, Peterson. Pour me another one?
Just a moment...

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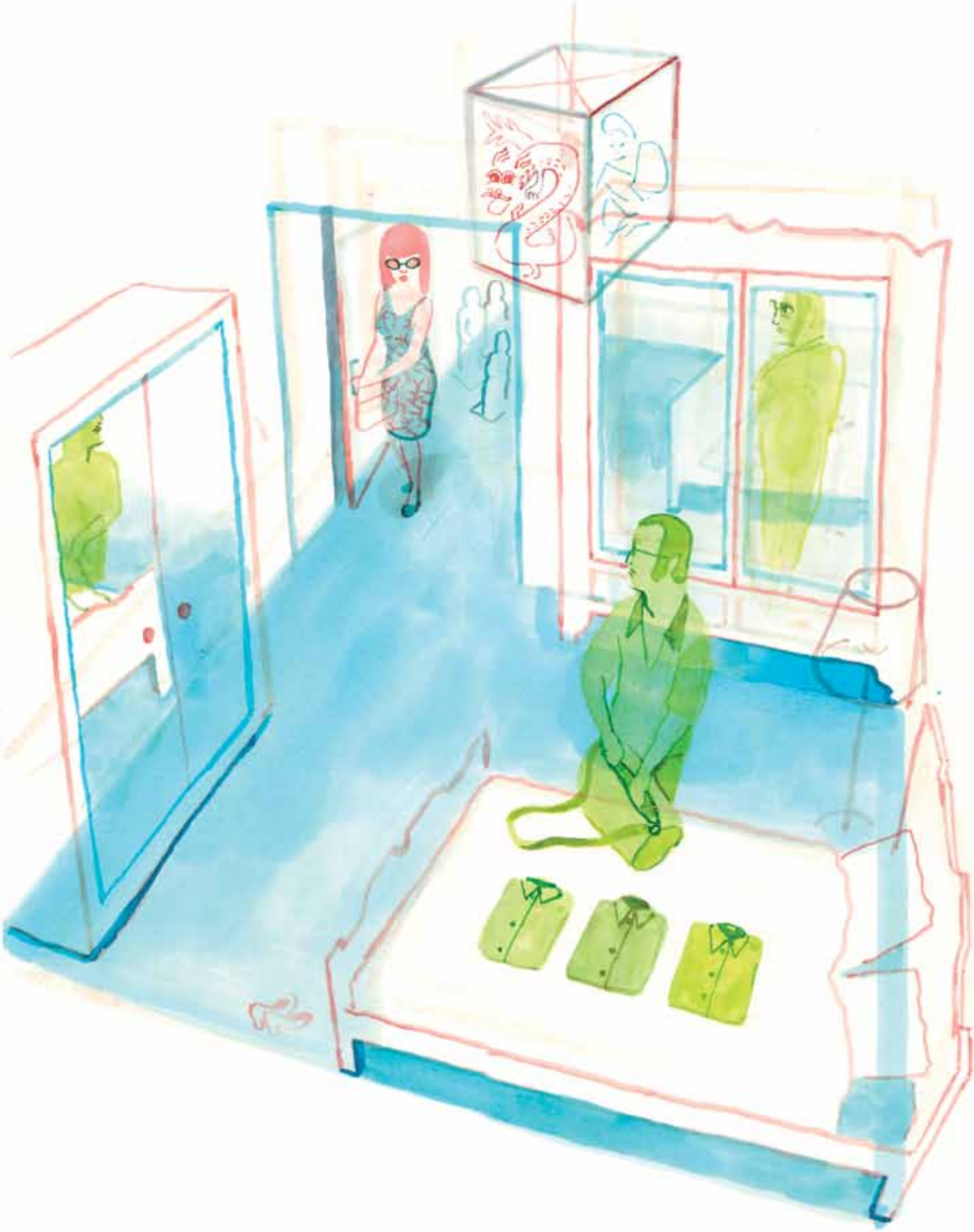
Ahhh... I think this one's empty!
There's a bit left in my glass.