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## PIETER DE BUYSSER & HANS OP DE BEECK BOOK BURNING

History is clogged. There are no more revolutions. What else can we add? A play about forgetting and forgiving, about knowledge and riddles and the lack of stories. Told by a cat, Book Burning is the story of a man who lights up while his daughter plunges into the trunk. Perhaps it is a fable. It could be a political, even a utopian play. Not because it soaks in good intentions and programs, but because it bets on the magical possibilities of language and radical imagination. Book Burning is not what it is but what it can become: a proposal for the beginning of a new world.

# CREDITS

**Concept:** Pieter De Buysser & Hans Op de Beeck **Image:** Hans Op de Beeck **Text & play:** Pieter De Buysser **Lightdesign & technician:** Herman Sorgeloos **Dramaturgy:** Marianne Van Kerkhoven (Kaaitheater) **English Language Coaching:** Miles O'Shea **English Translation:** Jodie Hruby, Miles O'Shea, Pieter De Buysser **Production:** Margarita Production **Coproduction:** KunstenfestivaldesArts, Kaaitheater, Festival Baltoscandal (Rakvere) (E), Belluard Bollwerk International (CH), Teater Avant Garden (NO), Bit Teatergarasjen (NO), Brut Wien (AT) **With the support of** Koninklijke Bibliotheek België, Göteborgs Dance & Teater Festival, The Flemish Government

- **Project co-produced by** NXTSTP, with the support of the Culture Programme of the European Union

**Duration:** 75'

**Trailer:** <https://vimeo.com/95489230>

**Full registration (pw= unlock):** <https://vimeo.com/99706694>



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# TOUR

18> 22/05/2012	Kunstenfestivaldesarts, Brussel (B) - <b>Première</b> -
24/05/2012	Göteborg Dans & Teaterfestival, Göteborg (SE)
30/06/2012	Belluard Bollwerk International, Fribourg (CH)
04> 05/07/2012	Festival Baltoscandal (Rakvere), Rakvere (E)
05>06/09/2012	Bit Teatergarasjen, Bergen (NO)
08>09/9/2012	Teater Avant Garden, Trondheim (NO)
12>13/10/2012	Brut, Vienna (AT)
11/01/2013	CC De Spil, Roeselare (BE)
12/01/2013	kc BELGIE, Hasselt (BE)
15/01/2013	C-mine Genk, Genk (BE)
23>24/01/2013	Campo, Gent (BE)
26/01/2013	De Warande, Turnhout (BE)
30>31/01/2013	Brakke Grond, Amsterdam (NL)
06/02/2013	CC Strombeek, Strombeek-Bever (BE)
11>13/02/2013	Théâtre de la Bastille, Paris (FR)
30/03/2013	STUK, Leuven (BE)
16/05/2013	The Basement, Brighton (UK)
24/05/2013	Plaza Futura, Eindhoven (NL)
14>23/06/2013	Oerol festival, Gh Midsland, terschelling (NL)
04>06/09/2013	Kaaitheater (Het Theaterfestival) , Brussel (BE)
07/09/2013	Grand Theatre, Groningen (NL)
31/10/2013	CC de Brouckère, Torhout (BE)
28/11/2013	CC de Grote Post, Oostende (BE)
03/12/2013	Stadsschouwburg Sittard geleen, Aj Sittard (NL)
18/12/2013	CC Brasschaat, Brasschaat (BE)
04>05/02/2014	Archa Theatre, Praag (CZ)
08/03/2014	Rataplan, Borgerhout (BE)
14/03/2014	Malpertuis, Tiel (BE)
20/03/2014	CC Belgica, Dendermonde (BE)
22/03/2014	CC De Schakel, Waregem (BE)
30/03/2014	30cc, Leuven (BE)
03/04/2014	Theater de NWE Vorst, Tilburg (NL)
11/03/2015	CC Maasmechelen, Maasmechelen (BE)

## PRESS

“In the wake of Heiner Goebbels, the alliance of the poetics and politics here is simply magical.” Marie-Pierre Genecand, Le temps.ch

“De Buysser’s style results in a lot of laughter and is a source of energy for the performance. However, it’s not just De Buysser’s storytelling art and well thought-out script that makes “Book Burning” a fascinating experience... When the tale is over De Buysser has built up an entire world from the coffin... It’s a stage design that does not require any specific techniques and reminds the viewer as much of the theatrical arts of bygone days as De Buysser’s storytelling style itself. It’s incredibly beautiful.”

Matilda Amundsen Bergström, Tidningen Kulturen

“A tribute to critical thought, the knowledge, humour and art of narration.” Joos Neven, Cobra

“Book Burning is a dream of a performance.” Wouter Hillaert, De Standaard

“Not only does ‘Book Burning’ carry you along in your own imagination thanks to the excellent narrator, the diverse topics also give the audience food for thought, long after the performance has finished.”

Christo Mercelis, Cobra

“Accessible, brilliant and all things considered significant in contemporary thought, this is a must-see show!” Laure Dasinière

“A truly original piece of theatre. Five stars hardly does it justice.” The Latest, UK

## BIOGRAPHY

### PIETER DE BUYSSER

°1972, lives and works in Brussels.

At the age of 20, Pieter De Buysser took a train to Paris to visit a school for clowns. He decided to study philosophy. Since, he writes fiction and non-fiction, theater and non-theater and he performs his own texts on stage – as a non-clown, a speculative realist, a transformatador in one. His fables are political, radical, epic and concrete. He has been described as “a contemporary Hiëronymus Bosch of literature” and “a 22nd century storyteller”.

His plays have been invited or commissioned by houses and festivals such as Kunstenfestivaldesarts Brussels, Berliner Festspiele, Taipei Festival, Biennale Wiesbaden new plays from Europe, Dublin Festival, Melbourne Festival, Baltoscandal Estonia, Théâtre de la Bastille Paris, Fondation Cartier Paris, HAU Berlin,... His writings have been translated and staged into Polish, French, German, Italian and English. His first novel “De Keisnijders” was published in 2012 at De Geus. Currently he travels extensively over Europe with his last monologues “Book Burning” & “Landscape with skiproads”.

[www.pieterdebuysser.com](http://www.pieterdebuysser.com)

## HANS OP DE BEECK

°1969, lives and works in Brussels.

Visual artist Hans Op de Beeck lives and works in Brussels, where he has developed his career through international exhibitions over the past ten years. His work consists of sculptures, installations, video work, photography, animated films, drawings, paintings and writing (short stories). It is his quest for the most effective way of presenting the concrete contents of each work that determines the medium that the artist ultimately selects. The scale can vary from the size of a small watercolour to a large, three-dimensional installation of 300m<sup>2</sup>.

The artist not only uses a very wide variety of media, but also deliberately employs a diversity of aesthetic forms, ranging from an economical, minimalist visual language to overloaded, exaggerated designs, always with the aim of articulating the content of the work as precisely as possible.

[www.hansopdebeeck.com](http://www.hansopdebeeck.com)



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## HIROS

Hiros is the joint venture of the management offices Margarita Production and Mokum. Together we continue to build a solid framework for individual artists and artistic projects.

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