

**VanThorhout**  
2022

not/  
standing  
/alexander  
vantournhout  
/

*VanThorhout* forms an energetic and precise dissection of male power and the cultural imagery surrounding it.

Whether it be ancient gods, classical heroes, soldiers or athletes, the glorification of male power throughout history has often tended towards a celebration of war, aggression, and violence. Thor, to whom the title refers, is one of its most famous personifications of this. He can unleash a thunderstorm and lives on to this day as a superhero in Marvel comics and films, invariably depicted with his Mjöltnir, a hammer with an incredibly short handle.

In *VanThorhout*, Alexander comes on stage as Thor, with his own Mjöltnir. As always in Alexander's oeuvre, the relationship between object and performer quickly becomes ambiguous. When do you lose the strength to manipulate this heavy hammer, and when does the hammer take over and become uncontrollable? What if all these images of power disintegrate?

After a series of group choreographies, Alexander Vantournhout now returns to the stage alone.

**Choreography & performance** Alexander Vantournhout

**Artistic assistant:** Emmi Väisänen

**Dramaturgy:** Rudi Laermans & Sébastien Henderickx

**Prop design:** Tom De With & Willy Cauwelier

**Light design:** Bert Van Dijck

**Costumes:** Patty Eggerickx

**Outside eye:** Charlotte Cétaire, Anneleen Keppens, Esse Vanderbruggen & Sandy Williams

**Object manipulation outside eyes:** Simon Janson & Sebastian Berger

**Thanks to:** Bojana Cvejić, Ben Mcewen & Tom Van der Borght

**Technical coordination:** Rinus Samyn

**Technicians on tour:** Tijs Bonner & Bram Vandeghinste

**Company manager:** Esther Maas

**Production manager:** Barbara Falter & Aida Gabriëls

**Diffusion:** Frans Brood Productions

**Production:** not standing

**Co-production:** Kunstencentrum VIERNULVIER (Gent), Le CENTQUATRE (Paris), Les Subsistances – SUBS (Lyon), Les 2 Pôles Nationaux des Arts du Cirque normands — La Brèche (Cherbourg) & le Cirque-Théâtre d'Elbeuf, 3 bis f - centre d'arts contemporains (Aix-en-Provence)

With the support of la Fondation d'entreprise Hermès within the context of the New Settings programme and the Flemish authorities.

Alexander Vantournhout is artist-in-residence in Kunstencentrum VIERNULVIER in Gent and associated artist of le CENTQUATRE Paris and Cirque-théâtre Elbeuf. He is cultural ambassador of the city of Roeselare and is also supported by Fondation BNP Paribas for the development of his projects.

<https://notstanding.com>

Images - © [Bart Grietens](#)