

VanThorhout
2022

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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 Mjölfnir, a hammer with an incredibly short handle. At a time when stereotypical forms of masculinity are strongly being challenged, how can we generate new images of men?

In *VanThorhout*, Alexander comes on stage as Thor, with his own Mjölfnir. 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 & Esse Vanderbruggen

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

Company manager: Esther Maas

Technical coordination: Rinus Samyn

Production manager: Barbara Falter & Aïda 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)

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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>

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