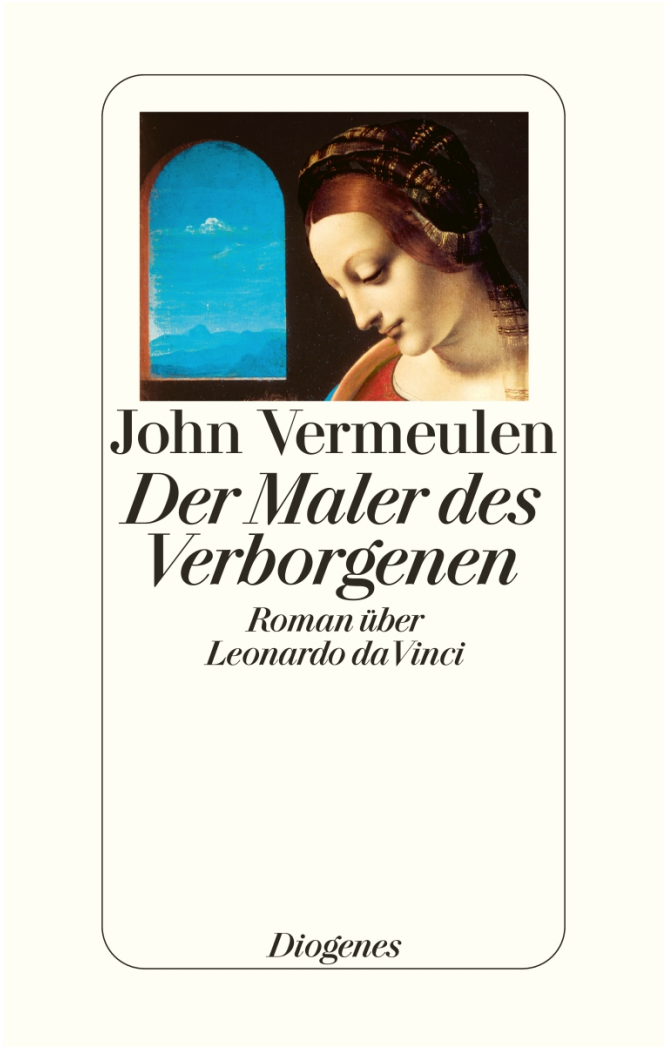
Diogenes

Book factsheet

John Vermeulen
The Painter of the Shadows

Published by Diogenes as *Der Maler des Verborgenen*
Original title: *Het genie in de rattenval*



A Historical Novel About Leonardo da Vinci
Leonardo da Vinci was not only a genius as an artist, but also as a scientist and engineer. If he were alive today he would hold the status of an Einstein or Hawking. He invented various ›flying machines‹, an early robot and pumps which are still in use today. But above all he left a fascinating legacy of artwork, the most famous of which is probably his Mona Lisa and her mysterious smile. Numerous art experts, historians and authors have courted or used the mystery-cloaked work of Leonardo da Vinci in their writing. John Vermeulen's main aim – as in all his historical novels – was to discover the man behind the name. He imagined what he was like, how he dealt with his loneliness as an illegitimate child and – surrounded by female admirers – with his homosexuality, how he perceived his models, patrons and clients and what it was like during his residences at the various rulers' courts. A historical novel, which is so gripping and vivid that you feel as though you were actually there.

Contemporary Literature
592 pages
11.6 × 18.4 cm
April 2011

Contact:
Susanne Bauknecht, Rights Director,
susanne.bauknecht@diogenes.ch and
Suzanne Hégelé, Film Rights Manager,
suzanne.hegele@diogenes.ch

Awards

2003 C.I.A.M. (Centrum voor Informatie over Audiovisuele Middelen) Preis für das Kurzfilmdrehbuch ›The Voodoo Machine‹
2003 Dutch award for science-fiction and fantasy für ›Ring van Eeuwigheid‹
2000 ›Internationaler Ambrozijn-Preis‹ für seine Kurzgeschichten
2000 ›John Flandersprijs‹ für sein Kinderbuch ›Het Internetmonstertje‹

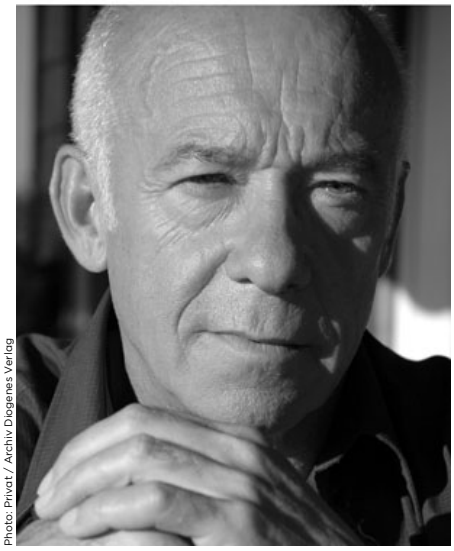
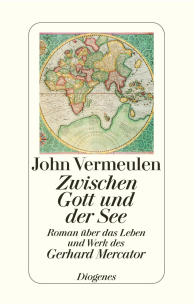
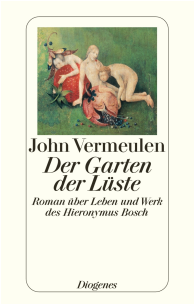


Photo: Privat / Archiv Diogenes Verlag

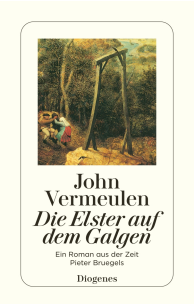
John Vermeulen was born in Antwerp in 1941. He died on August 23, 2009. Vermeulen was a journalist, sailor, and a writer who published his first novel at the age of fourteen. He has written some 25 works to date, including thrillers, science fiction, children's books, erotica and historical novels. He is the author of film and television scripts, plays and short stories. Vermeulen has received many awards for his writing.



Between God and the Sea
688 pages
2005



Garden of Earthly Delight
592 pages
2002



Magpie on the Gallows
496 pages
1995