

**John Vermeulen**  
***Between God and the Sea***

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Original title: *Tussen God en de Zee*



**John Vermeulen**  
***Zwischen  
Gott und  
der See***

*Roman über das Leben  
und Werk des  
Gerhard Mercator*

*Diogenes*

Book factsheet

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Contemporary Literature  
688 pages  
11.6 x 18.4 cm  
September 2005

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(except Dutch)

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**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‹

He is known as the ›prince of modern geography‹. His discovery of the ›Mercator projection‹ allowed the earth's spherical form to be translated on to a two-dimensional map for the first time. The maps he made changed the world and made the oceans safer to navigate. We are speaking of Gerhard Mercator (1512 - 1594), humanist, scholar and cosmographer, whose life spanned one of the most interesting centuries in history, an era of breakthrough and change, of voyages of discovery – and of the merciless Inquisition, to which Mercator himself was to fall victim. Arrested for his Lutheran beliefs, he was incarcerated for several months; he owed his eventual release to influential benefactors at the court of Charles V. He subsequently left his Dutch home of Löwen and sought refuge with his family in the liberal city of Duisburg, where he was to develop his most significant ideas.

John Vermeulen demonstrates his expert ability to intertwine fact and fiction. His aim is not to write a detached biography, but to allow the reader to experience the dramatic life of a man forced to battle against intrigue and ignorance, of a husband whose energy was drained by a difficult marriage, of a father who raised six children of whom only one would survive, of a scholar who discovered his heart's true desire late in life – and was only able to enjoy the fruits of his labours at a ripe old age.

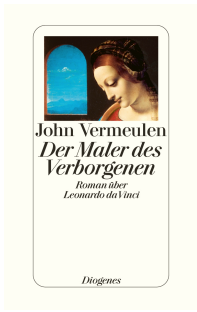
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John Vermeulen was born in Antwerp in 1941. He died on August 23, 2009. Vermeulen was a journalist, sailor, and a writer who published his first novel at the age of fourteen. He has written some 25 works to date, including thrillers, science fiction, 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.

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**The Painter of the Shadows**  
592 pages  
2011



**Garden of Earthly Delight**  
592 pages  
2002



**Magpie on the Gallows**  
496 pages  
1995