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# Symposium

## Hertmans in Translation

Stefan Hertmans (1951) is one of the most renowned literary writers of the Low Countries. He has authored an impressive collection of lyrical works, the vital lifeblood of a productive and meandering oeuvre, which also comprises novels, stories and essays, drama texts and epistolary fiction. Works by Hertmans are available in many languages. The Translations Database of 'Literatuur Vlaanderen' (Flanders Literature) lists 84 translations to date. *Oorlog en terpentijn* has gained international renown in recent years, with the English translation *War and Turpentine* (translator David McKay) being nominated for the Man Booker International Prize in 2017. The work was on the list of the *New York Times Book Review's* 10 most notable books of 2016, topped *The Independent's* list of best translated fiction in 2017 and *The Guardian* called the work 'a future classic'. Also before the success of the war novel, other novels, essays and poems by Hertmans had been translated into many languages. Gallimard will publish a selection of Hertmans's poetry in 2022, translated by Philippe Noble. Hertmans's oeuvre was awarded the prestigious Constantijn Huygens Prize in the Netherlands in 2020. In 2021, the TRACE research group will organise the *Hertmans in Translation* symposium in collaboration with the CLIV research centre for literature in translation (Ghent University and VUB). The colloquium will focus on translations of the author's poetry, prose and drama and will also address the role of translators as cultural mediators.

