

## frederik peeters

The Simplicity of being (Forum Suisse Romande)



Finally, Frederik Peeters must have said to himself as he was called to the stage of the Angoulême theatre, finally. Five years in a row now he's been nominated for one of the most prestigious awards at Europe's most extinguished comic event – but only this year could he step up to the stage to claim one of those so-called comic Oscars for his fourth and final volume of the science fiction series "Lupus".

That is the highly rewarded crowning of a successful and very promising career. Frederik Peeters was born in Geneva (Switzerland) in 1974 and is one of the most important representatives of the new comic author generation. Authors like these have started a type of Renaissance in the western-Swiss comic scene, releasing their own personal stories, independent magazines and small publishing houses (like co-founder Peeters' Atrabile).

His big break (and most success) came with the autobiographical piece "Blaue Pillen"/ Blue Pills, which was released in French in 2001, is at present in its eighth printing and is now available in German. Centre stage of Peeters' Fumetto exhibition this year though will be the meticulously researched thriller "R.G.". A story about France's secret service which will be released in May in Joan Sfar's Bayou book series with the renowned Gallimard publishing house. The second part of the exhibition will be dedicated to "Blaue Pillen". Original pages will be on display from a total of almost 200 which Peeters used to explain the first year of his relationship with Cati (HIV-positive) and her son (who is also infected). He tells of everyday life in a HIV and aids labelled relationship, describing Cati's permanent feelings of threat and guilt, and of course from the countless fears...

"Blaue Pillen" is actually, in the first instance a Love story: "It's a story of true, deep love, one that struggles through difficult times and actually grows as a result. If one overcomes these troubles then you just know that it's really worth living for such a relationship."

Christian Gasser

### **Bibliography (Selection)**

"Blaue Pillen" (Reprodukt publishing), "Lupus" (4x volumes, Atrabile), "Koma" (with Pierre Wazem, 3x volumes, Humanoides Associés), "R.G." (to be released in May in the Bayou collection, Gallimard)

### **Podcast**

Find out more from and about Frederik Peeters and his "Blaue Pillen" in the special audio-podcast put together for his exhibition. iPods can be borrowed at the exhibition, or you can download it yourself at [www.dataquest.ch](http://www.dataquest.ch)

partner of the exhibition