



As created on 5/1/03, author: R.v.Densen

## Introduction

Probeersel.com is a non-profit organisation for comic artists who want to share their art with the world for free. It is a medium for beginning artists as well as established, whether struggling or not, comic artists.

Probeersel.com has been activated on May 16, 2002 by René van Densen, hosted by Protagonist.nl. The free comics site, until then only featuring the comics by Van Densen himself, had been on the internet for a while before then. This is disclosed in the section 'History'. This document shows some of the statistics and interesting events of the past half year, and is intended only for the Probeersel.com audience to read. No rights can be derived off the publication of this document; it is merely for general information to those who are interested.

## History

**Probeersel.com** started out as a 'comics' section on R.v.Densen's personal homepage in 1999, then hosted on Xoom.com, which later became NBCI.com after a merger with NBC. Xoom hosted a wide range of personal homepages and offered 500MB of storage space, which even, say, a 5-part philosophical graphic novel won't exceed. To improve the odds of the site, or more specifically the then still under development graphic novel quintology 'Probeersel', being found and read, the comics section got a second URL which was provided by V3.com, better known as 'the go.to people'. From that moment on, the comics could be read from <http://welcome.to/probeersel> and they are still accessible from there, today.

Welcome.to/probeersel evolved into a separate site rather than a sub-section of Van Densen's personal page, when NBCI decided to stop hosting personal homepages and all of the site became homeless in August 2001. Van Densen decided to try his luck with [www.topcities.com](http://www.topcities.com) and created a webpage for the comics alone.

In February 2002, the site got a large design and content structure make-over. Since the Probeersel graphic novel quintology, still considered the center of the site, had by then been finished and published online, the time was ripe to structure the site better. The goal was to make sure the Probeersel books would be read, and also to try and found a (small) community of new and struggling comic artists with promising material to publish their material for free. To further aid the promotion and accessibility of the site, the URL [www.probeersel.com](http://www.probeersel.com) was activated with Protagonist on April 24, originally only as a 'virtual' URL until Topcities objected to the amount of data traffic it generated and tossed it offline for a day. Van Densen decided to start paying for the hosting of the site, thereby ensuring that the content would remain available as long as he would be able to pay the bill.

**Probeersel.com** was born.

In 2002, artists Joep van Abeelen ('Retirement') and Gregory Cathalina ('God.inc') joined the site. This was also the year the first edition of the Probeersel.com t-shirts could be won for free. The site has been slowly but surely gaining a fanbase and increasing visitor traffic, and is here to stay.

## Traffic Report

The second half year of 'existence' have proven valuable in terms of total traffic. In December and January the traffic numbers took a downfall for unknown reasons, but the last part of this half year has more than made up for it:

November:	daily average of visits: 41	total: 1231
December:	daily average of visits: 39	total: 1209
January:	daily average of visits: 33	total: 1026
February:	daily average of visits: 39	total: 1097
March:	daily average of visits: 49	total: 1549
April:	daily average of visits: 48	total: 1447

The bandwidth allowance at Protagonist is a good 3 Gb – Probeersel.com doesn't even nearly use that yet, but still the traffic went rather well in that department too:

November:	daily average of pages: 136	total Kbytes that month: 180942
December:	daily average of pages: 172	total Kbytes that month: 215766
January:	daily average of pages: 79	total Kbytes that month: 100029
February:	daily average of pages: 122	total Kbytes that month: 170734
March:	daily average of pages: 154	total Kbytes that month: 265119
April:	daily average of pages: 122	total Kbytes that month: 204960



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## Countries

As in the first half year, there was a lot of variety in the countries of this site's audience. An overview:

# Months	Hits	Files	KBytes	Country
2x	49 0,04%	47 0,04%	146 0,01%	Argentina
x	692 0,94%	594 0,56%	6946 0,53%	Australia
2x	32 0,02%	27 0,03%	140 0,01%	Austria
6x	2429 1,74%	2321 2,20%	26050 1,98%	Belgium
4x	86 0,06%	86 0,08%	418 0,03%	Brazil
1x	67 0,05%	65 0,06%	699 0,05%	Bulgaria
6x	3106 2,22%	2599 2,46%	204806 15,59%	Canada
1x	33 0,02%	33 0,03%	252 0,02%	Chile
2x	29 0,02%	29 0,03%	124 0,01%	Cyprus
1x	6 0,00%	6 0,01%	134 0,01%	Czech Republic
6x	2049 1,46%	1787 1,69%	42868 3,62%	Denmark
1x	2 0,00%	0 0,00%	1 0,00%	Egypt
6x	230 0,16%	217 0,21%	1294 0,10%	Finland
6x	301 0,22%	294 0,28%	1816 0,14%	France
4x	180 0,13%	174 0,16%	1001 0,08%	Germany
4x	77 0,06%	73 0,07%	1781 0,14%	Greece
2x	33 0,02%	33 0,03%	122 0,01%	Hungary
1x	36 0,03%	36 0,03%	116 0,01%	Israel
1x	16 0,01%	16 0,02%	133 0,01%	Indonesia
1x	12 0,01%	7 0,01%	16 0,00%	International (int)
6x	177 0,13%	166 0,16%	1363 0,10%	Italy
6x	132 0,09%	122 0,12%	712 0,05%	Japan
2x	29 0,02%	27 0,03%	85 0,01%	Lithuania
2x	57 0,04%	50 0,05%	317 0,02%	Malaysia
4x	101 0,07%	87 0,08%	569 0,04%	Mexico
6x	65179 46,58%	44698 42,31%	429490 32,69%	Netherlands
5x	18064 12,91%	13805 13,07%	155758 11,86%	Network
4x	113 0,08%	91 0,09%	601 0,05%	New Zealand (Aotearoa)
1x	6 0,00%	6 0,01%	33 0,00%	Niue
5x	234 0,17%	222 0,21%	1962 0,15%	Non-Profit Organisation
3x	187 0,13%	185 0,18%	2005 0,15%	Norway
1x	6 0,00%	6 0,01%	33 0,00%	Old style Arpanet (arpa)
1x	21 0,02%	21 0,02%	62 0,00%	Philippines
1x	7 0,01%	7 0,01%	17 0,00%	Poland
3x	56 0,04%	56 0,05%	347 0,30%	Portugal
1x	19 0,01%	19 0,02%	48 0,00%	Russian Federation
2x	4 0,00%	4 0,00%	70 0,01%	Seychelles
5x	151 0,11%	147 0,14%	632 0,05%	Singapore
1x	40 0,03%	22 0,02%	412 0,03%	Slovenia
1x	20 0,01%	20 0,02%	169 0,01%	South Africa
3x	51 0,04%	51 0,05%	324 0,02%	Spain
3x	60 0,04%	60 0,06%	363 0,03%	Saudi Arabia
5x	116 0,08%	104 0,10%	635 0,05%	Sweden
4x	134 0,10%	132 0,12%	920 0,07%	Switzerland
1x	18 0,01%	18 0,02%	79 0,01%	Turkey
2x	30 0,02%	30 0,03%	209 0,02%	United Arab Emirates
6x	1385 0,99%	1248 1,18%	9964 0,76%	United Kingdom
6x	163 0,12%	151 0,14%	1765 0,13%	United States
6x	21632 15,46%	16278 15,41%	158458 12,06%	Unresolved/Unknown
6x	17935 12,82%	15521 14,69%	209087 15,91%	US Commercial
6x	4286 3,06%	3570 3,38%	46530 3,54%	US Educational
2x	52 0,04%	38 0,04%	250 0,02%	US Government
4x	261 0,19%	242 0,23%	1678 0,13%	US Military



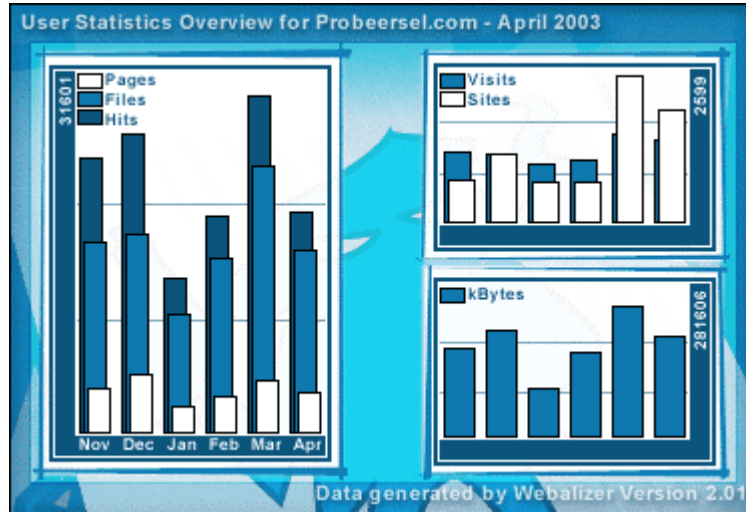
**WWW.PROBEERSEL.COM**

FREE ONLINE GRAPHIC NOVELS, COMICS AND ARTWORK

*Half-year status report,  
November 2002-April 2003*

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## Graphical Chart Traffic



## Current content

Currently Probeersel.com hosts the following comics (In alphabetical order):

- **The Artificial Real**  
A series of several other short stories, currently containing 'Chalk' and 'Rock', both by René van Densen.
- **God .inc**  
A daily comic strip starring the Lord himself, by Gregory Cathalina.
- **Maak Het Verhaal Af En Kleur De Plaatjes / Finish The Story And Colour The Pictures**  
A comic strip with a new look at how abstract a comic could be, by René van Densen.
- **One Year In Satan's Purrrgatory**  
A weekly comic strip (52 episodes total) about two guys and their psychotic cat, by René van Densen.
- **Opgedragen Aan Een Zieke Maatschappij / Dedicated To A Sick Society**  
Full-page comics with a gritty but idealistic approach, by René van Densen.
- **Probeersel Graphic Novel Quintology**  
Graphic novel in five parts about a young man who tries to get his memory back and the symbolic adventures he has along the way, by René van Densen.
- **Retirement**  
A graphic novel about an addict and a god, by Joep S. van Abeelen – unfinished as of yet.

The site also contains above mentioned artists' biographical information and some loose artwork, wallpapers and other downloads.

## Special Events of the past half year

- The story 'Rock' was published finally, which joined 'Chalk' in René van Densen's series 'The Artificial Real'.
- Gregory Cathalina was contacted by a friendly fan of God.inc, from Canada.
- René van Densen did a guest comic on [www.rwwr.com](http://www.rwwr.com) which also was the first official online sneak peek of his new comic, The Grim DotCom, appearing on Probeersel.com, June 1st this year.
- The Probeersel.com Content Management System has been partially built, offering new features on Probeersel.com, such as that you can have some of the comics on your own site !  
[www.probeersel.org](http://www.probeersel.org) now leads to this site too !
- René van Densen ended the weekly strip "One Year In Satan's Purrrgatory" after, you guessed it, one year. But not before introducing his new cat, Damien, into the strip as well.



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## **Trivia**

You wouldn't believe what the statistics sometimes tell us... Here's a few search strings that people found the site on, that really cracked us up. There were a lot more, but we thought these were the funniest...

- "clint eastwood life achievement award"
- "hatemail free"
- "model for satan' s face in disney' s animated feature fantasia"
- "pluto earth distance december 3 2002"
- "web storage unlimited bandwidth hotlinking"
- "history of turbo c (by bello)"
- "hack this site"
- "1930 1940 x rated cartoons"
- "10/06/2002 traffic jam news and updates"
- "2002 email addresses of beavis"

Probeersel.com also has a side-project going called Non Biblia Sacra. This will be a very ambitious online Graphic Novel project with several writers, artists, webdesigners, and whoever else will be necessary to bring this project to a successful end. Don't expect it to be done anytime soon, but *do* expect to hear more about it.

## **T-shirt Competition**

In August 2002, Probeersel.com had 100 t-shirts printed to be given away through the site. Right now, there are 50 left, and the competition continues. The idea is that you send an email to [tshirt2002@probeersel.com](mailto:tshirt2002@probeersel.com) in which you state your name, email-address and, and this is what can win you such a shirt, the most original way you can think of to promote Probeersel.com if you didn't have to worry about budgets or feasibility.

Check out <http://www.probeersel.com/news/19072002.shtml> to read more about it, and also see a short selection of some of the entries so far.

## **Expectations and Plans**

- Probeersel.com's Content Management System is still being developed. It will make it much easier for all the site's artists to maintain their own comics section on the site. It will also feature a better setup of the Announcement/news section and perhaps it will even allow for a forum or such. Unknown yet when the CMS will be finished.
- There are more artists expected to join the site.
- There are new comics underway; René van Densen's launching the new weekly strip 'The Grim DotCom' on June 1st, 2003, and is still considering, at some point in the future, doing a 'The Making Of Probeersel' as a sort of sixth book in the Probeersel Graphic Novel Quintology.
- Once the CMS will be implemented, there will be slight changes in the site's design and navigation. We will try to keep them to a minimum, but expect them. We do hope that all changes will be considered improvements.
- There will probably be a new contest this summer, with a second edition of the Probeersel.com t-shirts. They will be designed by Joep van Abeelen this time. Keep your eye out for them !
- The Non Biblia Sacra project, currently still on hiatus, might be hosted on Probeersel.com as well, and more information about its progress will *finally* be revealed to the audience. Hopefully, this will draw in more people to work on it with us.

## **Conclusion**

Probeersel.com RULES !! Please keep visiting, we promise it'll be worth it.