

Foreign Rights

Spring 2025

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“With the Naked Eye” Series / Collection « À l’œil nu »

This series is for adults as well as for adolescents. Illustrated by creative designers, it aims to give readers knowledge of a subject in a lively and easy-to-understand way.

Domestication

Jean-Denis Vigne

In this lively, well-documented essay, the author goes back to the roots of domestication to understand our relationship with animals.

Humans have always lived with animals and used them for food and clothing. But domestication, an unprecedented phenomenon in the history of animality, with breeding and companionship, marks a reorientation of these relationships. Today, domestication has become a major economic, health, ethical and political issue.

Jean-Denis Vigne brings an original perspective to this debate. It's a question of delving into the roots of our entry into society with our domestic animals, be they wolves or bees, llamas or cats, cows or horses, to better understand and master today's issues.

A fascinating journey, featuring the most recent scientific advances, particularly in archaeology. A journey that leads us to reflect on the future we have in store for these interactions.

Illustrated by Mélodie Baschet.



Jean-Denis Vigne is an archaeologist and naturalist, emeritus researcher at the CNRS and former director of research, expertise, development and teaching at the National Museum of Natural History. He specializes in the interactions between ancient Protohistoric societies and animal biodiversity over centuries and millennia. He has participated in the excavation of major Mediterranean sites, including Shillourokambos and Klimonas, and has published numerous articles and several books.

“Beautifully illustrated, this book is a rich and nuanced reflection of current events.”

Archéologia, January 2025

DETAILS

World rights available

ISBN: 978-2-271-15015-8

Size: 14 x 21 cm

Pages: 160

List price: 22 €

Publication date: September 2024

“Drawing on the latest excavations and scientific discoveries, the author bridges the gap between ancestral practices, such as the use of beasts of burden for field work, and our modern questions about human-animal interactions. In so doing, he paves the way for a reflection on the future of these relationships, including ongoing domestications such as those of fish and plants. A way to write a more peaceful common future.”

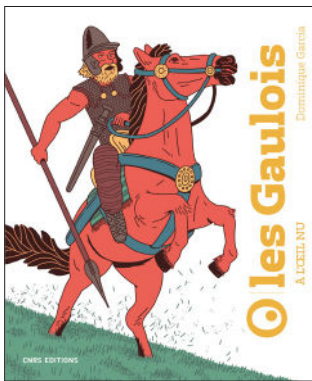
Les Cahiers de Science & Vie, November 2024



Death

Fanny Bocquentin

22 € | 160 pages | 14 x 21 cm
Published in October 2023
978-2-271-14776-9



The Gauls

Dominique Garcia

19 € | 160 pages | 17 x 21 cm
Published in May 2021
978-2-271-13221-5



Nature

Anne-Caroline Prévot

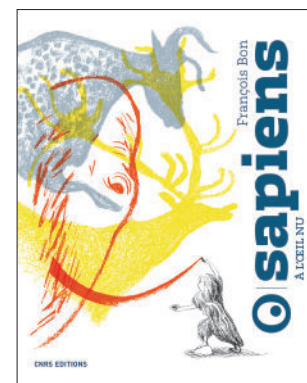
19 € | 160 pages | 17 x 21 cm
Published in October 2021
978-2-271-13697-8



The Earth

A. Schubnel, R. Jolivet,
J.-A. Olive, N. Coltice

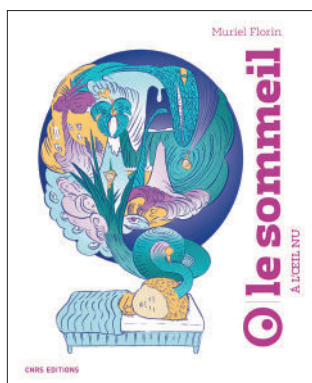
Rights sold: Chinese, Korean
18 € | 168 pages | 17 x 21 cm
Published in Sept. 2019
978-2-271-12432-6



Homo Sapiens

François Bon

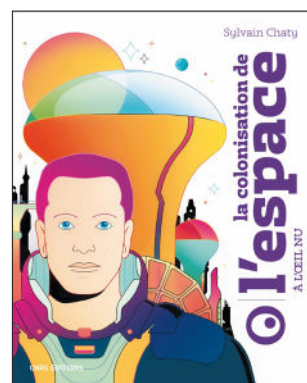
Rights sold: Chinese, Korean
18 € | 168 pages | 17 x 21 cm
Published in May 2019
978-2-271-12419-7



Sleep

Muriel Florin

Rights sold: Korean
19 € | 176 pages | 17 x 21 cm
Published in Sept. 2020
978-2-271-13066-2



The Colonisation of Space

Sylvain Chaty

Rights sold: Korean
18 € | 176 pages | 17 x 21 cm
Published in May 2020
978-2-271-12627-6

“The Great Voices of Research” Series/Les Grandes Voix de la Recherche

In short and lively texts, the great voices of research retrace their careers, present their work and share their passion with us. As mediators, they explore all areas of knowledge, introducing us to the latest scientific advances and the great challenges of science. Available as a printed book or audio book.

12 x 18 cm | 96 pages | 8 €

Find all the titles of the series on: <https://www.cnrseditions.fr/collection/les-grandes-voix-de-la-recherche/>



Recounting the History of the Solar System

Alessandro Morbidelli

To recount the history of the Solar System, Alessandro Morbidelli follows this rule of Sherlock Holmes: "When you have eliminated the impossible, whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth." In this brief history, Alessandro Morbidelli shows a science in the process of being constructed, explains what we know, what we suppose, and what remains to be discovered.

CNRS Silver Medalist and professor at the Collège de France, **Alessandro Morbidelli** is a mathematician, astronomer and planetologist.



Rights sold: Greek

Trapping Atoms

Jean Dalibard

How can atoms be cooled using lasers, so that they can be better observed? This is what Jean Dalibard has devoted his career to. His experiments have not only led to major advances in fundamental physics, but should also make it possible to develop quantum bits, essential elements of the future quantum computer. Jean Dalibard's research is set against the backdrop of the long history of science over the last century, revealing the most surprising properties of the infinitely small.

Jean Dalibard is a physicist, professor at the Collège de France and at the École Polytechnique.



Urban Freedom

Patrick Boucheron

"City air makes you free". Based on this medieval adage, which reflects the fact that men and women became free by leaving seigneurial lands and entering the city, Patrick Boucheron retraces his career as a historian of cities and forms of power in the Middle Ages.

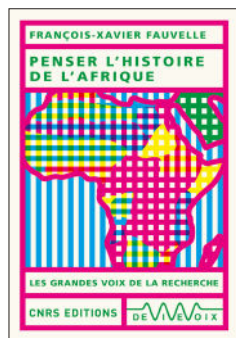
Patrick Boucheron is Professor at the Collège de France, holding the "History of power in Western Europe, 13th-16th centuries" chair. He is the author of *Conquering fear. Siena, 1338* (Seuil, 2013) and *The Trace and the Aura* (Seuil, 2019).

Nobel Prize
in Physics 2022



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Einstein and the Quantic Revolutions
Alain Aspect
Rights sold: English, Italian,
Chinese NSC, Greek



Thinking African History
François-Xavier Fauvelle

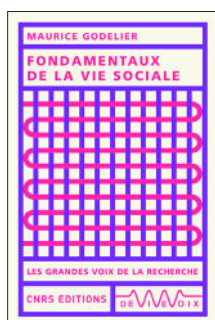


A Historian's Engagement
Michelle Perrot



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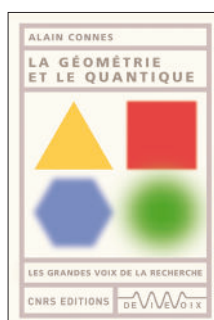
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Philippe Descola
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Maurice Godelier
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Ecosystems: A Common Good
Sandra Lavorel



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Mechanics
Alain Connes
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François Hartog
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Greek



Feminism thinks!
Geneviève Fraisse



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Étienne Ghys
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A Chemistry for the Environment
Jean-Marie Tarascon



Black Holes and Quasars
Françoise Combes



Past Climates, Future Climates
Jean Jouzel



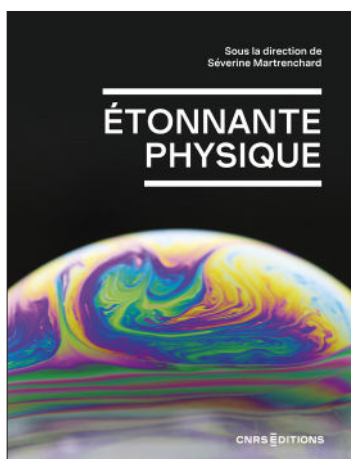
Innate Immunity
Jules Hoffman



Cryptology at the Heart of
Digital Technology
Jacques Stern
Rights sold: Greek



Decontaminating the Planet
Jean Weissenbach



Séverine Martrenchard is a physicist and scientific delegate at the CNRS Physics Institute.

DETAILS

**World rights available
(sold in Chinese)**

ISBN: 978-2-271-14890-2

Size: 16 x 21 cm

Pages: 422

List price: 24 €

Publication date: October 2023

Amazing Physics

Edited by Séverine Martrenchard

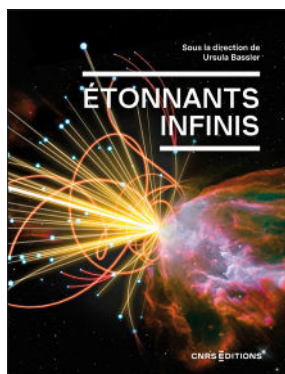
Black holes, quantum physics, bosons, soap bubbles, earthquakes, plasma: 70 short texts, up-to-date with the latest research, to discover the fascinating richness and diversity of physics.

Physics is an age-old discipline that explores space and time. From the immensity of clusters of galaxies to the infinite smallness of elementary particles, from human scales - from the metre to the centimetre - to the nanoworld, from the extreme brevity of the electron's movement to the depths of the ages from which the first lights of the Universe reach us: the fields covered by this discipline have never ceased to amaze us.

This is the science of methodical experimentation that develops original instruments for observing matter, inert or living, in the laboratory or remotely. It is a science that still raises fundamental questions. But it is also the science that accompanies our daily lives, with its developments in the fields of materials, health, energy, climate, etc.

This book brings together 70 contributions from physicists who have recently been awarded a CNRS medal [the highest scientific research awards in France] for the originality and importance of their work. Abundantly illustrated and accessible to all science enthusiasts, *Amazing Physics* lifts the veil on the most up-to-date research.

IN THE SAME SERIES

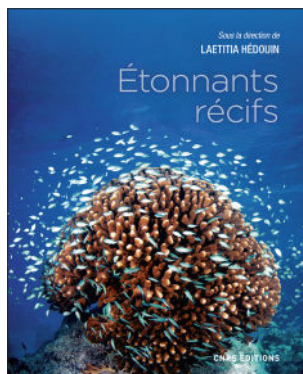


Amazing Infinities

Edited by Ursula Bassler

Rights sold in Chinese

Nov. 2022 | 22 € | 300 pages



Amazing Reefs

Edited by Laetitia Hédouin

Rights sold in Chinese

Nov. 2021 | 22 € | 304 pages



Amazing Chemistry

Edited by C.-M. Pradier

Rights sold in Chinese

April 2021 | 22 € | 328 pages



Amazing Life

Edited by Catherine Jessus

Rights sold in Chinese

March 2017 | 20 € | 328 pages

**+ 3000
copies
sold**

Antimatter and Gravity

Gabriel Chardin

In collaboration with Mathieu Agelou

What if antimatter fell upwards rather than downwards?

With Gabriel Chardin, take a look at this theory in the making, for a new cosmological model.

Cosmology is the branch of physics that deals with the Universe. It is concerned with its most minute components as well as its most colossal structures, from its birth 13.8 billion years ago to its final moments in a future yet to be determined. To think about an object of this kind, we have to make simplifying hypotheses, which are brought together in mathematical models. But the current standard cosmological model, based on Einstein's theory of general relativity, is in crisis.

To account for what we observe, we keep adding hypothetical elements, like patches. For the moment, we can't explain the movement of galaxies without assuming the existence of so-called "dark matter", nor the speed of expansion of the Universe without "dark energy", and while we know that in the first instants of the Big Bang there was as much matter as antimatter, we don't know where the latter has gone, as it is only observed very briefly and in tiny quantities in our particle accelerator. For decades, Gabriel Chardin has been building an alternative model that would solve these problems. If we assume that antimatter "antigravitates", i.e. that it repels everything and therefore "falls" upwards, then we no longer need to suppose the existence of dark matter or energy, and this antimatter would not have disappeared but would be found, extremely diluted, almost everywhere in the Universe.

This model, taken very seriously, is currently being tested at CERN, where attempts are being made to "weigh" anti-electrons. The first partial results were published in September 2023, and the experiments will continue.

"If, in the first moments of the Big Bang, the Universe contained as much matter as antimatter, where did the latter go? With or without gravity? Physicist Gabriel Chardin shares his astounding hypotheses, which could open the door to a new cosmological model."

RFI, May 2024

"While some books aim to show a smooth and beautiful side of current physics models, even if it means omitting their inconsistencies, Gabriel Chardin comes to the knuckles: he removes the plaster to show the wounds, sticks his finger in, and presses a little so that we can hear the groans of a physics that is still largely imperfect."

La Recherche, July 2024



A physicist and director of research at CNRS, **Gabriel Chardin** is the author of several books, including *The unbearable gravity of the Universe* (Le Pommier, 2018), *Can we travel in time?* (Le Pommier, 2014), and co-author with Mathieu Agelou of *Where are they? Extraterrestrials and Fermi's paradox* (CNRS Éditions, 2021).

Mathieu Agelou, PhD in physics, is a research engineer at the French Atomic Energy Commission.

DETAILS

World rights available except English (rights retained by author)

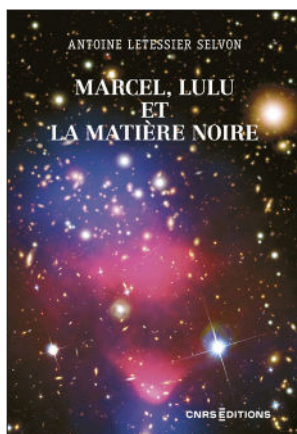
ISBN: 978-2-271-15033-2

Size: 14 x 22 cm

Pages: 264

List price: 24 €

Publication date: April 2024



Antoine Letessier Selvon is a research director at the CNRS and a high-energy physicist. He is the author of *Kosmos. The particle epic* (CNRS Éditions, 2017).

Marcel, Lulu and Dark Matter

Antoine Letessier Selvon

In this popular science book, physicist Antoine Letessier Selvon follows the adventures of two particle-characters over 14 billion years, as they flirt with one of the great mysteries of astrophysics.

This book recounts the adventure of Marcel and Lulu, a proton and an electron, born with the Big Bang. These two particles, in love from the first moment they see each other, bond to form a hydrogen atom.

Freed from the cosmic broth, they witness the birth of primordial stars. For several billion years, guided by dark matter, they will sail within the vast halo that shelters the Milky Way, our galaxy. They end up on Earth, companions of an atom of oxygen and hydrogen, forming a simple water molecule. There, Marcel and Lulu meet Clara, a young researcher who appeared on Earth twenty-five years ago. Nestled in the blue of her eyes, they will search with her for the trace that dark matter may leave in her detectors.

A quirky and amusing scientific tale, for a better understanding of the mysteries of the Universe.

"Marcel, Lulu et la matière noire is a rather unusual book of its kind: it's pure fiction... and pure science. Knowledge unfolds as the story progresses. The result is an astonishingly accessible work on a complex subject."

Lire Magazine, February 2025

DETAILS

World rights available

ISBN: 978-2-271-15198-8

Size: 14 x 20,5 cm

Pages: 128

List price: 15 €

Publication date: January 2025

"Physicist Antoine Letessier Selvon interweaves the very long epic of the Universe with the much shorter story of a woman researcher's life. In conclusion, a poetic way of bringing the two together."

Le Monde, January 2025

A Brief History of Cosmology

Françoise Combes

From Ptolemy to the James Webb telescope: discovering the universe and its galaxies.

Cosmology is the science of describing the Universe and tracing its history through time. Until the early 20th century, the observable Universe was limited to our immediate vicinity: the planets and their erratic motions, the stars, the white band of the Milky Way, and the “nebulae”, extended luminous zones. We had already understood a number of essential things (that the Earth was round, as early as 500 BC; that it revolved around the Sun, with Copernicus; that all body movements were due to gravitation, thanks to Newton), but we remained very limited, unable as we were to determine the distances of all these objects. It was a woman, Henrietta Leavitt, who in 1909 made the discovery that certain variable stars could be used as “standard candles”, i.e. as distance indicators. And then, surprise: some objects, like Andromeda, are far too distant to belong to our Milky Way. The Universe became immense, and our galaxy one among an infinite number of others.

From then on, the story accelerates, and one discovery follows another: the Universe has an origin, the Big Bang; it is expanding; the rotational movements of galaxies cannot be explained without the involvement of invisible matter of an unknown nature, known as dark matter; far from slowing down, as expected, the expansion accelerates, proof that energy, also unknown, is being introduced. So many pieces of a puzzle being assembled in competing models, so many answers beckoning new questions. A story told by one of its leading figures and best specialists, Françoise Combes.



Françoise Combes, CNRS Gold Medalist, is a professor at the Collège de France, specializing in galactic physics, i.e. the formation, evolution and composition of galaxies. She is the author of *Black holes and Quasars* (CNRS Éditions, 2023).

DETAILS

World rights available

ISBN: 978-2-271-15163-6

Size: 11 x 18 cm

Pages: 160

List price: 11 €

Publication date: April 2025



Jean-Michel Gibert is a biologist and CNRS [French National Center for Research] researcher.

Colors of Life

Jean-Michel Gibert

A richly illustrated book showing the variety of colors in living things, their functions and how they appear.

The green of leaves, the red of a poppy, the pink of a flamingo, the blue shell of a lobster, but also spots and stripes: the living world explodes with colors and patterns.

They can be used to hide, or on the contrary to display toxicity. Male birds may use them to attract females, and flowers to attract pollinators. Ripe fruits are colored to make them easier to spot by those who eat them, and thus help spread their seeds. Pigmentation can also serve to protect against UV rays, or, in the case of certain insects, to modulate body temperature: darker individuals warm up faster and are more active. Zebra stripes disturb flies, while cheetah spots mimic the intermittent light of undergrowth.

The variations are infinite, but the genesis of colors and their patterns is governed by the laws of genetics and the environment. This is what this book invites us to discover.

"In Les Couleurs du vivant, biologist Jean-Michel Gibert takes us on a fabulous journey to discover the secrets of this chromatic abundance, illustrated with his own photographs."

Madame Figaro, August 2024

DETAILS

World rights available

ISBN: 978-2-271-14555-0

Size: 16 x 21 cm

Pages: 336

List price: 25 €

Publication date: August 2024

Depths

The Secrets of the Deep Sea

Edited by Sophie Gambardella, Pascale Ricard,
Séverine Martini

An illustrated book, somewhere between a comic strip and a popular science book, about the deep sea. Too often perceived as a new Eldorado, it needs to be protected.

The deep sea includes everything below 200 meters below the ocean surface, from the water column to the soil and subsoil. Covering three quarters of the Earth's surface, it represents an immense space. While the average depth of the ocean is 3,800 metres, it can reach over 10,000 metres!

Knowledge of the deep sea and an understanding of how it function are essential for a number of reasons, both to demonstrate its richness and to better understand its contribution to human society. However, this requires us to rethink a number of preconceived ideas. The deep sea is not a big black hole where nothing happens. Although deprived of sunlight, these depths are inhabited by a multitude of species and are home to a rich underwater biodiversity that is still largely unknown. They also represent one of the planet's main carbon sinks, as it is in the seabed that the residues of carbon captured at the sea surface settle. It is also here that some hope to find a partial solution to the energy transition, thanks to the presence of numerous metallic resources... but this is not without raising a number of questions. In short, the deep sea undoubtedly holds many surprises.

The result of a research project bringing together biologists, oceanographers, geoscientists, lawyers, managers, anthropologists, political scientists and environmental psychologists, this comic book provides an insight into this environment and the environmental, economic and social issues surrounding it.

An illustrated book for everyone!

"The result of a research project bringing together biologists, oceanographers, lawyers, managers, anthropologists, political scientists and environmental psychologists, this comic book offers a global view of the deep sea, the resources it contains and the issues it faces."

Le Monde, la Vie, April 2025



Sophie Gambardella and **Pascale Ricard** are lawyers specializing in international law of the sea and researchers at the University of Aix Marseille.

Séverine Martini is an oceanographer and CNRS researcher.

DETAILS

World rights available

ISBN: 978-2-271-15447-7

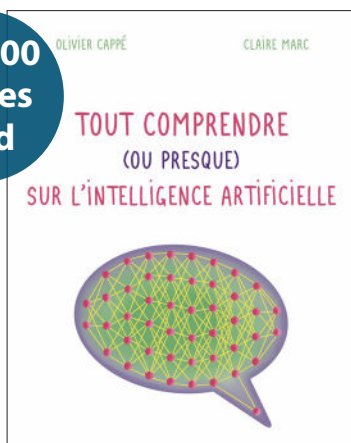
Size: 19 x 25 cm

Pages: 72

List price: 16 €

Publication date: March 2025

+ 5,000
copies
sold



Olivier Cappé is director of research in the Computer Science Department at ENS Ulm. In 2013, he was awarded the Grand Prix de l'Académie des Sciences for his work on statistical signal processing.

Claire Marc is a graphic designer specialized in scientific mediation. She also designed the other titles in the series.

Everything You Wanted to Know About Artificial Intelligence (or Almost!)

Olivier Cappé, Claire Marc

Artificial intelligence: one of the most exciting and anxiety-provoking issues of our time. An educational and comprehensive presentation of this field, its promises and its risks.

Everyone's talking about AI. Since ChatGPT, translation software and image generators went online, everyone can even use one. But nobody really knows what it is.

What is it really? Who came up with the basic concepts, and when? Neural networks, reasoning models, artificial learning, language models: what do these different ways of creating AI cover? What is "generative" AI, and what distinguishes it from the others? What's the science behind it? What applications have already proved their worth?

What developments are expected in the short to medium term? What kind of business model can we expect? And what are the risks, in economic, ethical, bias amplification and data protection terms?

A group of researchers, under the aegis of the CNRS (the French National Center for Scientific Research), has taken a close look at all these questions, and has presented their findings in a clear and instructive way.

DETAILS

World rights available

ISBN: 978-2-271-15424-8

Size: 17 x 21 cm

Pages: 136

List price: 19 €

Publication date: April 2025

"The promise of the title is more than fulfilled: the review of basic knowledge is combined with an insight into recent scientific advances and an introduction to research questions that are still open. The success of the book lies in the fact that each of the 20 questions and answers has been written by a different researcher, without detracting from the level and style of the book. The chapters are to the point, with paragraphs reduced to one or two sentences. [...] The many illustrations serve both as teaching aids and graphic elements."

Le Monde, May 2025

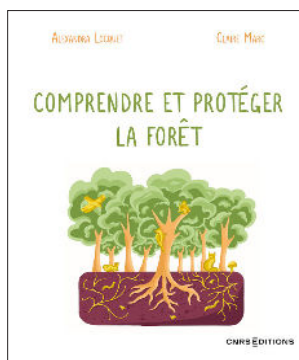
IN THE SAME SERIES

With its seemingly lighthearted artistic style and research from the finest scientific minds, this series covers the basic stakes, taking stock of what we know for sure about these current topics, as well as telling the story of how we came to know it.



Everything you Wanted to Know about Water (or Almost)

978-2-271-15222-0
17 x 21 cm | 136 pages
19 € | Sept. 2024



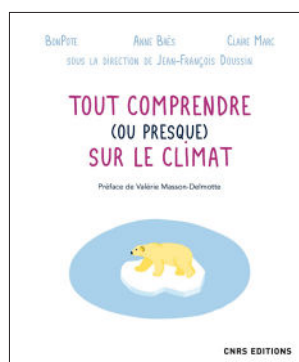
Understanding and Protecting the Forest

978-2-271-14640-3
17 x 21 cm | 150 pages
18 € | October 2023



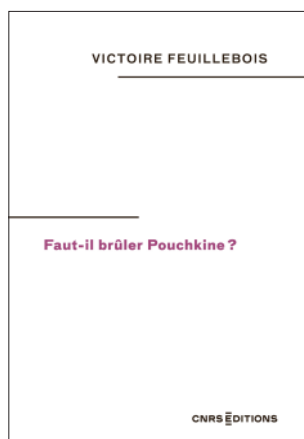
Everything you Wanted to Know about Biodiversity (or Almost)

978-2-271-14681-6
17 x 21 cm | 140 pages
18 € | May 2023
8,000 copies sold



Everything you Wanted to Know about Climate Change (or Almost)

Rights sold in Korean, Portuguese
978-2-271-13977-1
17 x 21 cm | 136 pages
18 € | March 2022
50,000 copies sold



A former student at the École Normale Supérieure (Paris), **Victoire Feuillebois** teaches Russian literature at the University of Strasbourg, and is currently working on the history of comparisons between Tolstoy and Dostoyevsky. She has published *Portrait of the Romantic writer as nocturnal storyteller* (Classiques Garnier, 2021) and *Master Tolstoy: the teacher you don't want* (CNRS Éditions, 2024).

Should We Burn Pushkin?

Victoire Feuillebois

What should we make of the removal of books by Russian authors from Ukrainian libraries?

While shedding original light on the war in Ukraine, this book also suggests ways of putting a number of contemporary debates into perspective.

Statues debunked, Russian artists de-programmed, works of art ostracized: after the outbreak of large-scale war in Ukraine in 2022, Russian cultural objects sometimes found themselves in the hot seat, accused of having been a link in the genealogy of violence. This book seeks to understand why, in the context of war, culture has found itself on the front line.

How is it that art suddenly seems to be the shadow of power? Why do we suspect that "great Russian literature" might carry an ideological message? What does the war in Ukraine reveal about the construction and valorization of the social, political and existential functions of these works?

This book examines these challenges, showing that they are rooted in the particular role of art, literature and culture in the Russian context, and the different links that cultural objects have with politics. It suggests ways of putting a number of contemporary debates into perspective.

DETAILS

World rights available

ISBN: 978-2-271-15327-2

Size: 14 x 20 cm

Pages: 192

List price: 18 €

Publication date: May 2025

"Victoire Feuillebois's book is an extremely moving and necessary plea for critical, reasoned and erudite thinking, the only way to save works from their censors and their worshippers - who are sometimes just as dangerous as each other - and return them to readers."

Le Nouvel Obs, May 2025

A History of Dietetics

From Hippocrates to the Nutri-Score

Bruno Laurioux

What is recommended to eat and drink, when, under what circumstances and for whom? From Antiquity to today, Bruno Laurioux studies the history of dietetics, reflection of the desires, fears and representations of an era.

Today, dietetics is everywhere. This practice, often associated with modernity and contemporary concerns, actually has a long history. It dates back over two thousand years. While dietetic discourse has evolved considerably over time, food has always held a central place.

As far back as Antiquity, we find lists of foods with their medical properties, and specific diets designed for particular illnesses, seasons or even individuals, in order to heal themselves or maintain their bodies in an optimal state of health. From one century to the next, a food's virtues were transformed into vices - meat and sugar being emblematic of these reversals of discourse.

By combining intellectual and social history, we can understand the origins of some of our consumption patterns: why was it that melon, long considered very dangerous, had to be eaten at the beginning of a meal, accompanied by a glass of strong wine? But also, what are the complex relationships between vegetarianism and various religious reform movements or anarchism? Or how has the calorie become the tool for a quantification of nutrition that is properly political? Dietetics is an eminently cultural object, because it is part of the evolution of a society to which it must also adapt.



Professor emeritus at the University of Tours, **Bruno Laurioux** chairs the European Institute of Food History and Cultures. Author of *Eating in the Middle Ages* (Pluriel, 2013), he co-edited *Food* (CNRS Éditions, 2015) and *For a History of Meat* (PUR-PUFR, 2017).

DETAILS

World rights available

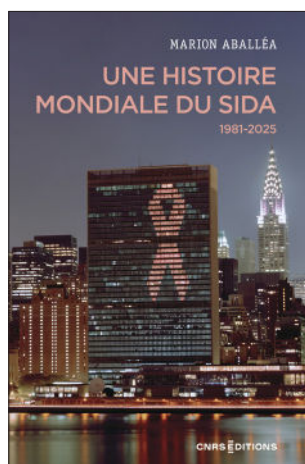
ISBN: 978-2-271-11684-0

Size: 15 x 23 cm

Pages: 688

List price: 27 €

Publication date: May 2025



Marion Allabéa is a lecturer at the University of Strasbourg. She specializes in the contemporary history of international relations, with a particular focus on health issues, and is the author of *A diplomatic exercise with the enemy: the French embassy in Berlin, 1871-1933* (2017).

A Global History of AIDS (1981-2025)

Marion Aballéa

A book that traces the history of this first major modern epidemic, which claimed 40 million victims in 40 years.

June 2021 marked the 40th anniversary of the discovery in California of four patients suffering from a rare form of pneumonia, the first clinically observed cases of AIDS. In the space of four decades, the disease has claimed more than 40 million victims on every continent, and profoundly altered some of the foundations of contemporary society: sexuality, public health policies, individual and collective behavior in the face of risk, international solidarity and competition, the relationship with science, activism and civic commitment.

Like all transmissible diseases, AIDS raises fundamental questions, at different levels, about living together and the need to live in society. A synthesis of works published over the last 40 years, enriched by unpublished archives, this history of AIDS takes a global approach, both geographically (in America as well as in Europe and Africa) and thematically (economic, societal, political, health, cultural and scientific). It aims to bring together and explore the different issues that make HIV-AIDS such a special disease, and a challenge that is still with us today, to paint as complete a picture as possible of this “first pandemic of modern times”.

As much for the curious public as for students and researchers in the social sciences and medicine, this book examines the relationship between our contemporary societies and the risk of infection and pandemics.

DETAILS

World rights available

ISBN: 978-2-271-15178-0

Size: 15 x 23 cm

Pages: 328

List price: 25 €

Publication date: March 2025

"A narrative that draws on knowledge from a wide range of disciplines, a veritable investigation into AIDS as a global social phenomenon [...]."

LIRE magazine, April 2025

Sapiens and Germs

Epidemics of the Past

Renaud Piarroux

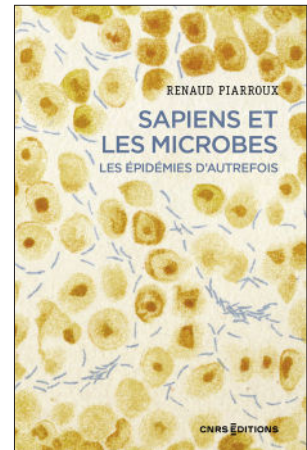
Bacteria, parasites, viruses: without them, life would not be what it is today. A book that explores the role of germs in human history.

History books, often focused on great men and national heritage, generally overlook an invisible but powerful player: germs. Yet these tiny organisms have played a decisive role in the destiny of human societies.

This book tells the story of the contagious diseases that, from tuberculosis to influenza, smallpox, the plague and cholera, have emerged over the centuries to redraw the map of the world. Germs offer a unique perspective on our history, influencing the rise and fall of cities, deciding the outcome of wars, shattering entire civilizations and erecting barriers that even the most powerful empires could not overcome. African diseases, for example, were a formidable obstacle to European colonization, while European epidemics decimated Native American populations, paving the way for the conquest of the New World.

This book also explores the way in which epidemics were perceived and recounted, and the reactions they provoked: medieval quarantine measures, prevention campaigns by colonial medicine, social and political upheavals... right up until the beginning of the 20th century, when science began to lift the veil on our invisible enemies.

The Spanish flu, which appeared in the wake of the 14-18 war, can thus be considered the last pandemic before mankind had the tools to try and prevent it.



Renaud Piarroux is a professor at Sorbonne University, researcher at the Pierre Louis Institute of Epidemiology and Public Health, and head of department at the Pitié-Salpêtrière hospital. He is the author of *Cholera* (2019, reed. Biblis, 2022) and *The Wave* (2020).

"The influence of infectious diseases on our history is too often overlooked. Yet it is very real, and far more powerful than is often imagined. With his fascinating book "Sapiens et les microbes", epidemiologist and biologist Prof. Renaud Piarroux aims to restore viruses and parasites to their rightful place in the narratives of our past."

L'Express, April 2025

"This is a major contribution accessible to all. [...] The fruit of a monumental effort, the book is both erudite and richly documented, and is a pleasure to read."

Sciences & pseudo-sciences, April 2025

DETAILS

World rights available

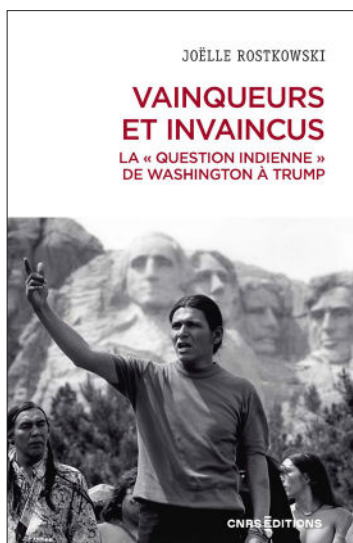
ISBN: 978-2-271-15430-9

Size: 15 x 23 cm

Pages: 400

List price: 26 €

Publication date: April 2025



Joëlle Rostkowski is an ethnologist, UNESCO consultant and EHESS lecturer, specializing in American literature and civilization. She is also a translator of contemporary Amerindian literary works, notably N. Scott Momaday's *House Made of Dawn*.

Winners and Undefeated

The "Indian Question" from Washington to Trump

Joëlle Rostkowski

The United States acted as a colonial power over Native Americans. This book takes stock of U.S. policy towards indigenous peoples, from the 18th century to the present day.

Indianness survived the Conquest and colonization. The continuity of this identity is a heroic epic that runs like a thread through the history of the United States. This book analyzes the complex interactions, alliances and revolts that marked relations between the Indian nations and the American government.

Faced with the Indian presence, of major importance in the early days of Independence, then gradually overshadowed in the name of Manifest Destiny, the role of U.S. presidents varied, more or less benevolent or hostile, often hesitant, sometimes decisive.

Since the 1930s and Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal, a process of renewal has been underway: territorial recognition, demographic recovery and participation in the struggle for civil rights. The alternation of progress and reversals has made this process a long, exhilarating and determined march.

The affirmation of the historical sovereignty of the Amerindians was based on their international recognition in the concert of nations and the concept of autochthony enshrined by the United Nations. But each presidential election reshuffles the deck and opens a new chapter in their personal and collective history.

Joëlle Rostkowski highlights the survival of Amerindian consciousness, drawing on local, national and international archives and years of fieldwork.

DETAILS

World rights available

ISBN: 978-2-271-13551-3

Size: 15 x 23 cm

Pages: 480

List price: 26 €

Publication date: April 2025

"Joëlle Rostkowski's well-documented essay retraces the stages of this history and highlights its paradoxes. [...] Avoiding limiting itself, as militant works too often do, to recounting the infamous episodes of massacres and treaties flouted [...], this essay explores and finely analyses American political history through the prism of its residual "colonial" paradoxes."

Le Monde, May 2025

Occupied Constantinople (1918-1923)

A Cultural History

Edited by Frédéric Hitzel and Timour Muhidine

Constantinople, cultural capital in full effervescence: the roaring twenties *alla turca*.

At the end of the First World War, from 1918 onwards, Istanbul was occupied for five years by the Allied forces: the French, the British and the Italian. A garrison city, it was also a city of repression for the population undergoing the first foreign occupation in five centuries, but also a city of rediscovered freedom for minority groups. Constantinople experienced one of its most prosperous periods from an intellectual and cultural point of view, against a backdrop of political tensions: confusion reigned within the communities between collaborators with the allies, defenders of the sultanate and partisans of the resistance ready to join the insurrection in Anatolia. And in the autumn of 1920, this new Istanbul handed over to the West also saw an influx of White Russians driven out of their former empire.

The eighteen contributions in this volume cover every aspect of military, social and artistic life, and put into perspective the texts and images produced by witnesses and artists, photographers and painters from at least six communities (French, English, Greeks from Constantinople, Italians, Russians and Turks). They paint a picture of an essential moment of rupture in Turkish and European history, and are followed by an exhaustive dictionary of key figures in the capital of a dying empire.



Frédéric Hitzel research fellow and Doctor of History, is a member of the Center for Turkish, Ottoman, Balkan and Central Asian Studies. He has published numerous works on Ottoman and Turkish history, including *Turkey in the 20th century* (Les Belles Lettres, 2023).

Timour Muhidine, a specialist in Turkish literature and lecturer at the National Institute of Oriental Languages, is also a novelist and translator (notably for Actes Sud).

"Edited by two established historians of Turkey, this collective work plunges us into a period that is as fascinating as it is little-known. A strong point is the richness of the approach: rather than a strictly political or military account, the authors choose to recreate an atmosphere, a unique cultural and social effervescence."

Conflicts, March 2025

DETAILS

World rights available

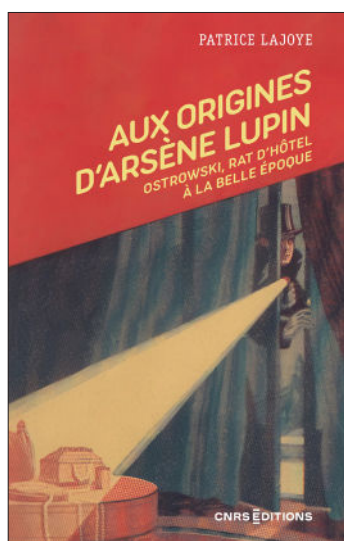
ISBN: 978-2-271-12910-9

Size: 15 x 23 cm

Pages: 420

List price: 28 €

Publication date: February 2025



PhD in the history of comparative religions, **Patrice Lajoye** is the author of numerous works on Celtic and Slavic mythologies.

The Origins of Arsène Lupin's Character Ostrowski, an « hotel rat » at the Belle Époque Patrice Lajoye

At the heart of the wealthy society of the Belle Époque, this investigation recounts the story of the man who inspired the character of Arsène Lupin.

The end of the 19th century saw the emergence of a new phenomenon: tourism, and in particular seaside holidays. With it came the opening of grand hotels and palaces all over Europe, reserved for a wealthy clientele: the old nobility and the new industrial bourgeoisie. This concentrated luxury in places open to the public soon attracted a new class of thief: the hotel rat. Despite their unflattering name, they were high-class criminals: although they came from working-class backgrounds, they were cultured, multilingual and well-presented. They operate by renting a room before spending the following nights robbing their neighbors, then leaving as if nothing had happened. They were never violent and strived to be as inconspicuous as possible.

Georges Ostrowski is one of them. Born in the Ukraine, a Russian citizen, he was active for some forty years, notably in Germany, where he was the “Black Ghost of the Kaiserhauf”, but also in England, Italy and above all France. Known to European police forces and once hunted down by a commissioner of the famous “Tiger Brigades”, he remained remarkably discreet, to the point of appearing nowhere in the history of crime. Nevertheless, he had a profound and lasting influence on twentieth-century popular culture, and was the little-known inspiration behind Arsène Lupin and Fantomas.

Patrice Lajoye tracked down the slight traces that this true chameleon, who changed identity with each of his trips, left behind him: police report, interrogation report, a few letters, and above all an extensive press kit.

DETAILS

Rights sold in Greek
ISBN: 978-2-271-13058-7

Size: 14 x 22 cm

Pages: 350

List price: 24 €

Publication Date: November 2024

"Patrice Lajoye's publication of the archives available on Georges Ostrowski, and his efforts to reconstruct his life, invite us to dream of a kind of existence that is all the more romantic for the fact that, for the most part, only novelists have taken an interest in it."

Libération, November 2024

"With a patience and a rigor that command admiration, Patrice Lajoye untangles the true from the false in Ostrowski's life."

Le Point, November 2024

"Producing numerous exhibits for the case files, the author conducts an original investigation into a variety of miscellaneous news that have become a fictional phenomenon."

L'Ours, January 2025

Ibn Khaldoun

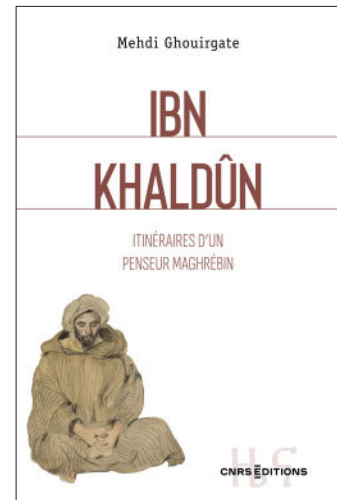
Itinerary of a Maghrebian thinker

Mehdi Ghouirgate

The biography of a major figure in the history of thought, by a historian of the medieval Maghreb.

Since its rediscovery in Europe two centuries ago, the fame of Ibn Khaldoun (1332-1406) has continued to grow, to the point where today he is the only thinker from the Arab-Muslim world to have a universal audience. The author of the monumental *Kitâb al-ibar*, or *Book of Examples*, is compared with the great names of Antiquity and Modern Times, from Thucydides to Machiavelli, Montesquieu and even Marx. He has earned the reputation of having been the precursor of just about everyone who has dealt with society, the state, economics or the philosophy of history since the 18th century. To go beyond the romantic figure of the lonely “genius”, this study sets out to trace the career of this writer in a period marked by the Black Death and the failure of the Merinid sultan Abû l-Hasan to unify the Maghreb. It traces the peregrinations of the man who was initially a practitioner of power in the courts of the Muslim West - Tunis, Fez, Granada, Bougie and Tlemcen - before his exile to Cairo, then the most brilliant city in Islam, where he devoted himself to teaching and a career as a magistrate.

In this way, this book sheds light on the conditions of formation of his theory of civilization, and in turn allows us to question the modalities of the construction of an idol, in the Muslim worlds and then in the West.



Professor at Bordeaux University in France and associate professor at Mohammed VI University in Rabat, **Mehdi Ghouirgate** is the author of *Berber empires: the construction and deconstruction of a historiographical object* (2024).

“Mehdi Ghouirgate’s book offers a captivating plunge into the Maghreb and Egypt of the 14th century. Contrary to the prevailing interpretation, which tends to present Ibn Khaldoun as a thinker whose genius transcended the limits of his time and geographical origin, it stands out for its effort to place this work in context, showing that Ibn Khaldoun’s life and times form the matrix of his thought.”

Le Monde des livres, December 2024

“Mehdi Ghouirgate’s book is extremely erudite and clearly written, and will appeal to specialists and neophytes alike.”

La Cliotheque, January 2025

“Mehdi Ghouirgate offers a comprehensive account of the journey of this man, who was particularly interested in the formation and decline of the empires of his time.”

Moyen Orient, April 2025

DETAILS

Rights sold in Arabic; in English (world)

ISBN: 978-2-271-15247-3

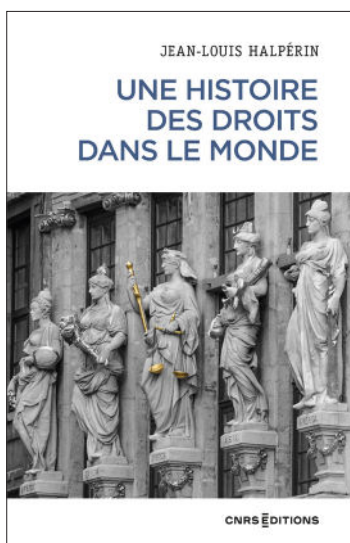
Size: 15 x 23 cm

Pages: 380

List price: 27 €

Publication date: October 2024

Series: Zena



Professor of legal history at the École normale supérieure, **Jean-Louis Halpérin's** publications include *History of rights in Europe from 1750 to the present day* (Flammarion, 2004, 2nd ed. Champs, 2020) and, with Frédéric Audren, *The French Legal Culture, 19th-20th century* (CNRS Éditions, 2013, 2022, translated in Arabic).

A History of Rights around the World

Jean-Louis Halpérin

A large-scale fresco, an enlightening way to retrace world history.

In the age of global, transnational and connected history, is it possible to write a history of rights that is free of the Eurocentric viewpoint that has structured so many so-called "universal" histories since the 19th century? And how can we account for the development of law without lapsing into the classical discourse celebrating a supposedly uniform and unilinear progress?

This book takes up this dual challenge, taking us from the many inventions of law in antiquity (notably in China and Rome) to contemporary tensions linked to the rise of regional or transnational law. With a clear and pedagogical approach to the multiple dynamics of the circulation, confrontation and globalization of law, in particular through European colonization and its violence, it highlights the dual political nature of legal techniques: instruments of domination, but also weapons of defense and contestation.

At the cutting edge of international research in comparative law, this vast fresco is nonetheless a lively and accessible general introduction to law, its history and its many social and political roles.

"Jean-Louis Halpérin has successfully taken up the challenge of writing a history of rights in the world, from the ancient Near East to contemporary India, via the long history of China and the development of Muslim law."

L'Histoire, January 2024

DETAILS

World rights available

ISBN: 978-2-271-14696-0

Size: 15 x 23 cm

Pages: 544

List price: 28 €

Publication Date: October 2023

The Amazon River

A Shared World

Hervé Théry

A book encompassing the history and culture of a major river, which embodies territorial conflicts on both a global and local scale.

In the heart of the vast Amazon rainforest, precious for its biodiversity but threatened by massive deforestation, you'd almost forget that the world's largest river flows through it. Yet, as the Brazilian novelist Leandro Tocantins wrote, in the Amazon "the river commands life". Hervé Théry invites us to discover the Amazon River, its inhabitants and its troubled history, and to meet this shared world.

For the river's immense basin has been, and still is, much coveted. Firstly, by the colonial empires of Spain and Portugal, each of which appropriated a share of this space, often to the disdain of the indigenous peoples. Today, nine nation-states are very attached to their territorial hold, including Brazil, which owns two-thirds of the region, and France, which has a presence there thanks to French Guiana. Conflicts have not disappeared, particularly between local populations and settlers from neighboring cities (or even other continents) who have come to extract oil, raise cattle or plant soybeans.

While the Amazon River was at the heart of all regional activities for more than five centuries, the sudden irruption of roads and massive urbanization from the 1960s onwards completely changed the situation. What new divisions are taking place today? How can we preserve this river from the excesses of humanity?



Hervé Théry is a geographer, director of research emeritus at the CNRS and professor at the University of São Paulo. He has written numerous books and articles on Brazil.

DETAILS

World rights available

ISBN: 978-2-271-15278-7

Size: 14 x 20,5 cm

Pages: 232

List price: 24 €

Publication Date: October 2024

Series: Geohistory of a River

IN THE SAME SERIES

The "Geohistory of a River" series aims to present the physiology, organic linearity and landscapes of the world's greatest rivers, and also to approach them through their history and the imaginary worlds that build and transform them. As strongholds, circulation areas, and frontiers, rivers are at the heart of the ecological, economic and geostrategic issues that shape our world.



The Volga
Pascal Marchand



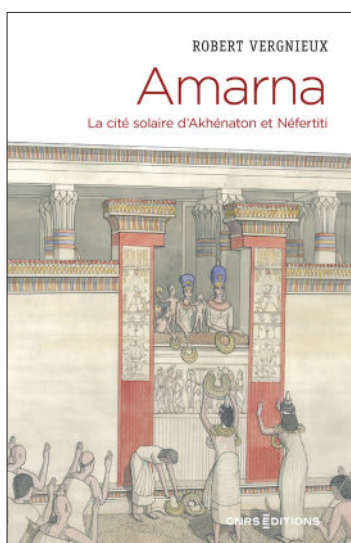
The Mississippi
Christian Montès



The Tigris and the Euphrates
Marcel Bazin



The Congo
Roland Pourtier



Robert Vergnien, an egyptologist specializing in the temples of Aten, pioneered the use of AI (1992) and 3D (1993) in his research on Akhenaten.

Amarna

The Solar City of Akhenaten and Nefertiti

Robert Vergnien

Robert Vigneux offers a unique and lively immersion in Akhenaten's city.

It was in Middle Egypt, on the right bank of the Nile, in the 14th century BC, that Akhenaten founded the Horizon of Aten, now Amarna. His ambition was to concentrate political and religious power in his own hands. His “solar” revolution revolutionized Egypt, but did not survive his reign.

In addition to the famous bust of Nefertiti, 20th-century excavations have revealed an exceptional urban organization, entirely dedicated to the royal family. By comparing archaeological remains with ancient representations, the author details the founding rituals, the royal ceremonies held there and the sometimes harsh living conditions of the residents. Analysis of the buildings in their cultural context offers a fresh look at Amarna.

Magnificently illustrated and enriched with never-before-seen 3D reconstructions, this book traces the creation of the Aten Horizon: temples, palaces, dwellings, necropolises, harbors... It also explores the representations of royalty, individuals and the god Aten.

DETAILS

Rights sold in Arabic

ISBN: 978-2-271-13976-4

Size: 15 x 23 cm

Pages: 336

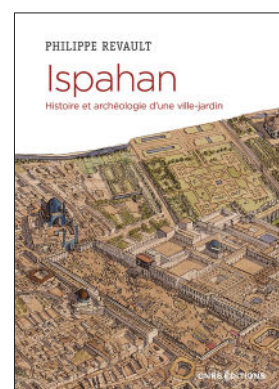
List price: 26 €

Publication Date: May 2025

Series: Spirit of Places

IN THE SAME SERIES

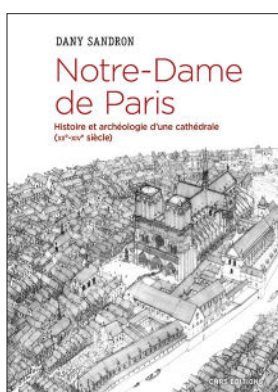
"Spirit of Places": a series to discover the originality, the personality and the spirit of major sites of European and Near Eastern archaeology and history, from Antiquity to the modern era.



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Philippe Revault

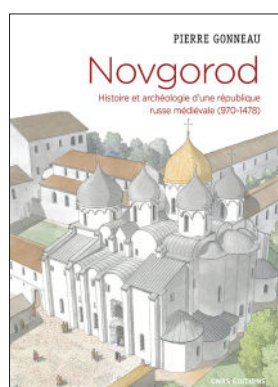
32 € | 17 x 23 cm | 320 p.
Published in 2022



Notre-Dame of Paris

Dany Sandron

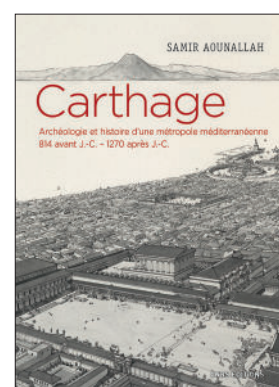
29 € | 17 x 23 cm | 358 p.
Published in 2021
Rights sold: Chinese



Novgorod

Pierre Gonneau

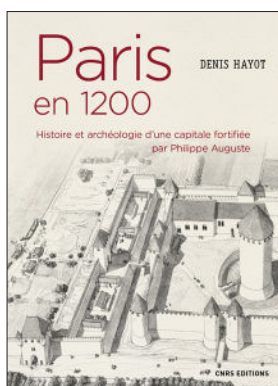
29 € | 17 x 23 cm | 248 p.
Published in 2021
Rights sold: Chinese



Carthage

Samir Aounallah

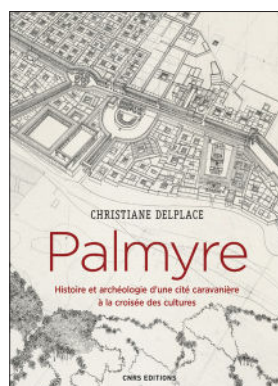
29 € | 17 x 23 cm | 240 p.
Published in 2020
Rights sold: Chinese



Paris in 1200

Denis Hayot

29 € | 17 x 23 cm | 328 p.
Published in 2018



Palmyra

Christiane Delplace

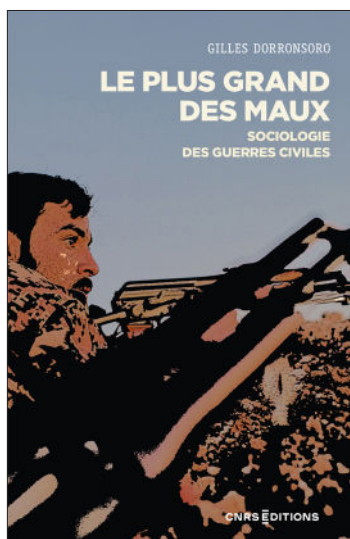
29 € | 17 x 23 cm | 244 p.
Published in 2017



Lascaux

Romain Pigeaud

22 € | 17 x 23 cm | 192 p.
Published in 2017
Rights sold: Chinese



Gilles Dorronsoro is Professor of Political Science at the University of Paris Panthéon-Sorbonne. He has worked on contemporary civil wars in Afghanistan, Kurdistan, Syria and Mali. He is the author of *The democratic denial* (Fayard, 2019), *What does Turkey want?* (Autrement, 2009), and co-author with of *Syria. Anatomy of a civil war* (CNRS Éditions, 2016).

The Greatest of Evils

Sociology of Civil Wars

Gilles Dorronsoro

Civil wars have been with us throughout human history. How can we better define and circumscribe this notion? An investigation carried out in the four corners of the globe, to better understand this “greatest of evils” (in the words of Pascal).

Civil war is an essential matrix of politics. In fact, it has spread to every continent in recent centuries. Today, there are around 10 in the world. In addition to the immediate human cost, there are numerous indirect costs, linked to destruction of various kinds (both material and immaterial).

This destructive phenomenon has never been the subject of a global analysis such as that proposed by Gilles Dorronsoro. This book is the result of a lifetime of research, from Mali to Afghanistan, via Syria and Turkey, as well as a synthesis of various studies carried out around the world in recent decades. It provides an overview of this political object, which is all the more complex given that those involved in civil wars often refuse to use the term in favor of “revolution”, “unrest”, “events” and so on. This comparative survey brings out some of the invariants of civil wars, starting with the dissolution of the social bond, but is also an excellent observatory for revealing the foundations of power.

A rich reflection on a violent phenomenon inherent to human societies.

DETAILS

World rights available

ISBN: 978-2-271-15317-3

Size: 15 x 23 cm

Pages: 304

List price: 25 €

Publication Date: April 2025

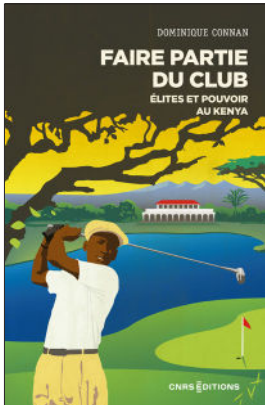
Series: Logics of Disorder

"By crossing cases and scales, the book examines what civil wars say about politics, states and contemporary societies. A critical and empirical overview of a recurring "evil" in human history that is still very much with us today."

Diplomatie, May 2025

IN THE SAME SERIES

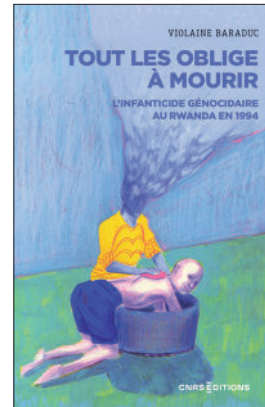
The “Logics of disorder” series proposes a survey of places and times to analyze the conflicts that manufacture the social, describing the brutality of the contemporary world, destitution, dispossession, but also revolts, frictions and the field of possibilities.



Being Part of the Club Elites and Power in Kenya

Dominique Connan

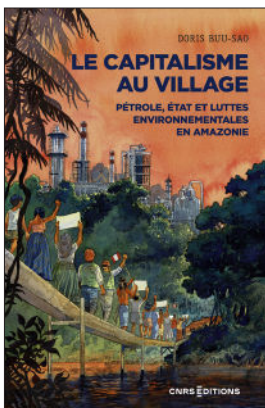
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They Must Die Genocidal Infanticide in Rwanda in 1994

Violaine Baraduc

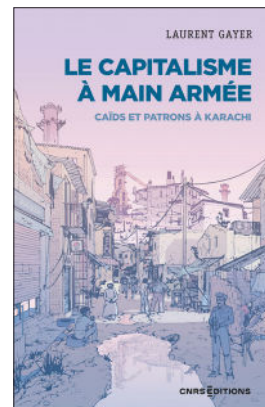
World rights available
March 2024 | 25 € | 320 pages



Capitalism in the Village Oil, the State and Environmental Struggles in Amazonia

Doris Buu-Sao

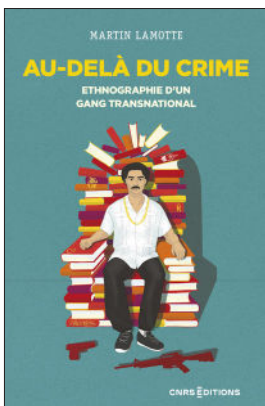
World rights available
Oct. 2023 | 25 € | 320 pages



Armed Capitalism Sheriff and Bosses in Karachi

Laurent Gayer

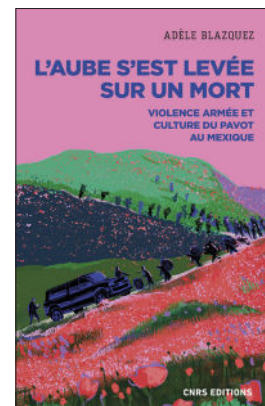
World rights available
(sold in English)
Feb. 2023 | 26 € | 416 pages



Beyond Crime Ethnography of a Global Gang

Martin Lamotte

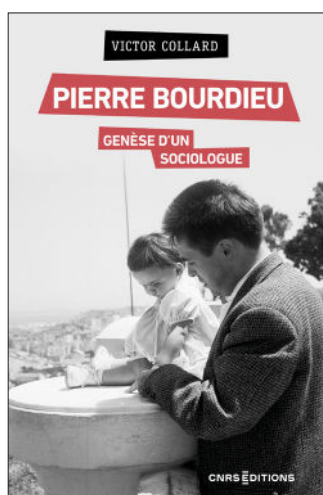
World rights available
Nov. 2022 | 24 € | 328 pages



The Dawn has risen on a Dead Man Armed Violence and Poppy Cultivation in Mexico

Adèle Blazquez

World rights available
(sold in Spanish)
March 2022 | 24 € | 336 pages



Victor Collard is a sociologist and holds a doctorate from the European Center for Sociology and Political Science. His research focuses on the sociology of 20th-century intellectuals and the history of the social sciences.

Pierre Bourdieu

The Origin of a Sociologist

Victor Collard

A groundbreaking study, based on original material, of the training of one of the 20th century's central thinkers.

How did Bourdieu, one of the world's best-known and most-quoted researchers, become a sociologist? How can we account for the trajectory of this son of a postmaster from the Basses-Pyrénées region, who became a professor at the Collège de France and a leading intellectual figure? The question is all the more sensitive as the author, with Jean-Claude Passeron, of *Les Héritiers* (1964), is the ultimate theoretician of the school system as a mode of elite reproduction. Over and above the discourses of Bourdieu himself, a self-professed class defector, this investigation draws on interviews and numerous as yet unexploited archives to reconstruct the path, learning, encounters and choices of this first-generation intellectual.

Tracing his school years through to his conversion to sociology during his military service and the publication of his first major works, this analysis, which requires a reconstitution of the state of philosophy and sociology in the mid-20th century, is also a plunge into French society between the Second World War and the Algerian War of Independence.

"In a meticulous work, Victor Collard analyzes the youth of the author of Les Héritiers in the light of his own concepts."

Nouvel Obs, December 2024

DETAILS

World rights available

ISBN: 978-2-271-14743-1

Size: 15 x 23 cm

Pages: 448

List price: 26 €

Publication Date: October 2024

Series : Culture & Society

"Sociologist Victor Collard's study of Pierre Bourdieu's youth is remarkable for its erudition and accuracy. It sheds new light on two key moments in the life of the young provincial scrapper who became a world-renowned social scientist: his academic rise and his abandonment of philosophy in favor of sociology."

En attendant Nadeau, March 2025

When the West Takes over the World (15th-21st centuries)

Is It Possible to Modernize Without Being Westernized?

Maurice Godelier

A re-reading of the birth and rise of the modern world by a major figure in contemporary anthropology.

If modernization is a social phenomenon of borrowing which has taken many forms in the course of history, it must be noted that the West, since the 15th century, has imposed itself - often by arms or by propaganda - as the model of modernity. Voluntarily or not, hundreds of societies have been transformed under its influence, so that, for the first time, all of them have entered into the framework of a common history. But what were the different modalities of this vast mutation? To what extent have certain societies been able to integrate themselves into this overall movement while retaining specific traits, different from, or even opposed to, what was promoted by the West? For it is possible being westernized without becoming Western. And how can we distinguish between irreversible transformations and those that can be challenged today?

For a long time, the belief in progress led people to believe that economic development, the evolution of morals and political democratization went hand in hand. The collapse of this myth now allows us to better characterize what has really been at stake in the globalization driven by industrial capitalism, and thus to understand the challenges that await Western societies today, which are faced with exacerbated hostility and may be on the verge of losing the economic, political and military leadership that has fueled their expansion.

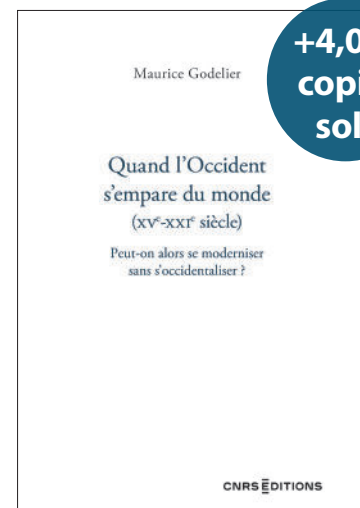
Drawing on a lifetime of research on the functioning of societies, Maurice Godelier offers here a re-reading of the birth and rise of the modern world, and an uncompromising assessment of the role and place of the West.

"After sixty years of field research, Godelier's masterly reflection shows how Western domination has brought about transformations in most parts of the world since the 15th century."

Philosophie Magazine, June 2023

"With its controlled, clear and measured narrative, this compendium of contemporary world history should be of great service to students and the general public alike. [...] But reading it not only provides a wealth of indispensable historical keys. It also helps to put current processes into perspective, such as the widespread mistrust of democracy."

Le Monde, June 2023



World-renowned anthropologist, recipient of the CNRS gold medal and the Alexander von Humboldt International Prize in Social Sciences, **Maurice Godelier** is the author of many classics in the field of anthropology, in particular *The Making of Great Men*, *The Metamorphoses of Kinship* and more recently *The Imagined, the Imaginary and the Symbolic*.

DETAILS

World rights available

(sold in Arabic, German)

ISBN: 978-2-271-14676-2

Size: 14 x 20,5 cm

Pages: 504

List price: 25 €

Publication Date: June 2023



Jean Estebanez is a geographer at Paris Est-Créteil University. He has published *Humans and animals. A geography of relationships*, in the "Documentation photographique" series (CNRS Éditions, 2022).

Zoos

On the Edge of Domesticity

Jean Estebanez

An outdated spectacle, a place of exploitation, zoos have been attracting criticism and controversy for the past decade. And yet, despite declining attendance, zoos remain a must-see destination for tourists from all over the world. But what's so special about the zoo? What today justifies the confinement of such "denatured" animals?

In the zoo, life springs forth and is controlled, animal beauty emerges and is represented, the wild is irreducibly part of the domesticated. In turn specimens, merchandise, ornaments, relics and gene banks, animals are first and foremost desired for their living presence. The power of the possible encounter, in unparalleled conditions, runs through the zoo project, explaining the wonder and controversy it arouses. How to capture animal life? How do we present the wild without absorbing it? How can we interest them in our presence and, in return, teach them to be affected? How to confine and safeguard?

This long-term investigation, carried out with the caretakers, visitors and animals of nearly sixty zoos, shows that they are not just a place for exploitation, nor for the conservation of the future, but above all for breeding, i.e. for living together. Zoos are troubled by the tension they constantly exert between life and death, joy and regret, wild and domestic.

A book on the centrality and ambivalence of the domesticatory process in our ties to animals.

DETAILS

World rights available

ISBN: 978-2-271-14926-8

Size: 15 x 23 cm

Pages: 276

List price: 25 €

Publication Date: May 2025

Trance

An Investigation into an Altered State of Consciousness

Céline Loozen

Could trance, like hypnosis, be a therapeutic tool? An investigation conducted within a network of researchers aiming to study the medical potential of this practice.

Trance: behind this blurred, polysemous term lies a common, universal and ancestral phenomenon. Stripped of its cultural, ethnological or mystical trappings, trance is said to enhance our cognitive, psychic and organic potential. This was the discovery made at the dawn of the 2000s by French ethnomusicist Corine Sombrun, after experiencing a spontaneous trance during a shamanic ceremony in northern Mongolia.

On her return, she enlisted the help of neuroscientists to examine what, at the cerebral level, induces the phenomena of trance: an increase in physical and mental power, analgesic effects and soothing sensations. Like the states of meditation and hypnosis, which have been examined and tested by science and medicine, trance thus appears to be a therapeutic tool that complements standard care: it could soothe certain pathologies (psychiatric syndromes, stress, addictions), make treatment more bearable, or improve certain skills (concentration, physical power, agility, logic and rationality).

But for this to happen, academic research needs to get to grips with the subject and produce formal, phenomenological and clinical proof. This is the ambitious and daring objective of a network of researchers, doctors and health professionals, who are taking trance out of its esoteric envelope and establishing it as a pure object of scientific study. As a science reporter, Céline Loozen spent two years at the heart of this emerging discipline, examining its aims and methods.



A physicist by training, **Céline Loozen** is a science journalist at Radio France.

DETAILS

World rights available

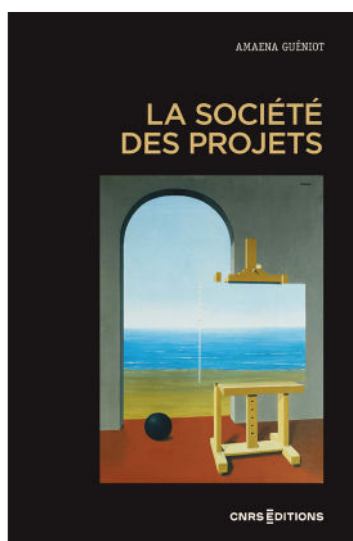
ISBN: 978-2-271-14731-8

Size: 14 x 22 cm

Pages: 320

List price: 25 €

Publication Date: October 2024



Amaena Guéniot teaches political theory at Sciences Po Paris. This book is based on her thesis. She has already published *Shattered Earth: For a philosophy of the environment* (2022).

A Society of Projects

Amaena Guéniot

The absence of a project is a pathology of our contemporary world. And yet, being able to picture yourself is essential to our very existence.

“Project-based management”, “political project”, “project financing”: the project device is at the heart of contemporary capitalism. Designed to get subjects more involved in the tasks assigned to them, it paradoxically contributes to reducing their capacity and desire for projection. This loss of momentum, this “deprojection”, creates a feeling of powerlessness. If we stop projecting ourselves, we leave it to others to design our world, with major social and ecological consequences.

Amaena Guéniot examines the conditions that will enable us to regain the power to project ourselves together in the long term. Drawing on Marx's critique of capitalism, Arendt's reflection on human activity and Foucault's analysis of power, she deconstructs capitalist project structures - project-marketing, project-employment - and explores ways of redirecting production towards more desirable ends.

Through a philosophical analysis informed by the social sciences, the author sheds light on the causes of deprojection and the possible levers of emancipation. She proposes new institutions that can guarantee individual and collective subjects the resources and time they need to shape their projects.

DETAILS

World rights available

ISBN: 978-2-271-14950-3

Size: 15 x 23 cm

Pages: 288

List price: 25 €

Publication Date: May 2025

Series: CNRS Philosophy

The Birth of Marxism

Germany, Russia, USSR

Guillaume Fondu

An original historical and philosophical study that rediscovers a vast and forgotten literature. It brings to light the tensions at the heart of Marxism and, more broadly, the social sciences: how can an understanding of society and its history lead to its transformation?

Like most terms derived from proper nouns, "Marxism" was first used to stigmatize supporters of Marx's ideas, reduced to worshippers of his person. The word was also often used in opposition to the figure of the inspirer, to open the way for a possible return to Marx without having to worry about Marxism (defined at the time as "a set of misunderstandings made about Marx"). Unlike the many mobilizations that seek to oppose the vitality of Marx's individual thought to a necessarily "dogmatic" Marxism, what is at the heart of the interrogation here is what makes Marxism as such interesting: the pursuit and concretization of a discourse inspired by Marx in contexts quite different from the one that presided over the genesis of his work. The analysis focuses on three constituent moments: Germany at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries, Russia in the early 20th century, and the Soviet Union in the 1920s. Reconstructing the contexts and issues at stake in the different readings of Marx, the investigation takes as its common thread the question of the performativity of discourse, of the link between reflection and action, the tension between which remains a crucial issue for all social science.

"With a historical overview, Guillaume Fondu analyzes the founding experiences of thought in action. [...] This overview provides a better understanding of the specificity of Marxism and the tension between action and reflection that constitutes it."

L'Humanité, May 2024

"A scholarly work on the reception of Marx's thought in Germany, the Russian Empire and the USSR."

L'Ours, December 2024



With a doctorate in philosophy and as a recognized specialist in Marxist studies, **Guillaume Fondu** has edited the anthology *Facing the revolution. Political debates and struggles in 1917* (Les Éditions sociales, 2017) and is contributing to the re-edition of Karl Marx's works by Les Éditions sociales.

DETAILS

World rights available

ISBN: 978-2-271-15036-3

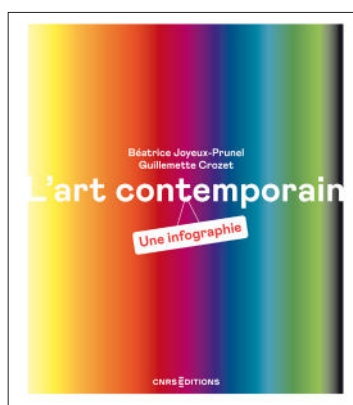
Size: 15 x 22 cm

Pages: 392

List price: 26 €

Publication Date: April 2024

Series: CNRS Philosophy



Béatrice Joyeux-Prunel is a contemporary art historian and professor of digital humanities at the University of Geneva. She is the author of a global and social history of the avant-garde in the 19th and 20th centuries (Gallimard, 2016 and 2017), and of *The birth of contemporary art. A world history 1945-1970* (CNRS Éditions, 2021).

Guillemette Crozet is a datadesigner and cartographer.

Contemporary Art

A Data Visualization

Béatrice Joyeux-Prunel & Guillemette Crozet

Contemporary art from an aesthetic, cultural, political and economic point of view: this data visualization book offers a comprehensive overview of the contemporary art world and its major issues.

Did you know that Gerhard Richter has been the global star of contemporary art for almost 20 years; that some works of contemporary art incorporate sugar or chocolate; that less than 3% of the works in major Western museums are African; that contemporary art biennials have become a means for the peripheries to gain a place in the global geopolitics of culture; that Jeff Koons' *Rabbit* sold for over \$90 million?

This is what you'll discover when you immerse yourself in this magnificent and abundant data visualization book. In just over a hundred pages, this book offers a new graphic style, as rich as it is playful, to a readership now influenced by visual and digital cultures. Thanks to datavisualization, readers will be immersed in the world of contemporary art, discovering its history, its political dimension, its players - artists, gallery owners, curators, collectors... - its works, their materiality and circulation, as well as its economic and aesthetic aspects.

From the place reserved for women artists to the evolution of the materials used in works of art, from the breakthrough of non-Western countries on the international scene to artists' exhibition strategies on social networks, this book offers an original, global and cross-disciplinary approach to contemporary art; it delves into the history of the second 20th century, as well as the most recent current events.

IN THE SAME SERIES

The “Homo Graphicus” series offers a playful way of imparting knowledge. Each book takes a global approach, covering the historical, societal, cultural, technological, political and economic aspects of its subject. The challenge of this series is to make data speak for itself, so as to take a fresh look at the major issues facing the world today.

DETAILS

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ISBN: 978-2-271-15250-3

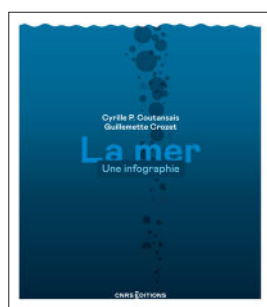
Size: 21 x 24 cm

Pages: 112

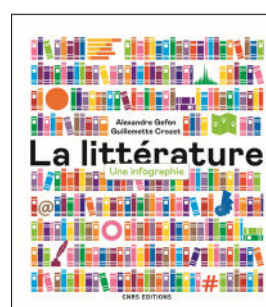
List price: 26 €

Publication Date: October 2024

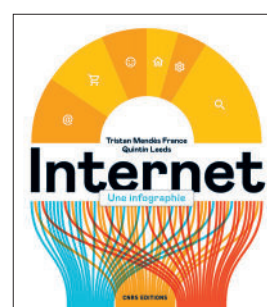
Series: Homo Graphicus



The Sea
C. Coutansais
G. Crozet



Literature
A. Gefen
G. Crozet



Internet
T. Mendès France
Q. Leeds

French Design

Two Centuries of History

Stéphane Laurent

Charlotte Perriand, Philippe Starck, Le Corbusier, Moulinex-Seb, Yves Saint-Laurent, Hermès: Stéphane Laurent recounts two centuries of French design, between creators and entrepreneurs, art and functionalism.

Joseph Opinel's pocket knife (1890), Bertoni's DS 19 for Citroën or Le Corbusier's LC4 armchair. French design has its icons and stars: almost everyone knows Charlotte Perriand or Philippe Starck. Some remember Raymond Loewy or Roger Tallon. Yet the French "school", which emerged with industrial art and took shape between the wars, remains little-known. French design combines inventiveness and refinement, and was as successful at Moulinex-Seb as it was at Yves Saint Laurent.

In this dense, well-documented and illustrated volume, which covers fashion, objects and graphic design (posters, illustration, animation...), Stéphane Laurent tells the story of two centuries of French design, driven by continuous and powerful technical innovation, led by engineers-inventors-entrepreneurs as much as by creators. This lively, embodied history includes founding inventions such as Gustave Trouvé's electric tricycle (1880) and the Spad 13 biplane (1918), as well as key moments such as the creation of the Union des Artistes Modernes (Modern Artists' Union) in 1929, and the story of major institutional and political developments.



Stéphane Laurent is an art historian and lecturer at Panthéon Sorbonne University. His publications include *Design Timeline* (Flammarion, 1999, 2008) and *The Movement and the Thought* (CNRS Éditions, 2019, rights sold in Chinese).

DETAILS

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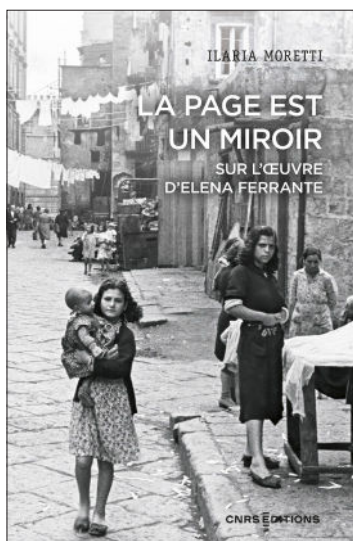
ISBN: 978-2-271-14197-2

Size: 15 x 23 cm

Pages: 512

List price: 32 €

Publication Date: June 2025



Ilaria Moretti holds a doctorate in philosophy. She is a professor at the École des hautes études internationales et politiques de Lyon and a lecturer at Université Jean Moulin Lyon 3.

The Page Is a Mirror

On the Work of Elena Ferrante

Ilaria Moretti

An in-depth work of literary criticism on the Ferrante phenomenon.

Published by a small Italian publisher, Elena Ferrante's works have been translated into 45 languages, reaching over 15 million readers. Literary success on this scale is rare. While the reasons for this are hard to pin down, her texts undoubtedly speak to a diverse audience, from the USA to China, via Saudi Arabia. What explains the interest in her work? Is Ferrante the fruit of a specific commercial operation? Or are we witnessing a new impetus for the novel form? How can we access the work of an anonymous writer who has been hiding her identity for thirty years? Does the brutality of success erase the scope of any critical discourse?

Ilaria Moretti confronts this living, anonymous, successful author, placing her within the vast panorama of literature written by women, with women as protagonists. In Ferrante's literary production, sexual, intellectual and relational identity is always addressed through a reflection on the writer's craft, ultimately defining a precise literary approach. By hiding behind a pseudonym, Ferrante has found an original way of communicating, while refusing to join the panorama of star authors, whose role is more social than literary.

DETAILS

World rights available

ISBN: 978-2-271-14728-8

Size: 15 x 23 cm

Pages: 352

List price: 25 €

Publication Date: May 2025

Master Tolstoy

The Teacher You Don't Want

Victoire Feuillebois

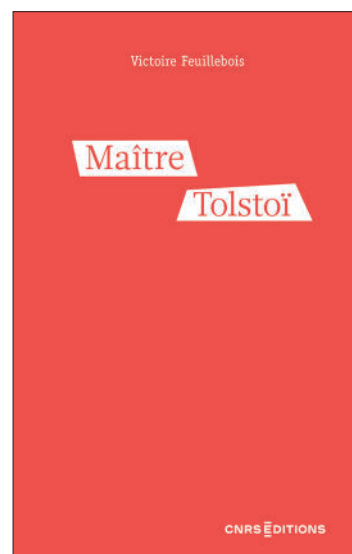
For Tolstoy, pedagogy was a vocation, and nothing made him give it up. In this lively essay, Victoire Feuillebois invites us to read or reread Leo Tolstoy's novels in the light of this pedagogical obsession.

At the beginning of the 20th century, people from all corners of Russia and the four corners of the world flocked to seek advice from the most famous living Russian novelist: Leo Tolstoy. Life master, guru or coach: an astonishing destiny for an author who seemed to have done everything in his power to make a mess of his life, and who was well aware that he was an example to no one. Yet there is one area in which Tolstoy wanted to be a master: his school. His life was punctuated by great pedagogical undertakings, which sometimes served as an escape route, sometimes as a laboratory for the writer's work.

To enter Tolstoy's school is to penetrate to the heart of a man's passion, but also to face up to the contradictions of an author who imagined and experimented with a radically original form of learning, for better or for worse. It also takes us back to the effervescence of pre-Revolutionary Russia, at a time when the great Russian novel was enjoying its heyday, and when the country was ravaged by famine and terrorist attacks, riven by fierce intellectual debate and racked by concerns about its identity and destiny.

"Master Tolstoy is as erudite as it is moving, as funny as it is informed, as alert as it is profound. It is a delight to close. It introduces us to a highly imperfect pedagogue with a rare sensitivity; capable of trying, giving up, failing, refusing dogmatism and reconciling ambition and attention."

L'Obs, March 2024



A former student at the École Normale Supérieure (Paris), **Victoire Feuillebois** teaches Russian literature at the University of Strasbourg, and is currently working on the history of comparisons between Tolstoy and Dostoyevsky. She has published *Portrait of the Romantic writer as nocturnal storyteller* (Classiques Garnier, 2021).

IN THE SAME SERIES

"Les décalé.e.s" series welcomes academic works that are surprising and inventive, whose subject, corpus, methodology, theoretical toolbox and forms of writing are pertinently at odds with the academic norm. It's about surveying unknown territories, unearthing forgotten objects and creating new avenues of research.



Monte Cristo, the trial!
Caroline Julliot

DETAILS

World rights available

ISBN: 978-2-271-15018-9

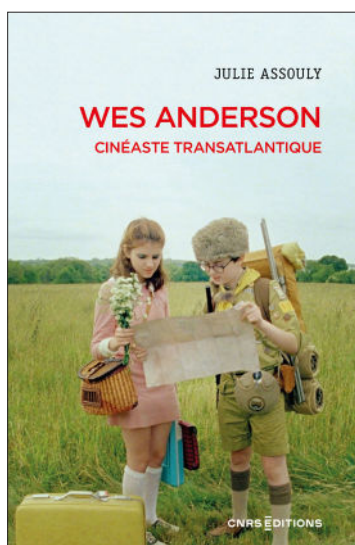
Size: 14 x 22 cm

Pages: 208

List price: 24 €

Publication Date: March 2024

Series: Les décalé.e.s



Specialist in visual studies, **Julie Assouly** is a lecturer in American civilization at the Université d'Artois. She co-edited *From the Margins to the Mainstream: Women in Film and Television* (Bloomsbury, 2022) and is the author of *The Coen Brothers' America* (CNRS Éditions, 2015).

Wes Anderson

A Transatlantic Filmmaker

Julie Assouly

Moonrise Kingdom, The Grand Budapest Hotel, Fantastic Mister Fox, The Darjeeling Limited, The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou....: each film has its own universe.

Anatomy of an iconoclastic, colorful, crazy and highly accessible work.

Wes Anderson, a product of the independent scene, is arguably the least American of Hollywood filmmakers. The filmography of this atypical Texan is peppered with references to France, giving his cinema an inimitable transatlantic style.

An avid cinephile and reader, as well as an avid painter and musician, Anderson's films create a colorful universe at the crossroads of the arts, marked by an obsessive attention to detail, and a retro aesthetic tinged with nostalgia for the 1960s, drawing parallels with New Hollywood and, by extension, the New Wave. Anderson's cinema is referential and reflexive, familiar and disconcerting, dealing with serious subjects with modesty and lightness, which has earned him a place in the "dramatic comedy" category, associated with the deadpan posture of his cast. Advertisers, stylists and fans from all walks of life have sought to make this singular aesthetic their own, without ever succeeding. This book deciphers the originality of Wes Anderson and his transatlantic cinema through the prism of crossing arts, cultures and films.

"His filmography is crisscrossed by a multitude of exchanges, transfers and back-and-forth between France and the United States, between New Hollywood and the New Wave, all of which give rise to that singular "retro transatlantic" style, which Julie Assouly brilliantly theorizes in the abundant essay she devotes to the anachronistic filmmaker."

Télérama, May 2024

"A brilliantly reflective book that embraces the entire oeuvre of a filmmaker."

Mediapart, June 2024

"Alternating biographical and historical insights, precise analyses of a theme (the dysfunctional family), a motif (water) or a type of character (the lobby-boy), the author captures the complexity and singularity of Wes Anderson's cinema, too often reduced to mere frozen imagery."

Les Inrocks, June 2024

DETAILS

World rights available

ISBN: 978-2-271-13230-7

Size: 15 x 23 cm

Pages: 344

List price: 25 €

Publication Date: May 2024

What is a Film Author?

Art, Power and Division of Labor

Jérôme Pacouret

Sociologist Jérôme Pacouret's ambitious study traces the origins of the notion of *auteur* in the film industry on both sides of the Atlantic, and highlights the forms of domination that are exerted on the creative trades of a cinematographic work.

It is often written that the “auteur” of films is an invention of the Nouvelle Vague, or even a specificity of “auteur cinema” as opposed to Hollywood cinema.

By adopting a socio-historical and transnational approach, this book shows, on the contrary, how, from the emergence of cinema in the United States and France, the status of auteur has been constructed and contested by writers, screenwriters, producers and directors. Their struggles and the valorization of authorship are at the root of ways of creating and viewing films, whether mainstream, independent or experimental, but the existence of film auteurs is also at the root of immense social inequalities.

By examining how directors appropriate the value of their works, this book sheds light on the conditions of invisibilization and subordination of their collaborators. The genesis and powers of auteurs are inextricably linked to class and gender relations, which were denounced as early as 1968 and later in the context of MeToo, as well as to forms of racism, nationalism and imperialism.

"Sociologist Jérôme Pacouret analyzes the process that has led to the filmmaker alone appropriating the value of films in symbolic, social and economic terms. [...] This is a committed book, which is not without a few strong points, but in which we also sense genuine honesty. Fascinating, it opens up a host of questions and challenges the critic in his or her way of seeing films. And that's no mean feat."

Politis, March 2025

"This ambitious edition offers a particularly comprehensive overview of its subject, with a wealth of information rigorously gathered and transcribed to provide a broad understanding of cinema."

Mediapart, March 2025



Jérôme Pacouret is a sociologist of culture and the media and holds a doctorate from EHESS. He is the author of the book *The rights of film authors* (IFJD, 2019). Beyond cinema, his research focuses on intellectual property, the media and social networks. He has been published in various journals.

DETAILS

World rights available

ISBN: 978-2-271-13218-5

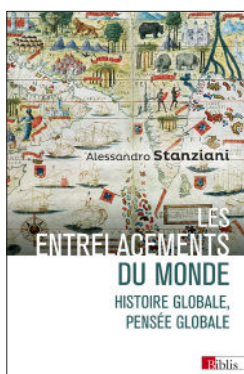
Size: 15 x 23 cm

Pages: 480

List price: 27 €

Publication Date: February 2025

Series: Culture & Society



World rights available
(sold in Chinese)

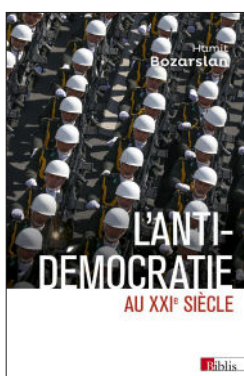
448 pages
May 2025

Interweaving the World: Global History, Global Thinking

Alessandro Stanziani

Whether you call it global history, world history or connected history, it's what's attracting interest today and shaping our representation of the past. But what is global history? What does it propose? This fine synthesis provides all the keys needed to understand the rise and ambitions of this plural history. Seized in the long term, and at the intersection of several worlds, Alessandro Stanziani explores in a fresh way the relationships that history establishes with philosophy, sociology, philology and economics.

Director of Studies at the EHESS and Director of Research at the CNRS, **Alessandro Stanziani** is the author of *Earth Capital. A long history of the next world* (Payot, 2021), and *The Wheat Wars* (La Découverte, 2024).



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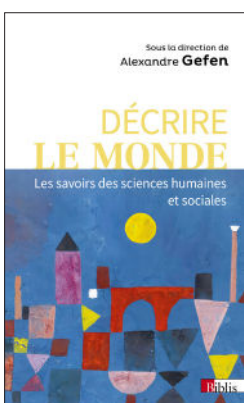
320 pages
March 2025

Anti-democracy in the 21st Century

Hamit Bozarslan

A breathtaking plunge into the heart of the radicalizing logic of authoritarian regimes, this sharp comparison of Iran, Russia and Turkey at the start of the 21st century is a powerful warning to our self-doubting democracies.

Hamit Bozarslan is a historian and political scientist specializing in the Middle East, Turkey and the Kurdish question. His books include *Crisis, violence, de-civilization* (CNRS Éditions, 2019) and *A Time of Monsters* (La Découverte, 2022).



World rights available

656 pages
January 2025

Describing the World: Social Science Knowledge

Edited by Alexandre Gefen

The book features some one hundred contributions on contemporary issues, exploring how current research in the humanities and social sciences is responding to them. Methods, hypotheses and theorizations, measurements and ethnographic approaches, analyses and exegeses all provide readers with tools for thinking about, inhabiting, repairing or transforming our shared worlds.

Alexandre Gefen is director of research at Sorbonne University. His work focuses on literary theory applied to contemporary French literature.

Intersocialities: The World is no Longer Geopolitical

Bertrand Badie

The international arena is no longer made up of a juxtaposition of more or less powerful states, but of an extremely sensitive social fabric that increasingly conditions its leaders, through the vote or by force, through fear or surprise. This book analyses this social conquest of the international sphere, as these intersocial relations lead to a new reading of the world, its issues and its conflicts; and inspire the need for new foreign policies and new diplomacy.

Professor of international relations at Sciences Po, **Bertrand Badie** is the author, among others, of *The end of territories* (1995, reed. 2014), *The powerlessness of power* (2004, reed. 2013), *When history begins* (2013), and *We are no longer alone in the world* (2016).



World rights available

250 pages

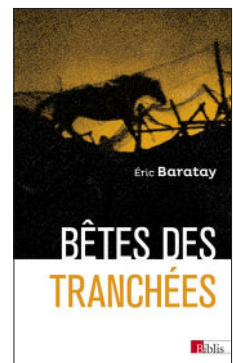
November 2024

Beasts of the Trenches

Éric Baratay

Mascots, messengers or brave combatants, animals made a far from negligible contribution to the First World War. This book invites us to rediscover all the animals who lived through the war, from their point of view, in order to reconstruct their experiences, their actions, their cooperation or resistance, their suffering and their destinies, and to better understand the attitudes and feelings of the soldiers.

Éric Baratay, professor of contemporary history at Lyon University, specializes in the history of animals. He is the author of *Feline cultures, 18th-21st centuries* (Le Seuil, 2021).



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Moderation and Excess of Cities

Thierry Paquot

Megalopolises are expanding without limit. Should we favour smaller cities and reduce those that are too big? Is there a "right size" for cities and a "right scale" for the territories of our existence? In this prolific essay, Thierry Paquot interweaves demography, geohistory, urban planning and ecology, guiding us through the labyrinth of ideas and experiments: the birth and evolution of cities, Fourierist utopias, Ebenezer Howard's garden-city, shrinking cities...

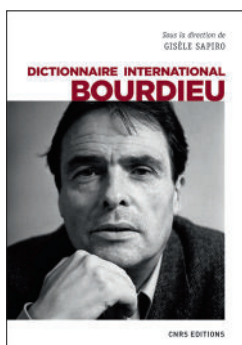
Urban philosopher **Thierry Paquot** is the author of numerous books, including *The madness of heights: Skyscraper criticism*; *Urban disasters: Cities die too* and *The Street Dictionary: Ordinary and extraordinary urban vocabulary*.



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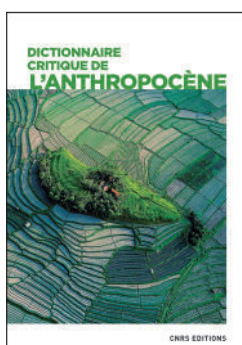


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Recipient of the CNRS Bronze Medal, **Gisèle Sapiro** is a study director at the School of Higher Studies in the Social Sciences and a member of the European Centre for Sociology and Political Science.

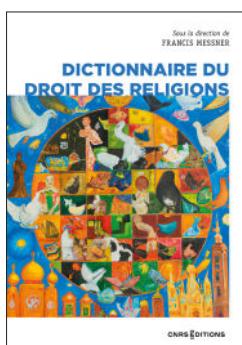


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This dictionary is an indispensable guide to understanding the current evolution of religious practices and their consideration by religious authorities and public policies in light of contemporary legal pluralism.

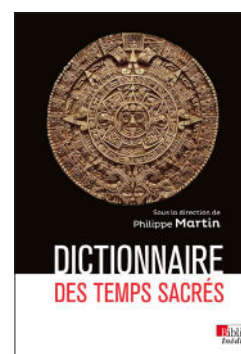
Francis Messner is director of research at the CNRS. He is a specialist in the law of religions in Europe from a comparative and interdisciplinary perspective. He is notably co-director of the *Treatise on the French Law of Religion*.

Dictionary of Sacred Times

Edited by Philippe Martin

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Philippe Martin is professor of modern history at the University of Lyon. He is the author of *History of the Mass* (CNRS Éditions, 2016) and *Pilgrims, 15th-21st century* (CNRS Éditions, 2016).



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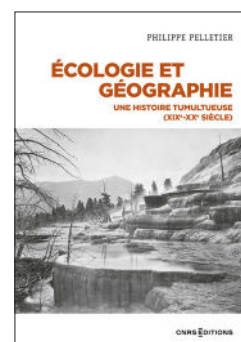
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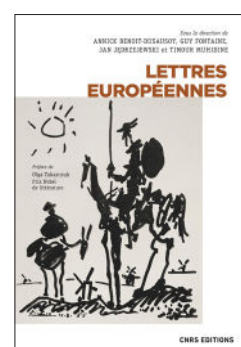
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Éric Limousin is a lecturer
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regravées sont donc indiffé-
 rentes. Ils l'aident à grou-
 per les continents les plus riches
 et à contrôler les populations de
 leur tour riches et leur puissance.
 Cependant, ils continuent aussi
 à faire place pour la stabilité patriar-
 cale, le pouvoir impérial ne partant
 que progressivement de manière équilibrée
 vers l'écrou.

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