

Ngātahi presents

The Judy Millar book collection

On the occasion of the 2021 Art Fair, Ngātahi presents the Judy Millar book collection, both as the core of the Ngātahi booth, and presented here in digital form.

Each book has been recommended by a local or international artist in response to Millar's invitation to contribute to the project, resulting in a dynamic reading list for anyone interested in visual culture.

Rendered as a space of critical dialogue and collaboration, the booth, and this publication, reflects the influences that fuel creativity and celebrates these moments of chance encounters with others whose ideas may ultimately shape our own.

About Ngātahi

Ngātahi is an informal collective of public galleries with a focused curatorial programme that engages with local, national and global conversations of contemporary art, design, craft and other practices.

Public galleries in Aotearoa are funded either through central government, local councils or universities, and in many cases also rely on grants from trusts and foundations and support from individual philanthropists. Ngātahi includes CNZ funded, Auckland Council funded and university funded galleries. It includes galleries with and without collections. All of the galleries stage a succession of changing exhibitions and artists projects.

Ngātahi's collaboration aims to engage with and create opportunities that benefit and strengthen the profile and reach of Ngātahi member galleries and the wider sector, and to shape and contribute to critical discourse around contemporary artistic, curatorial and institutional practices.

Ngātahi includes Artspace Aotearoa, Gus Fisher Gallery (The University of Auckland), Objectspace, ST PAUL St Gallery (AUT), Te Tuhi and Te Uru Waitākere Contemporary Gallery.

A message from the artist

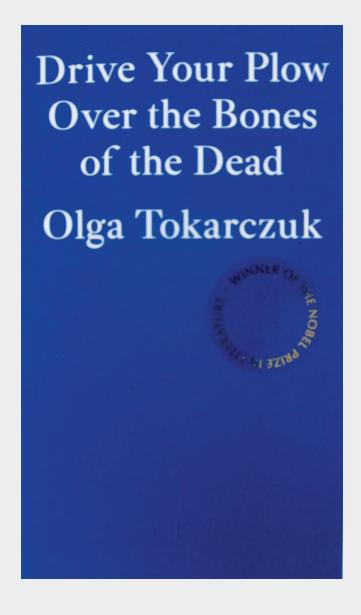
I have to admit I have a problem when it comes to buying books. I can't resist a new title and buy far more than I can ever possibly read. I also love to share new titles with others, passing on tips and publication dates to anyone who will listen. The pop-up bookstore has come out of my own love – it seems a shame to live in a city without a dedicated art bookshop. I personally worked as a bookseller in Parson's Art Books years ago and long to have the experience of being surrounded by freshly opened cartons of art books again.

In this store, the books have been recommended by artists from around the globe, so it's very much an artist's view on current publications. I have received recommendations from a wide range of artists with great enthusiasm, forming a big community of contributors and a great selection of books. Titles cover science fiction, literature, monographs, poetry and recipe books – there are books about painters, video artists, photographers and sculptors – books written by artists and books written by philosophers.

Good books need a good environment to be seen in, so I asked Sajeev Ruthra to come up with a design for the Art Fair stand. He seized the chance to build a stand that presents the books beautifully.

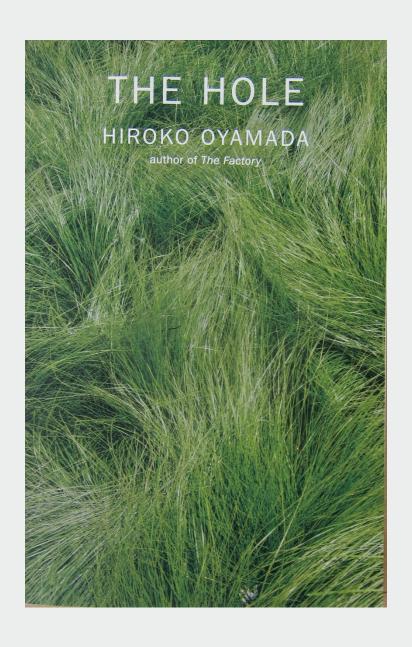
Judy Millar

Ayşe Erkmen loves this small book by Nobel Prize winner Olga Tokarczuk.

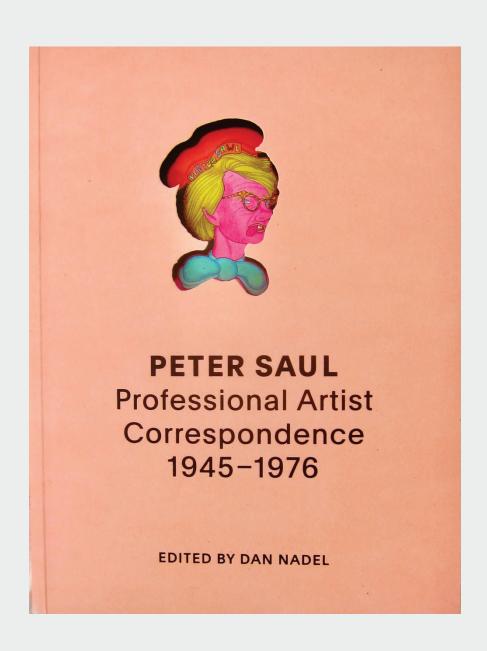


This is a literary page turner.

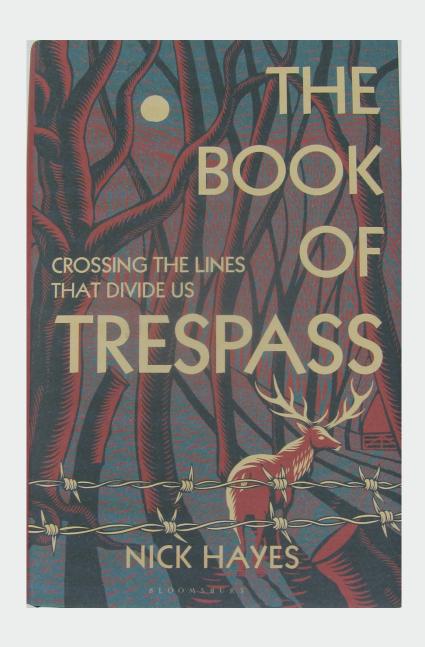
Patti Smith read it and read it again. Translated into English in 2020, it deserves to be read.



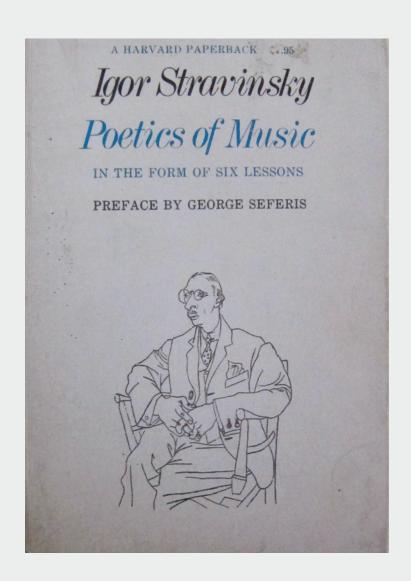
Katharina Grosse loves the work of Peter Saul. She finds books of artists' correspondence always fascinating.



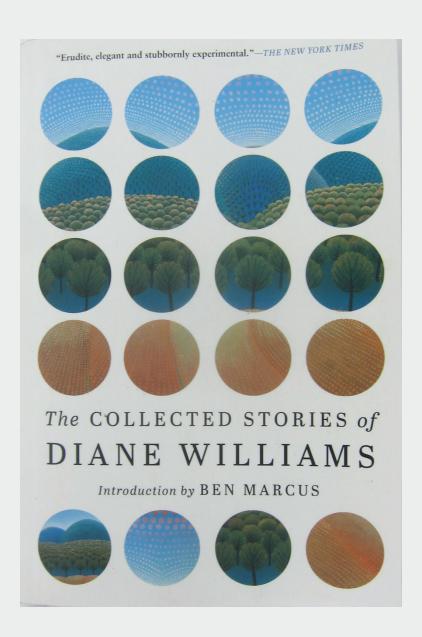
This book recounts the history of trespass (and therefore of freedom) in England. Lisa Reihana says it's a must read.



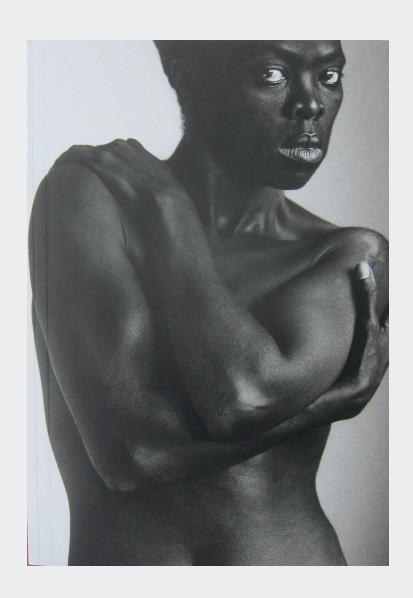
Bruce Connew embraced this book as a student, read and reread, sometimes replacing the word music with photography. No longer in print, this is a second-hand copy.



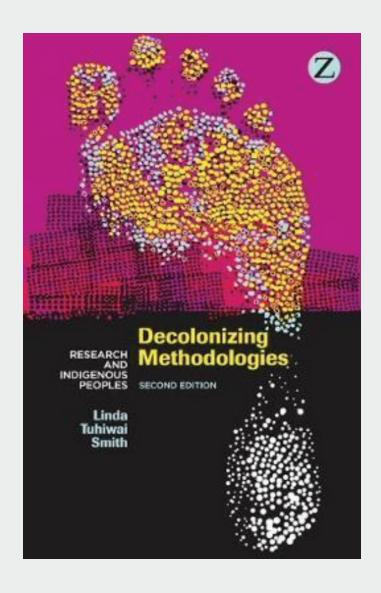
Monica Bonvincini has used Diane William's writings as a basis for countless works. She plans to use it for many more.



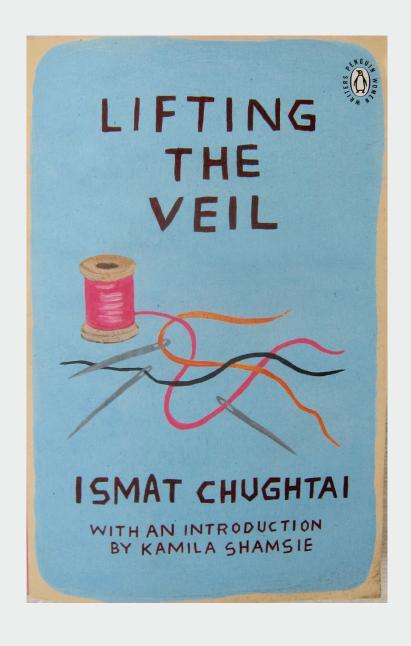
Lisa Beauchamp, director of Gus Fisher Gallery, would love to have seen Zanele Muholi's recent exhibition at the Tate. For the time being, this catalogue will have to do.



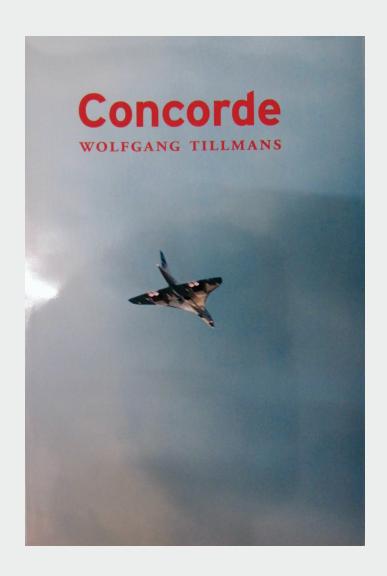
Jennifer Gillam recommends this book that looks at ways in which imperialism is embedded in disciplines of knowledge and tradition as 'regimes of truth'.



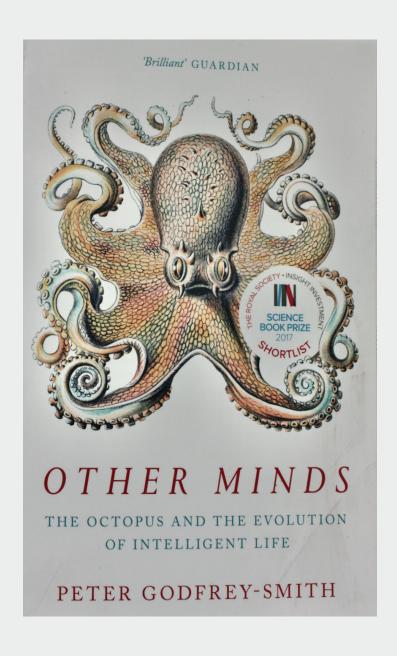
Candice Breitz has this on her current reading pile.



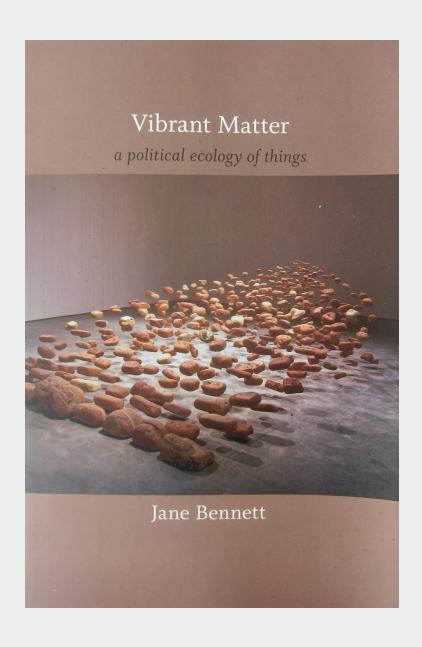
For Steve Carr, Tillman's iconic Concorde has been a constant source of inspiration in his own photographic practice. He says it signals an important departure point in Tillman's work.



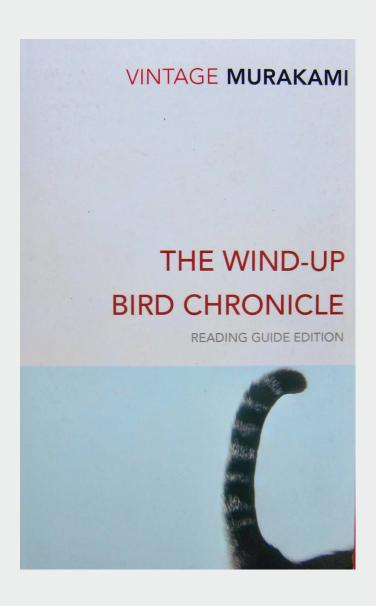
This is one of Jessica
Stockholder's favourite books of
the minute. It investigates the
mind of the octopus.



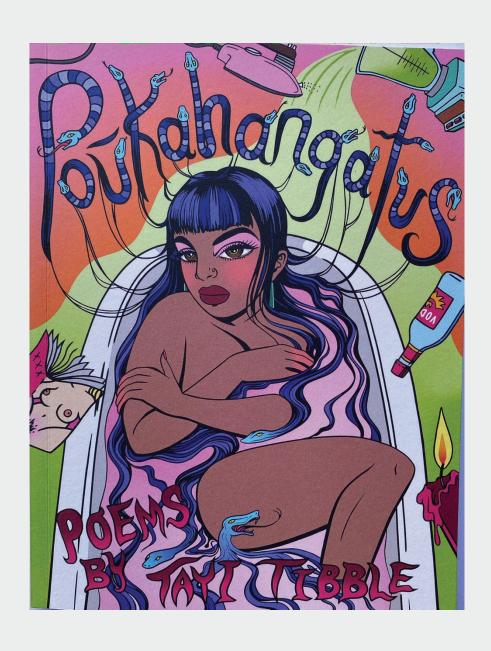
Sound artist Stefan Schneider rates this one of his best ever reads.



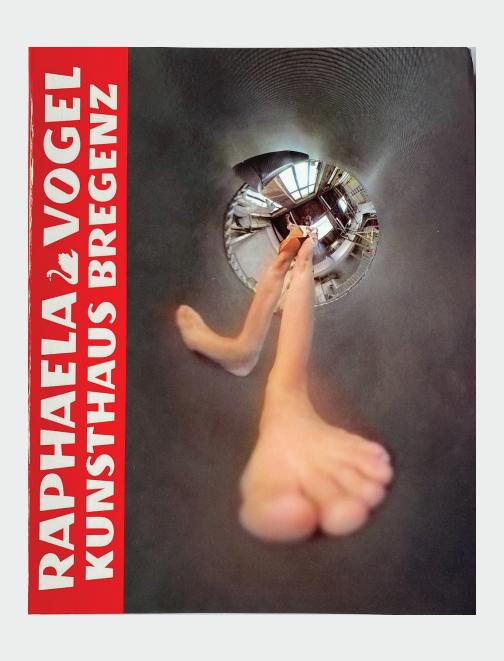
Eugene Hansen recommends Murakami's master novel.



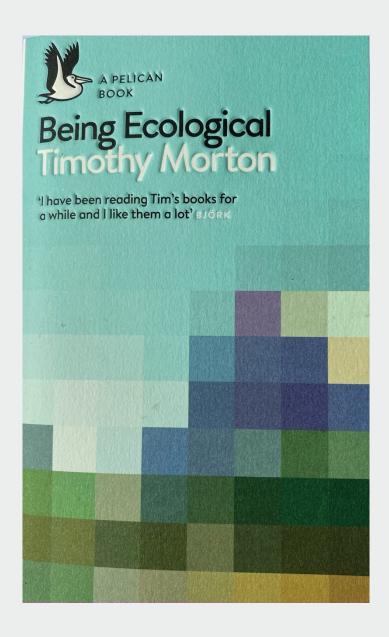
Katharina Grosse heard Tayi
Tibble read these poems in
Auckland recently, loved them
and got this copy signed.



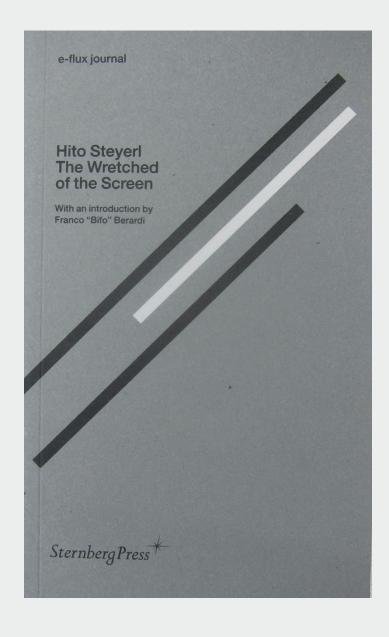
Check out this young Berlin based artist Raphaela Vogel.



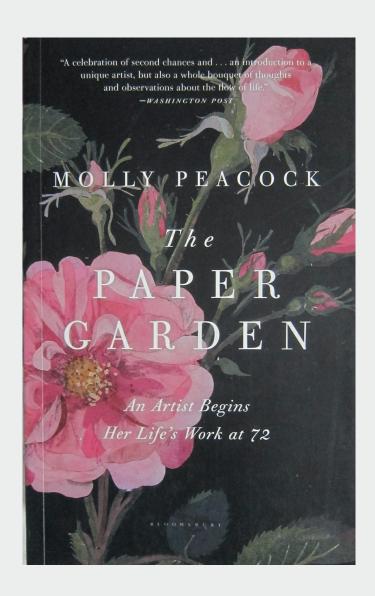
Olafur Eliasson has collaborated with this author and is inspired by his ideas.



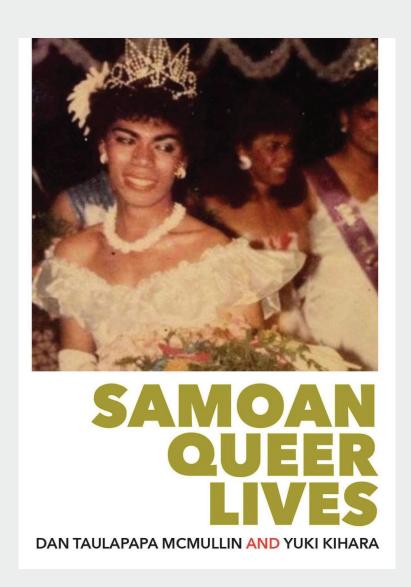
Hito Steyerl has been named the most influential artist working today. This is a collection of her landmark essays.



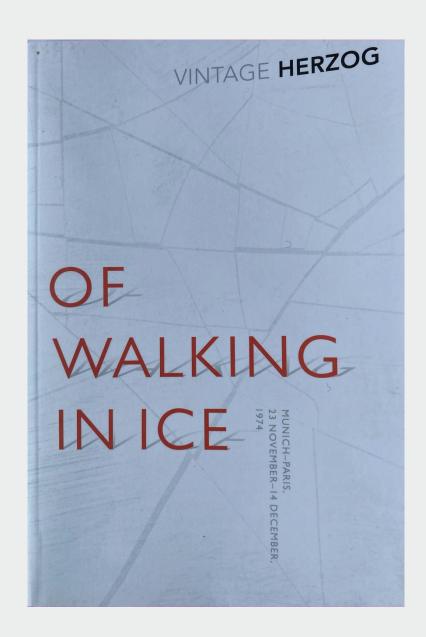
Viv Stone of McCahon House Trust suggests this book. The story of Mary Delany who perhaps made the first paper collage works in 1772 and began her work as an artist in as a 72-year-old.



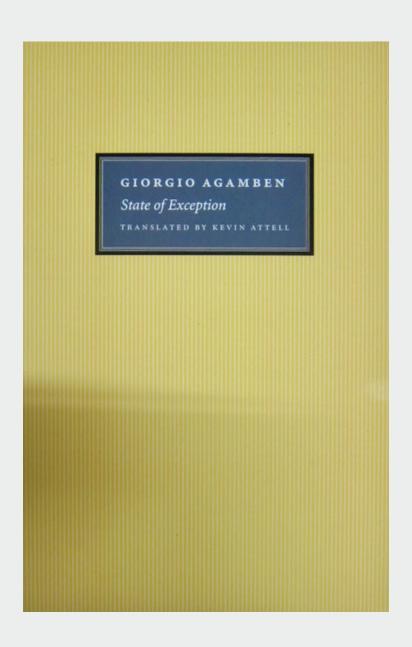
Yuki Kihara co-edits this collection of personal stories from one of the world's unique indigenous queer cultures.



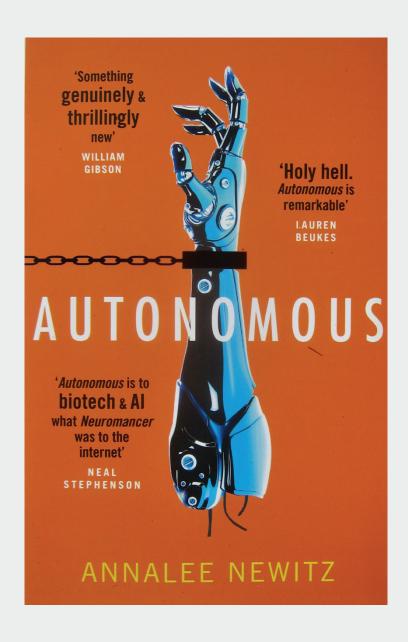
Patti Smith loves the work of Herzog. She says of this book that it drew her to write, which drew her to expand and then to take a walk herself.



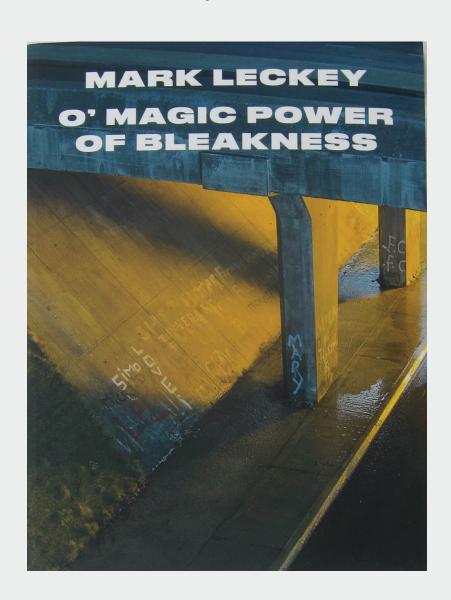
Many artists love the writings of Agamben. Hoda Afshar is no exception. This appears on her reading list.



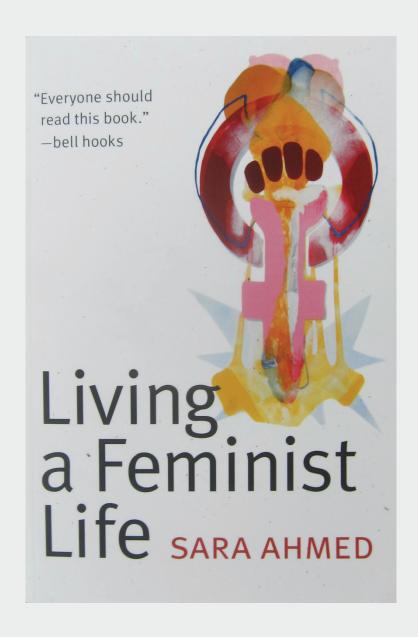
Rita McBride can't say enough in support of this book.



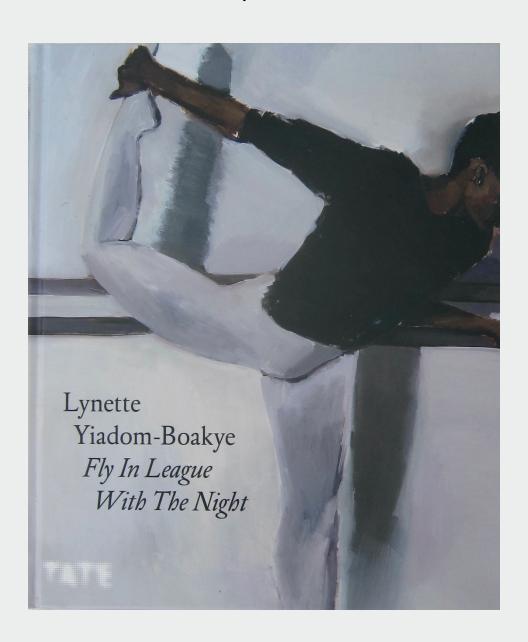
Many of us would love to have seen Mark Leckey's recent exhibition at Tate Britain. This catalogue is beautifully produced and gives a remarkable insight into his thinking.



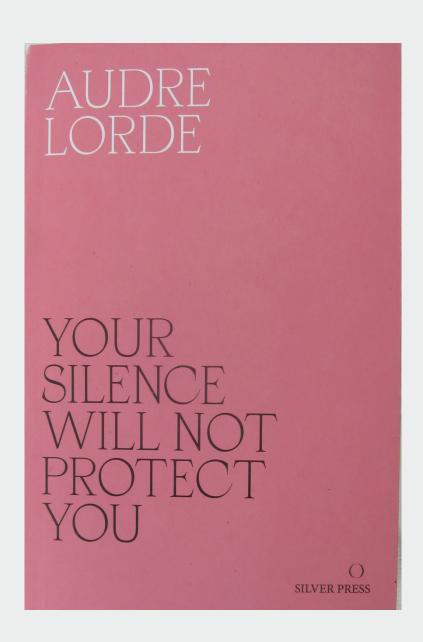
Candice Breitz agrees with bell hooks that everyone should read this book.



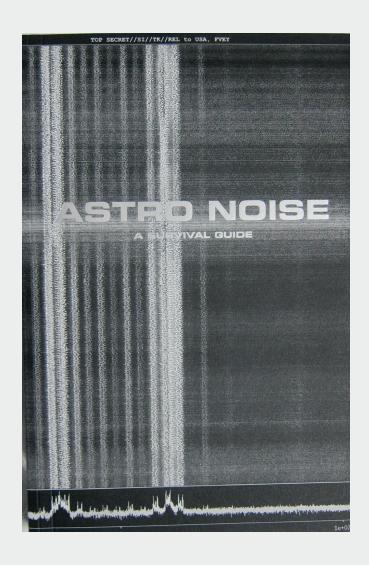
Perhaps the most accomplished figurative painter of our era Lynette Yiadom-Boakye has an exhibition currently on at Tate Britain, this is the catalogue.



Ruth Buchanan frequently features books on her Instagram feed, this is a recent tip.

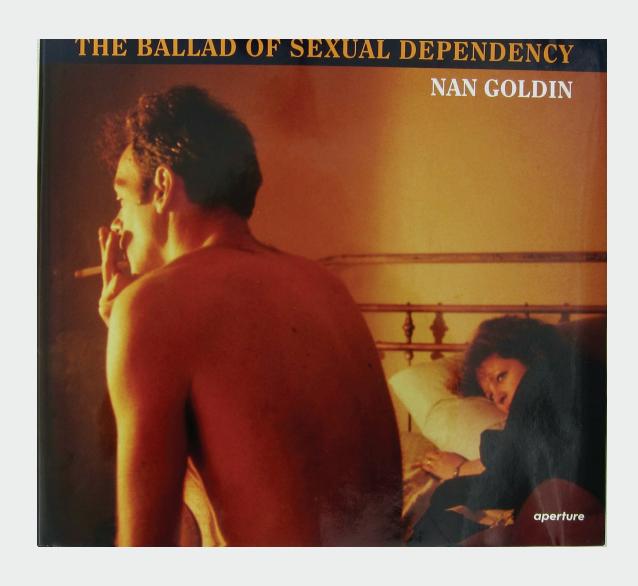


This is Maria Eichorn's top pick. It is a survival guide for living under total surveillance and took the place of a more traditional catalogue for the artist, filmmaker and journalist, Laura Poitras.

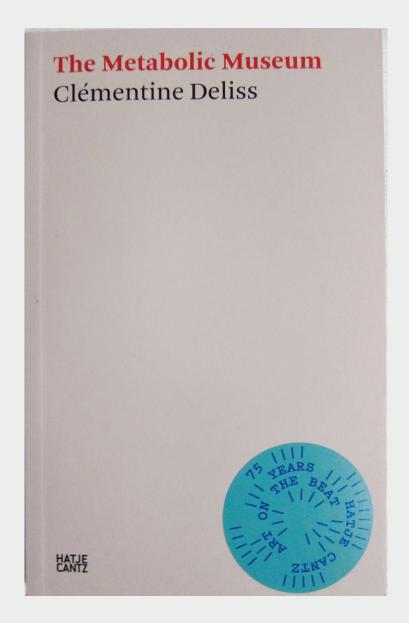


Annie Leibovitz often places this book first on her list of best photographic books.

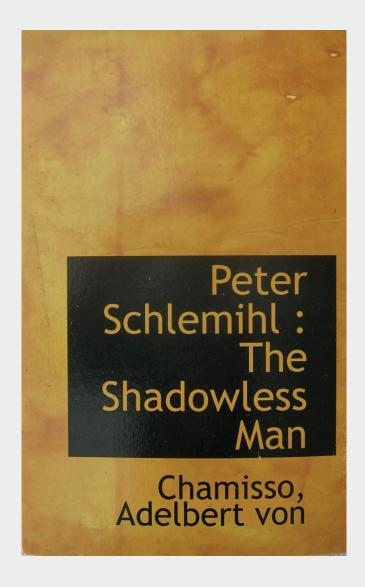
Recently reprinted.



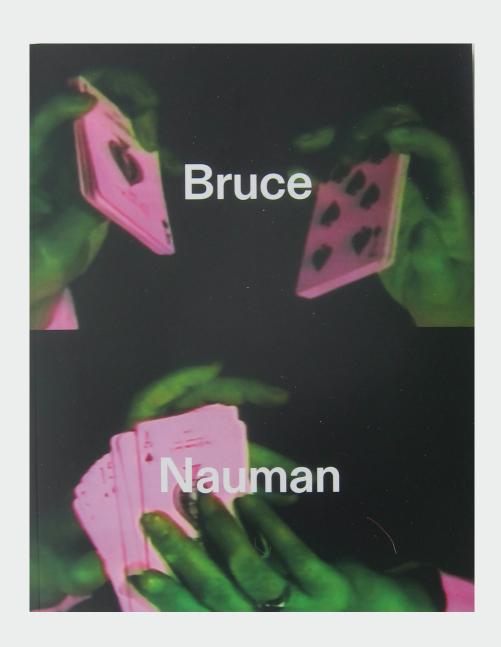
Ruth Buchanan labels this a must read. A book that asks us to reimagine how research takes place in ethnographic museums.



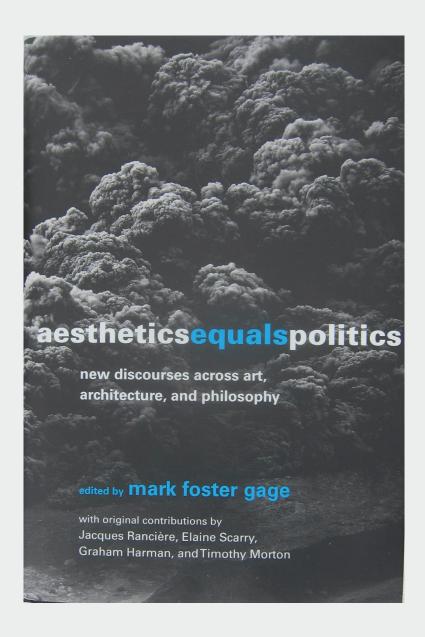
Annette Kelm has used this novella as a constant research source for her photographic practice. This volume contains copies of the original plates as she requested.



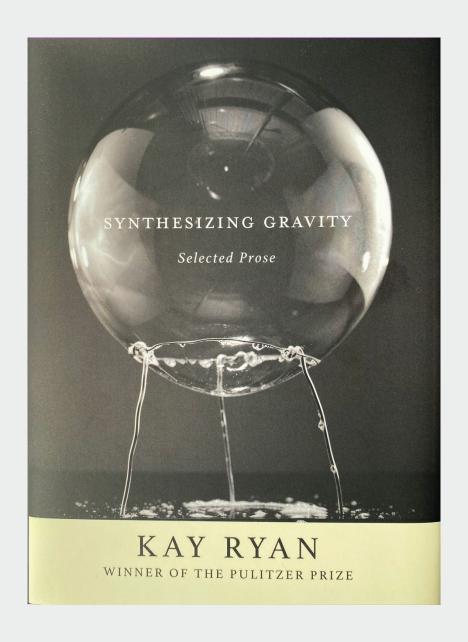
Another current exhibition many have missed seeing. Bruce Nauman's catalogue from his current show at Tate Britain.



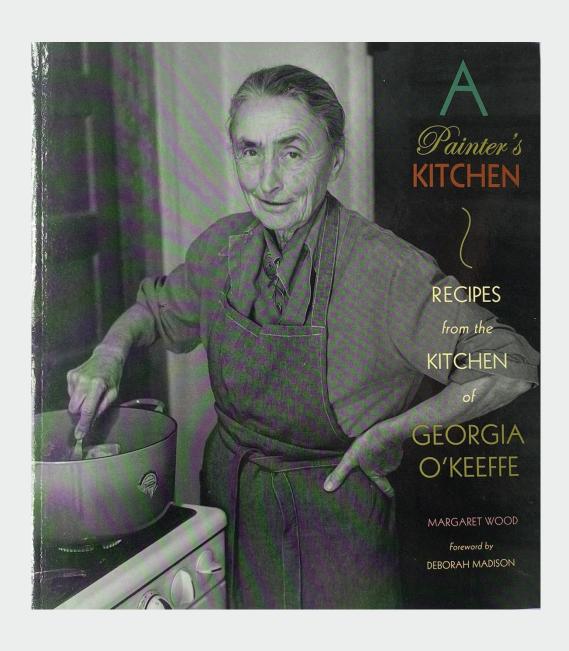
Charles Ray says of this book from MIT Press, 'that it fashions a provocative cultural Velcro that locks into place the politics of awareness'.



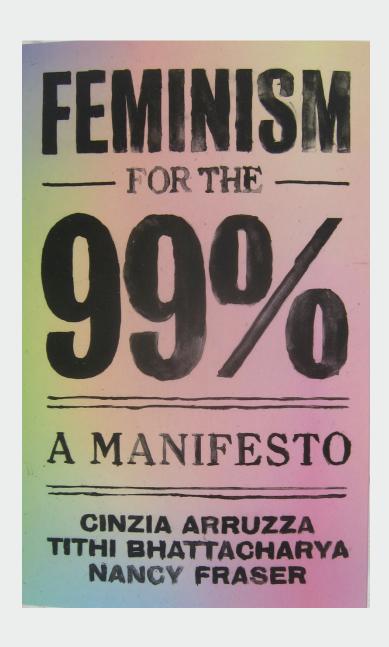
Patti Smith seldom gravitates towards essays but chose this book for its title and cover design. She says she found a jewel.



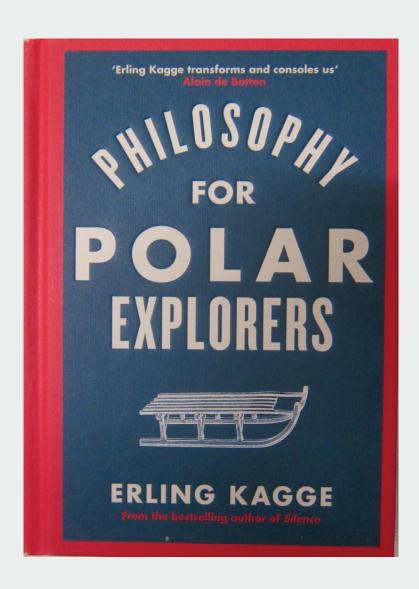
Every painter who cooks will love this book.



This small volume appears on countless artists' reading lists.



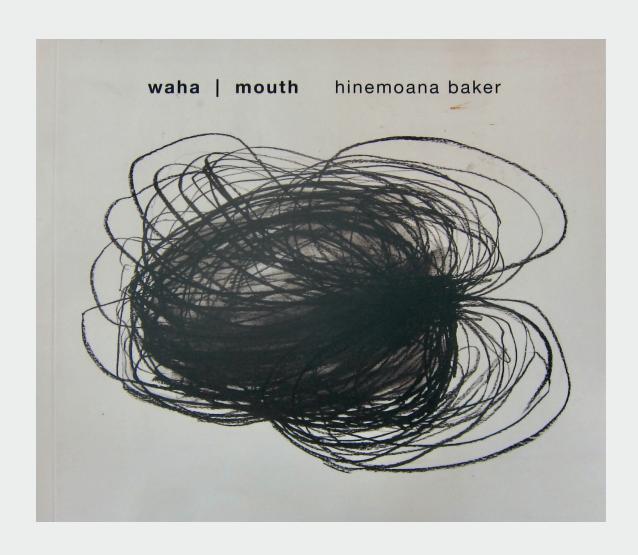
This essential guide to exploration by Erling Kagge is part self-help book, part survival guide. It was recommended by someone who chooses to remain unnamed.



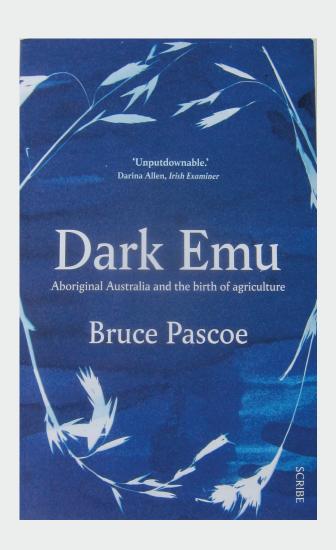
Lawrence Abu Hamdan, an artist who looks at the political effects of listening, recommends Unsound: Undead. A book that looks at the peripheries of sonic perception.



essa may ranapiri has this book
of poetry by Hinemoana Baker on
 their reading list.



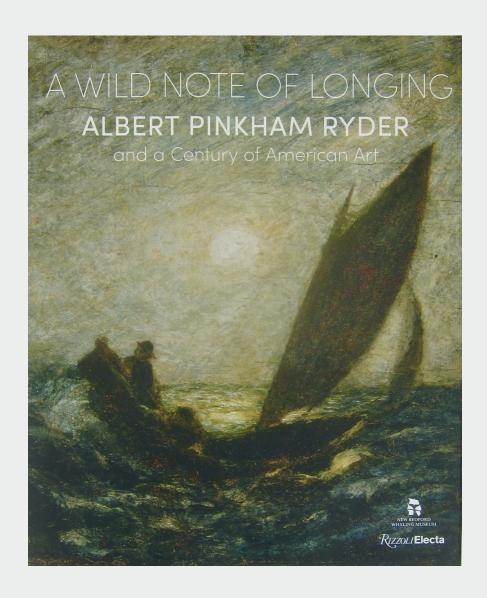
Lisa Reihana agrees that this is unputdownable. Author Bruce Pascoe uncovers evidence that "Aboriginal systems of food production and land management have been blatantly understated in modern retellings".



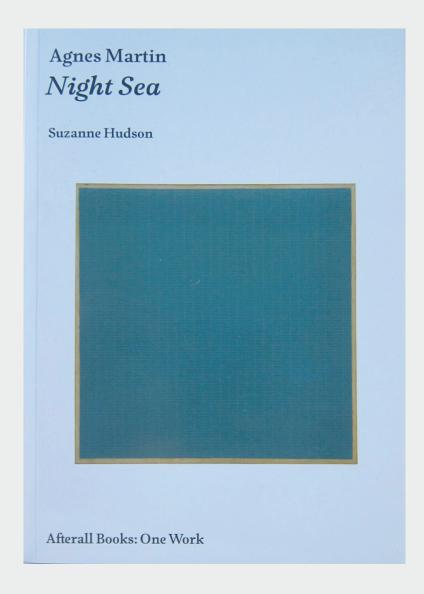
Glen Rubsamen says this really is a spectacular read. Something for all the sci-fi lovers.



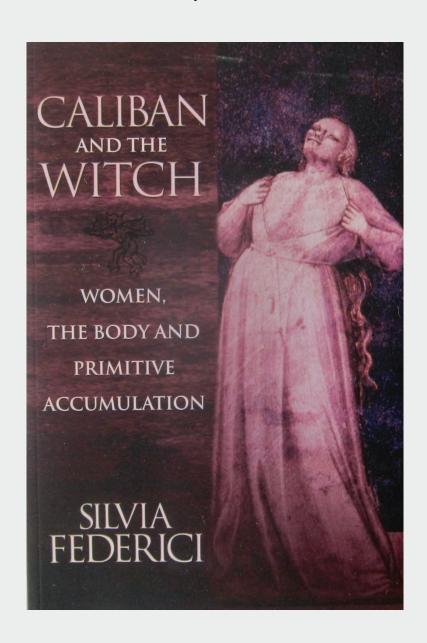
Albert Pinkham Ryder has always been a painter's painter. He's been a major influence on many artists. This is the first publication available on his work for decades.



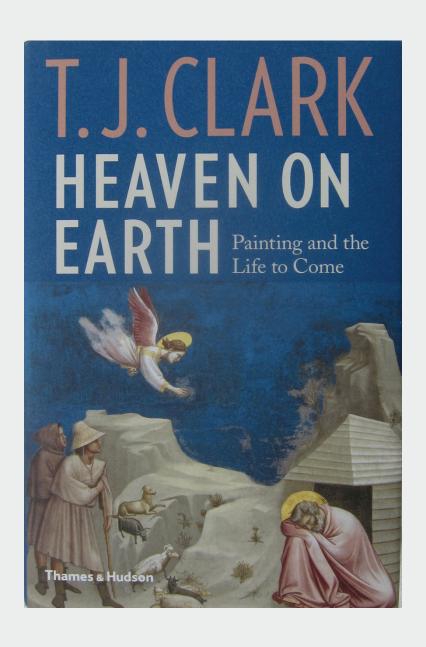
Stephen Bambury loves the idea of a book dedicated to a single artwork, and particularly loves this one.



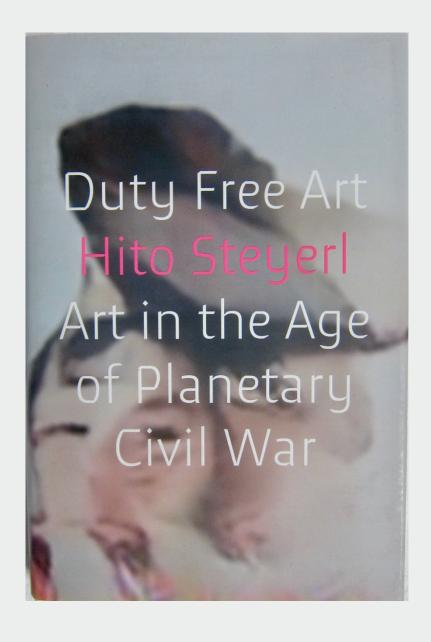
Rita McBride says no bookshop should be without this book. Candice Breitz has it sitting on her reading pile and recommends it too.



In this recent publication
T.J.Clark investigates the
different ways painting has given
form to our dreams of heaven. A
beautiful book.



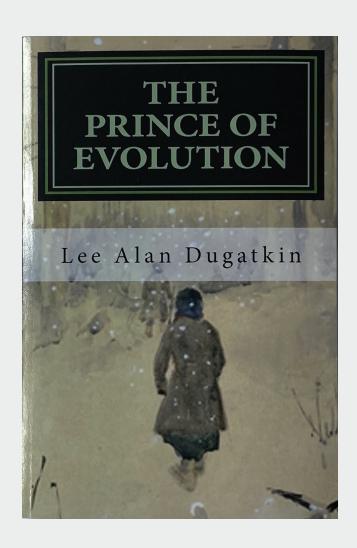
Hito Steyerl investigates the fate of images and words in the age of their constant global circulation.



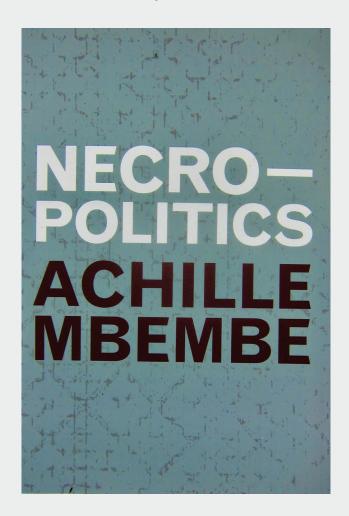
Looking at the miracle of the human hand and the importance of the hand to the development of the human species. A fascinating read.



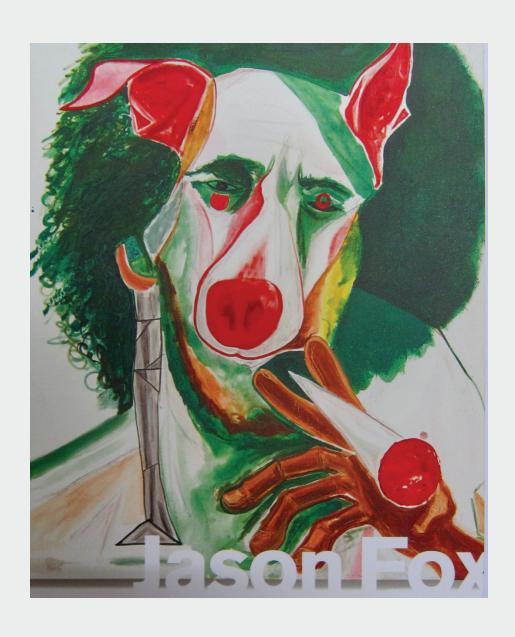
Patti Smith says this is a wonderful introduction to the thought of Peter Kropotkin. He was an environmental scientist, benevolent anarchist and one of the world's first international celebrities.



Another book from Candice
Breitz's pile (she's a
passionate reader). Achille
Mbembe is a leading humanistic
voice in the study of
sovereignty, democracy,
migration and war in the
contemporary world.



Huma Bhabha chose this monograph on the work of her up-state New York neighbour, Jason Fox. She simply loves his paintings.



John Walter put this on his list of best reads. Zany, cute, interesting.



A book that contains one lecture and one interview. No better way to get to know the work of Kerry James Marshall in more depth.

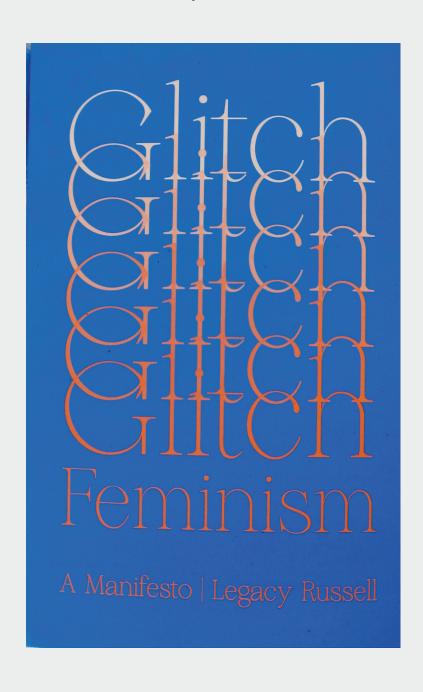


Glitch is comic, glitch refuses.

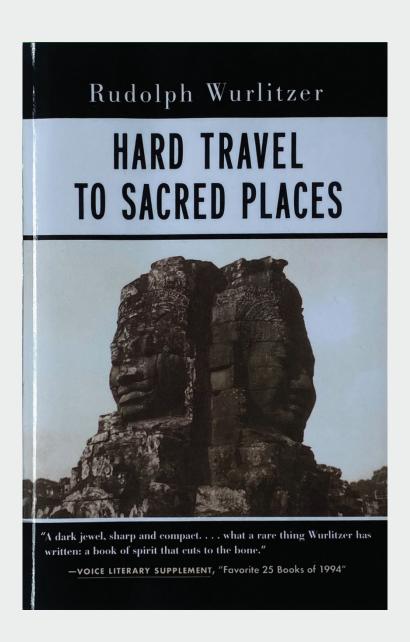
Candice Breitz is drawing

our attention to this small

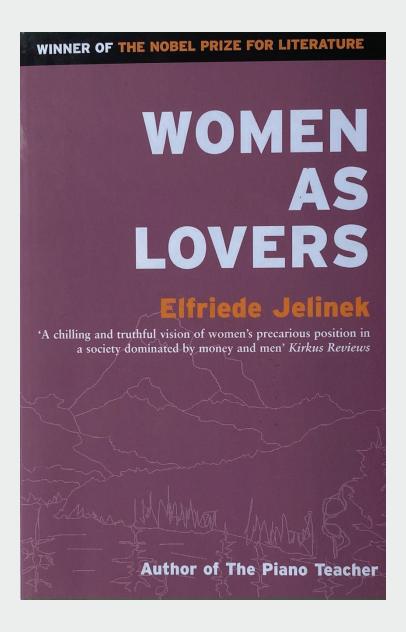
manifesto.



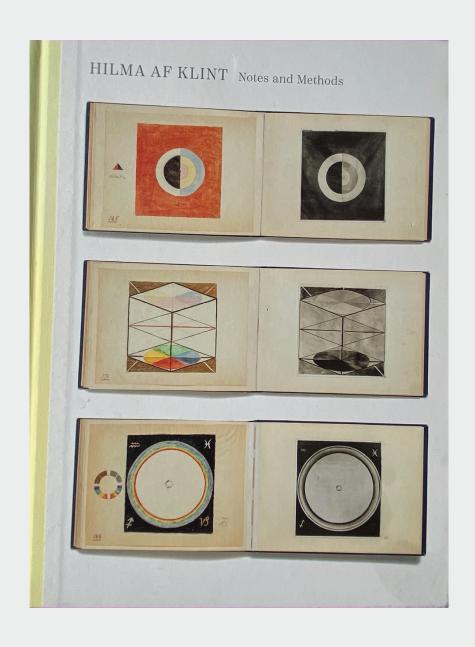
Patti Smith says that as we find ourselves unable to travel, she is drawn to the sublime chronicles of other travelers.



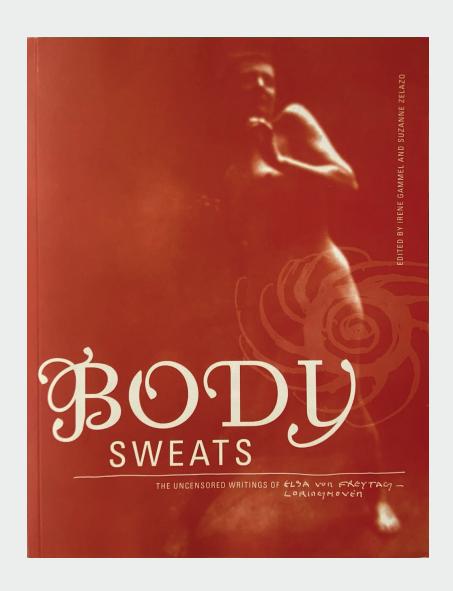
Elfriede Jelinek tells it like it is. A painful read, but as a woman you know every word is true.



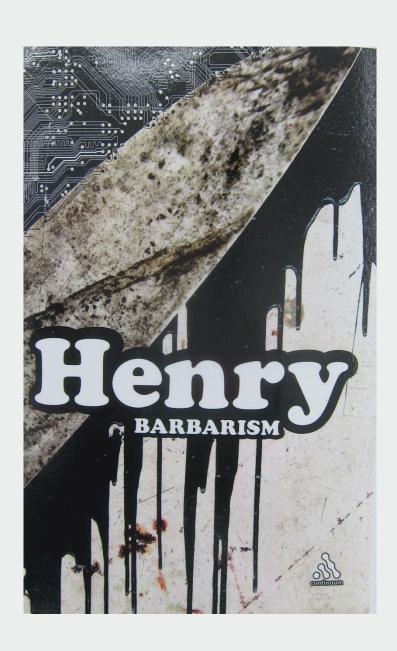
Hilma Af Klint is being repositioned in Western art history. Sarah Smuts-Kennedy knows why, perhaps you should too.



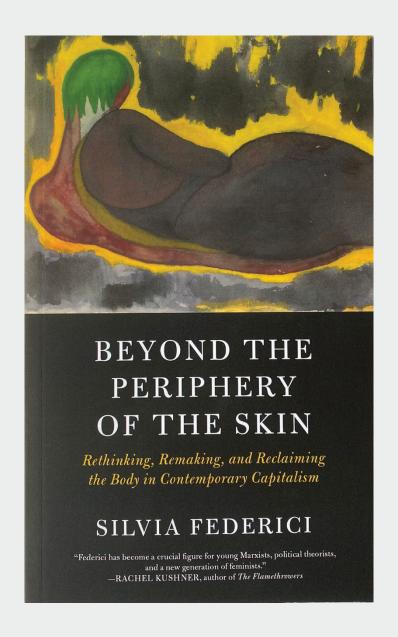
This is the first major collection of poetry by the flabbergastingly flamboyant protopunk Baroness Elsa. Katharina Grosse guarantees it will shock and delight you.



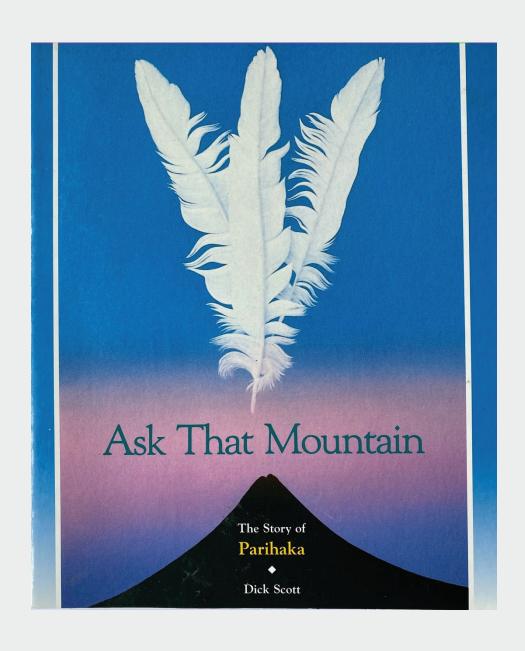
Patrick Lundberg chooses a classic from 1987 that has never seemed so timely.



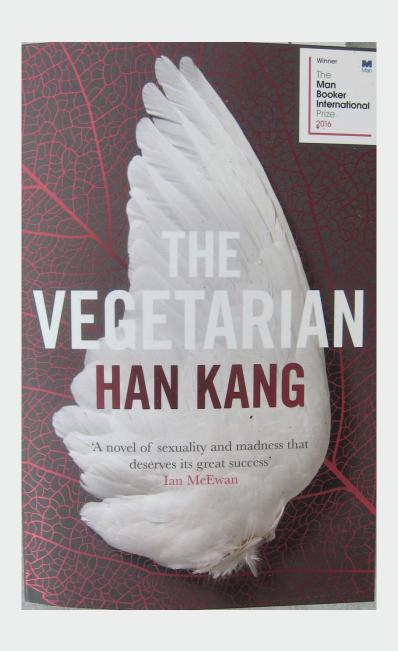
Sriwana Spong recommends this book and Rita McBride does too.
Two recommendations - must be worth a read.



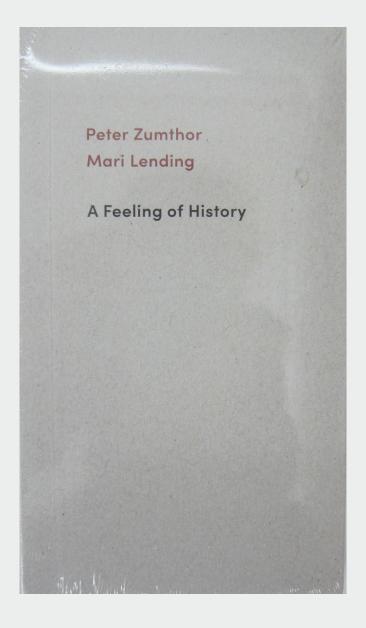
Dick Scott was a friend of many an artist and this book needs to be read.



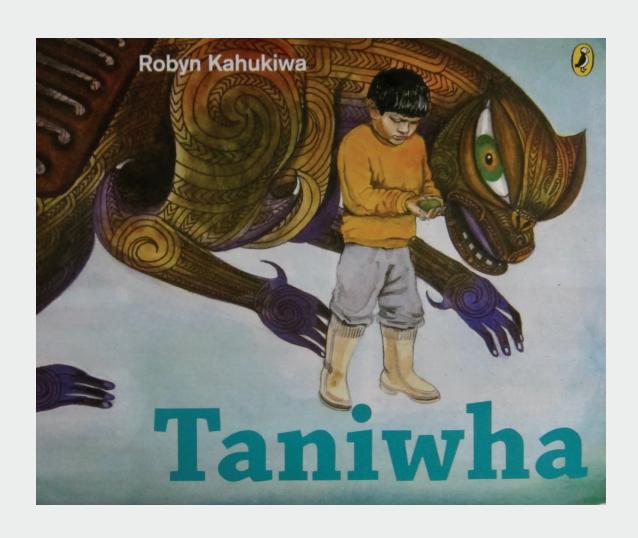
Ayşe Erkmen recently read this and loved it.



Architect Peter Zumthor in conversation about history and time. One book and one thrilling conversation.

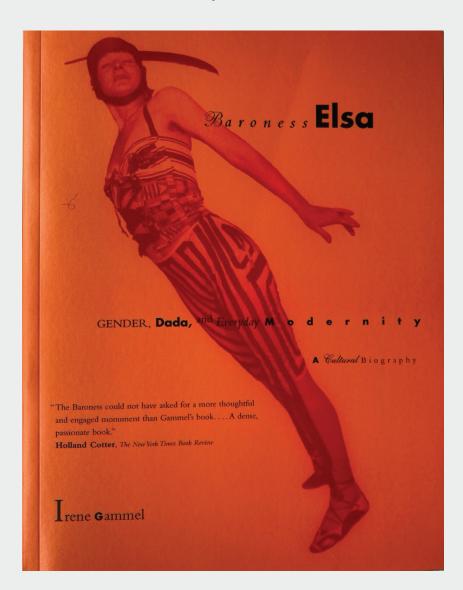


Mata Aho Collective has this on their booklist. Robyn Kahukiwa's drawings combine with a wonderfully simple story to make this small book a gem.

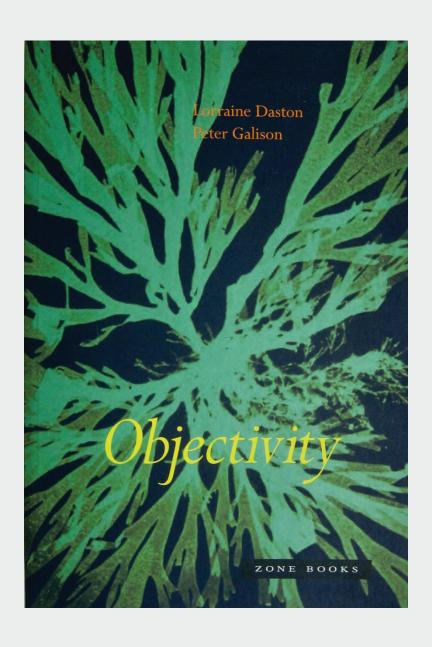


So, you think Duchamp made the Fountain?

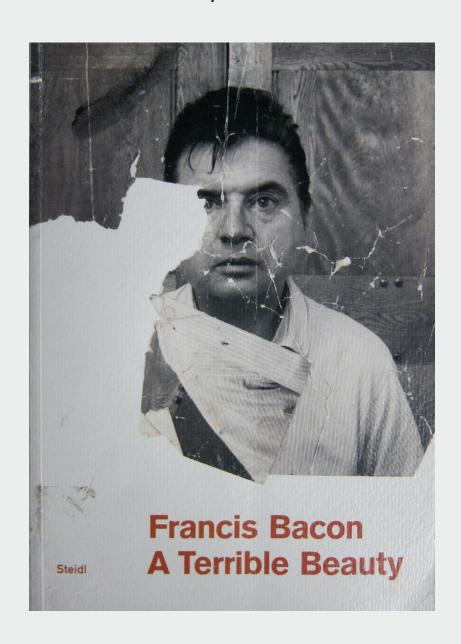
Perhaps it was instead the work of Baroness Elsa – read her biography and find out more.



This is Via Lewandowsky's alltime favourite read. From the fabulous Zone Books.



Marcel Odenbach has this book always on his reading table as a source of inspiration. Now out-of-print it seems fitting that this is an ex-library copy.

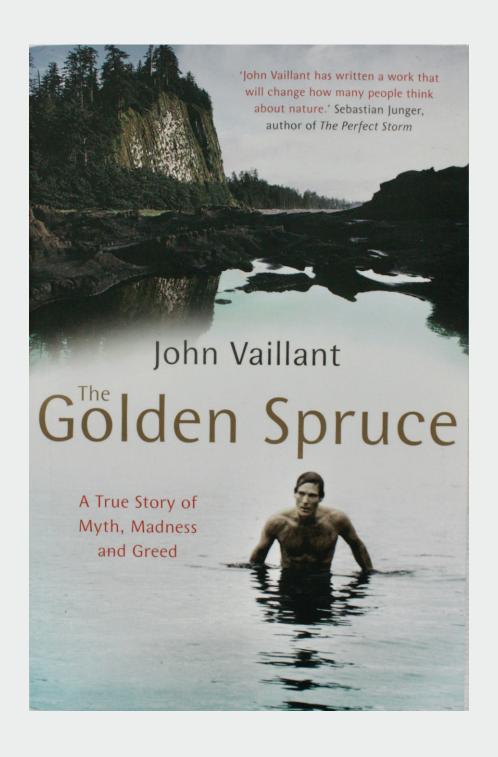


One of the most beautifully produced art books ever.

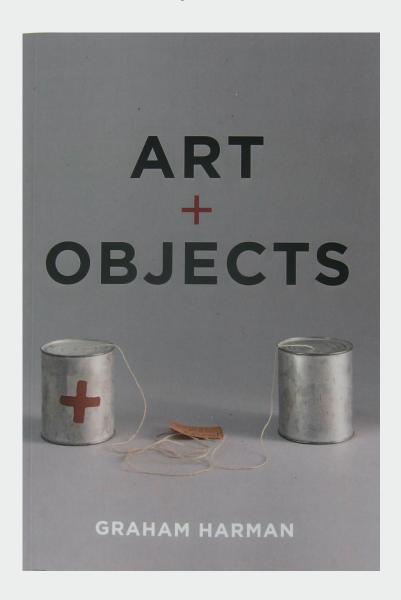
Katharina Fritsch published by Schaulager, Basel.



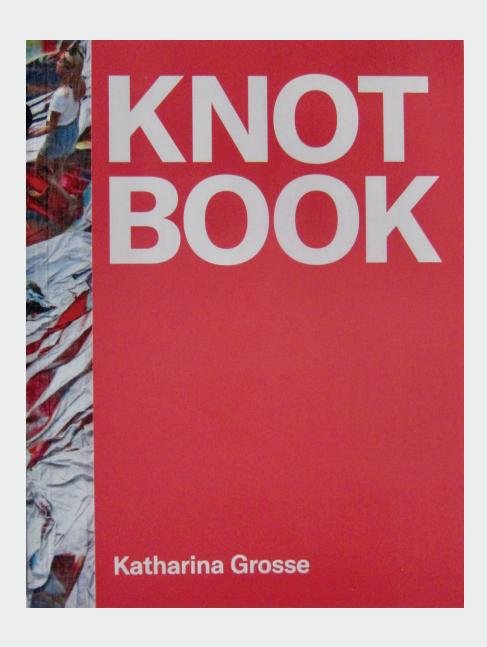
Jessica Stockholder says you simply must read this.



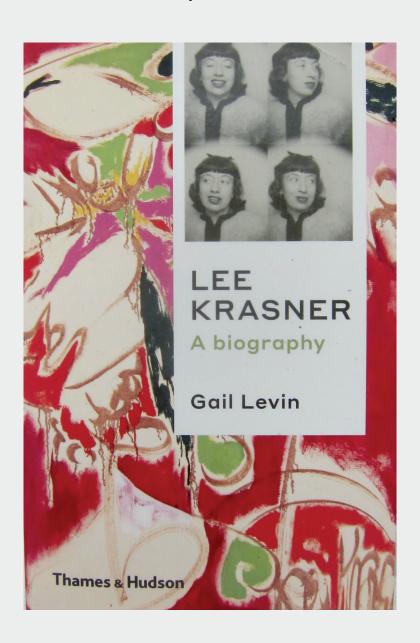
Graham Harman has created waves as the founder of object-oriented-ontology. In this book he develops the idea that aesthetics is the central discipline of philosophy.



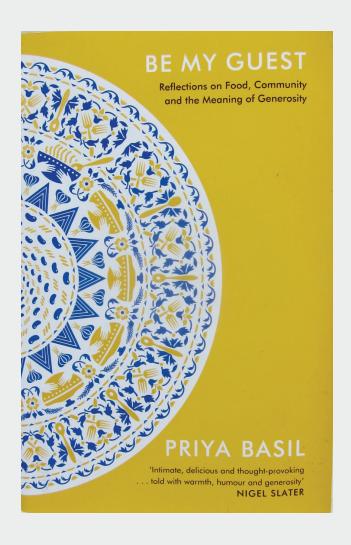
Learn to tie knots with Katharina Grosse. A catalogue from 2018.



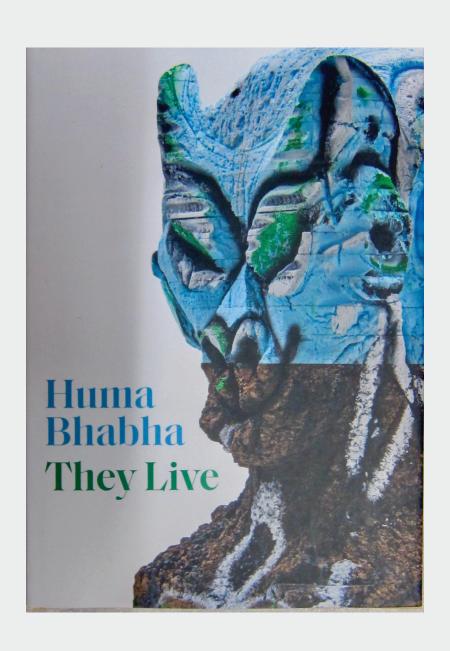
Rita McBride isn't into biographies, but if she was, she'd read this, because so many artists have told her it's great.



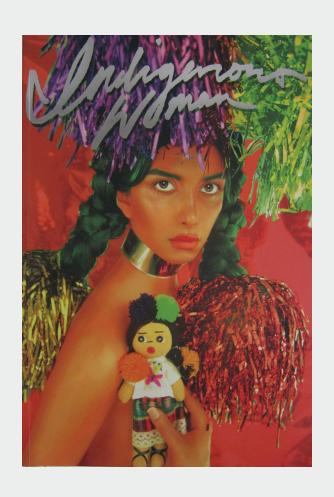
Priya Basil's small book takes on the big themes of 'food, community and the meaning of generosity'. A beautiful book that will make you think differently about the simple act of sharing a meal.



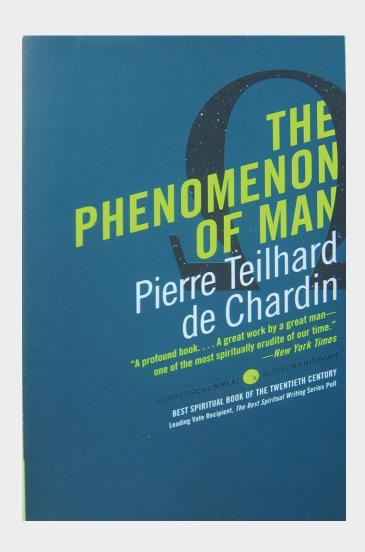
We're all crazy about the work of Huma Bhabha. This is the first available monograph on Huma's powerful sculpture.



Gus Fisher Gallery chooses Martine Gutierrez. This is 'an independent art publication dedicated to the celebration of Mayan Indian heritage, the navigation of contemporary indigeneity, and the ever-evolving self-image. It is a vision, an overture, a provocation'.



Te Tuhi have asked Ngahiraka
Mason to nominate their book.
She has chosen a book she has
been reading for the last 15
years. Ngahiraka relates to
Chardin's thinking as timeless,
instructive and inspiring.



Te Uru Waitakere Contemporary
Gallery picks The New Zealand
Project. The gallery used it when
thinking through an exhibition years
ago but it has recently resurfaced
as they think through their
institutional planning.



About Judy Millar

Judy Millar is one of Aotearoa New Zealand's most internationally recognised artists, and self-described bibliophile. She has twice represented Aotearoa at the Venice Biennale, first in 2009 with a solo exhibition Giraffe-Bottle-Gun and then in 2011 in the collateral event Time, Space, Existence.

She has had solo exhibitions at the Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki (2002) and the IMA, Brisbane (2013) and earned a number of awards and residencies, including the Moet & Chandon Fellowship (1994), the Paramount Award (2002), the McCahon House Residency (2006), and the Creative New Zealand Visual Arts Residency in New York (2009). Her works are held by all major public collections in Aotearoa New Zealand and in several international collections including the Kunstmuseum St Gallen and Tichy Foundation in Prague.

Artspace Aotearoa





OBJECTSPACE

♦ST PAUL ST







