

NEW PUBLICATION 2023

Gauthier d'Ydewalle  
**Noosphere**  
*Photographic representations of thought*

Texts by François de Coninck, Gauthier d'Ydewalle, Romain Sardou  
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**A unique and thought-provoking exploration of the dynamic relationship between image and written word.**

In *Noosphere*, Belgian photographer and artist Gauthier d'Ydewalle presents a distinctive and abstract approach to the art of photography. He uses it to transcribe, interpret, and synthesize the profound nature of literary, philosophical, and poetical works. Based on the philosophical concept of »noosphere« as the zone of reflective thought, his work focuses on the importance of thoughtful reflection in our fast-paced world and emphasizes the living nature of books. Gauthier d'Ydewalle's first publication includes both photographic compositions and written commentary, making it an excellent choice for those looking to explore the intersection of literature and photography. With its thought-provoking content, *Noosphere* is a must-read for anyone seeking a new perspective on the power of the written word.

From the **Foreword by François de Coninck**

*The book is the elective medium of thought. No other object links materiality and abstraction so inextricably – the former being at the service of the latter, for it is a question of not confusing the essential with the accessory. Gauthier d'Ydewalle does not allow himself to be swept away by the mere aesthetic enjoyment of the accessory features of a text – those elements that make a book a material object of visual and sensual pleasure; it is rather the love of the true, elementary and essential reality of the book that is the text, this immaterial object, which grounds his passion for philosophy and literature, and which consequently feeds his plastic work. Thus it is the noosphere – from the Greek noûs, spirit, and sphaira, sphere – that his photographic compositions invite us to explore, taking the time required by the slow, long and deep thought that obtains form and life by structuring itself in books. In perpetual expansion like the physical universe, the noosphere is thus the space of the critical mind, dedicated to ideas and con-*

*cepts. It is distinct from the biosphere, the space where living things – animate material objects – roam and flourish, and from the geosphere, the space containing inanimate material objects. Reflected thoughts, on the other hand, are indeed immaterial animate objects: living intellectual entities that have acquired, thanks to books, an autonomous existence of their own. Every poem, essay or novel invents a world, creates a universe populated by figures, ideas and characters who then live their own lives. This universe constantly regenerates itself: it comes to life again with every new reader, with his or her own subjectivity.*

Belgian artist born in Huy in 1961, **Gauthier d'Ydewalle** has been exploring the potential of photography for twenty years with the desire to give a formal representation to the thought contained in the books of great authors. Abstract shapes, colors, textures, lights, objects, composition, are all significant elements that he uses to express what seems most essential to him in the novels, essays, poems that he studies upstream. In his compositions, which often borrow from the processes of painting, abstraction is erected into language. Based on his studies of philosophy, he works in his studio in Rosières-Saint-André, in Walloon Brabant. However, his artistic career goes through Brazil where he exhibits most often. Several of his works joined in 2015 the collection of the Museu de Arte do Rio de Janeiro. In 2021, the Musée de la Photographie de Charleroi hosted a personal exhibition of his photographic work.  
[gauthierdydewalle.com](http://gauthierdydewalle.com)

**Exhibition**

Orangerie, Jardin du Luxembourg, Paris  
 15.06.–26.06.2023

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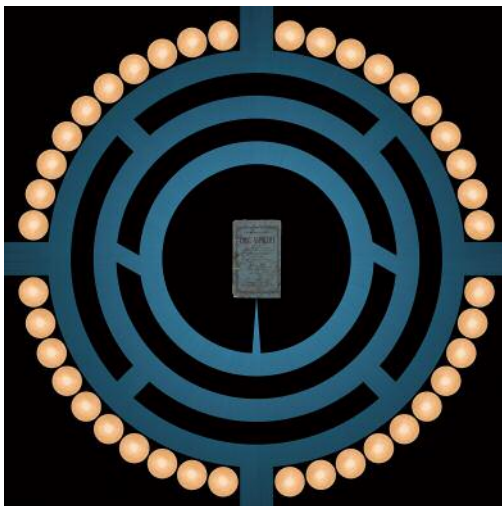
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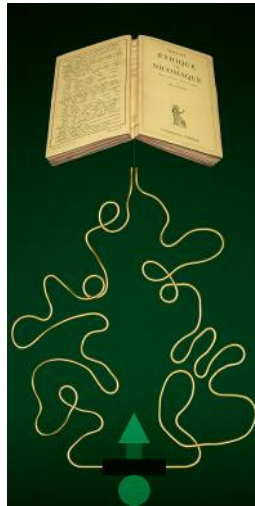
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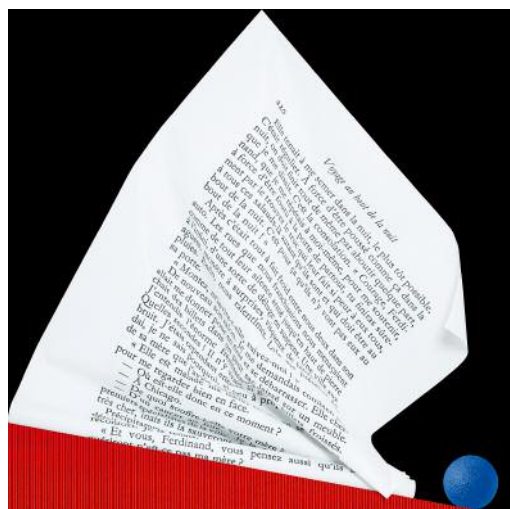
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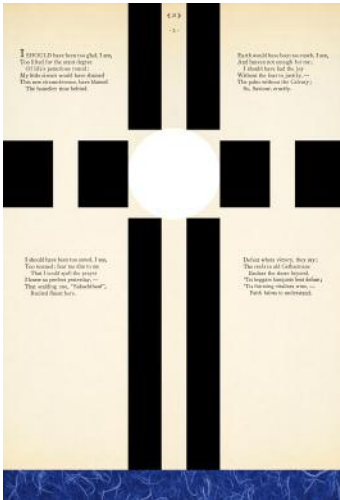
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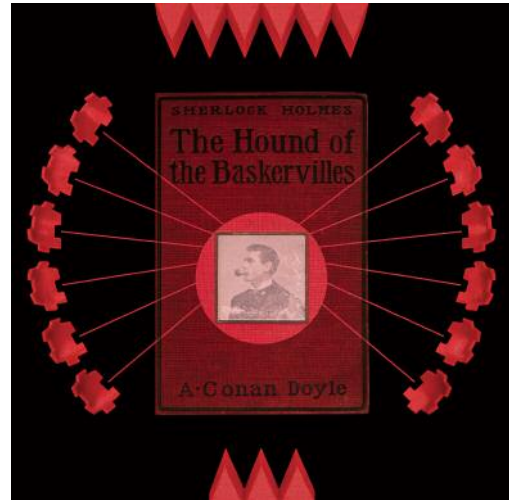
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