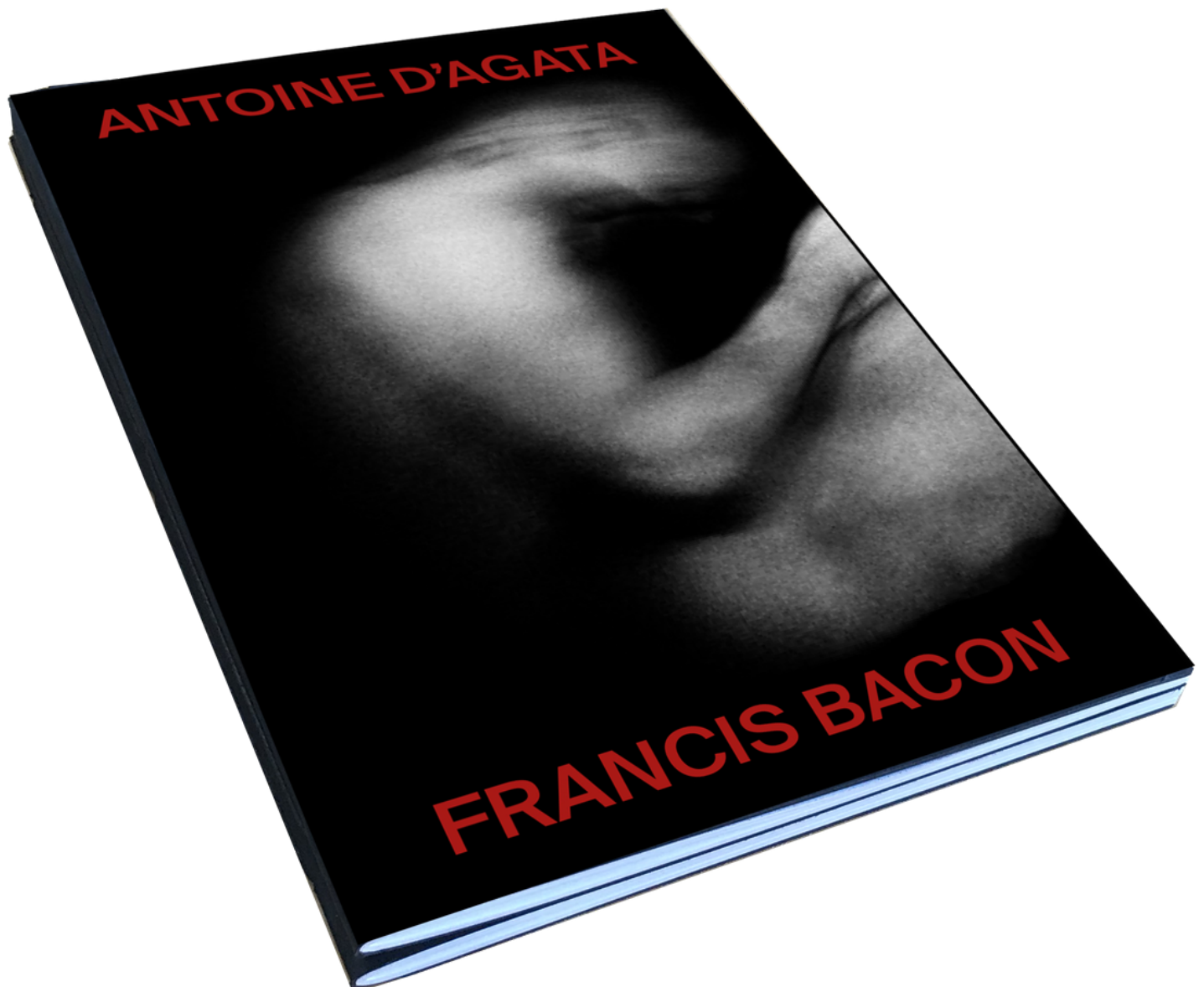


BACON / D'AGATA

Aesthetic parallel of
two visceral works



Release in November 2020

FRANCIS BACON / ANTOINE D'AGATA

artistic parallel in a double book

An artist's book bringing together **27 photographs by Antoine d'Agata** and **25 graphic works by Francis Bacon**, this bilingual French-English work, presented in the form of a double book, establishes an artistic parallel between the contemporary work of photographer Antoine d'Agata and the expressionist painting of painter Francis Bacon.

The two books, bound together, can be consulted side by side, allowing one to create a vis à vis between the works of the two artists.

The texts are presented on autonomous notebooks allowing the reader to read the text while browsing through the visual narrative.

"Bacon [d'Agata] does not say "pity for the beasts" but rather every man who suffers is meat. Meat is the common zone of man and beast, their zone of indistinguishability, it is that "fact", that very state in which the painter identifies himself with the objects of his horror or compassion". **Gilles Deleuze**



TWO ARTISTIC UNIVERSES

that get along

Antoine d'Agata is a photographer who lives on the edge. He immerses himself in his personal universes, until he exhausts them. He transforms reality with the help of time, and shows us facts, events, mixed textures or diffuse colors that shape human forms that get lost. **In some of Francis Bacon's works, we can see these photographs of d'Agata, the same worlds full of chiaroscuro, continuous ups and downs towards hell, and this attempt to lengthen the moment of joy or solitude.**



Does the deformation of the bodies, caused by the trembling of the images, go as far as their familiar dehumanization by the painter?

Antoine d'Agata would probably not refuse to affirm this. **Isn't it precisely the animality that he insistently claims from the sexual relations he photographs.** Gilles Deleuze, a philosopher, is said to have spoken of his "becoming an animal", a becoming a dog, to be precise. An integral part of his work of art, man and work struggle to exist. A chromatic struggle that is not without recalling the colors of Francis Bacon, whose deformed flesh is also found, as if torn apart and evaporated.

After a book devoted to the correspondence between the portraits of photographers **Nan Goldin** and **Julia Margaret Cameron** and historian and collector **Marwan T. Assaf**, in this second volume, The Eyes Publishing proposes an encounter between the works of Antoine d'Agata and Francis Bacon with the complicity of the author **Perrine Le Querrec**.

Squeeze the walls
squeeze the embrace
squeeze name
the shadow
the bodies of meat
cut
slits of light slash
cheeks sexes stomachs mouths
the man who laughs
and the spine

Ruptures fold and break everywhere find the absence behind the door to the entrails
 each word leaves a gash
hidden at the top of the body
the mouth opens fortress
the lightning strikes
again
again
at the least movement again

i
waver
i
collapse

Extract of the text by Perrine Le Querrec

“

This would result in a free zone for which the body would be a range of intensity, action and tension. The photographer and artist chose the darkness of enclosed chambers as a way of accessing this both creative and destructive energy matrix.

Léa Bismuth

”

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

FRANCIS BACON

The painter Francis Bacon (1909 - 1992) is one of the most famous British artists of the 20th century. Far from the abstraction that dominated the 1950s, Francis Bacon's painting, deeply nourished by the artist's depressive temperament, seems to be a reflection of his anxieties and dramas. Particularly interested in the theme of existence, which he perceives as painful, the artist reveals his genius in the realization of triptychs, notably *Three Studies by Lucian Freud*, which he completed in 1969. Bacon is the author of an expressionist work strongly influenced by the rereading of the great masters of the past.

ANTOINE D'AGATA

Antoine d'Agata, born in 1961, is a French photographer and filmmaker. His work, mainly focused on the themes of the body, wandering, marginality and prostitution, wants to question the viewer on his own perception of reality. Represented on numerous occasions in solo and group exhibitions, d'Agata was awarded the Niépce prize in 2001. Since 2004, he has been a member of the Magnum Photos agency.

"The first painter's exhibition
that I visited was a retrospective of Bacon at MoMA in 1989.
It was a shock from which I still haven't recovered."

Antoine d'Agata

TECHNIC DETAILS

Edition: Vincent Marcilhacy, Véronique Prugnaud

Graphic Design: Bureau Kayser

For photographs © Antoine D'Agata / Magnum Photos

For graphic works © Francis Bacon

For the text © Perrine Le Querrec and Léa Bismuth

Distribution: Interart (France), Ideabooks (Export)

Technic specifications

Format: 16 x 23 cm

Pages: 96 (2 picture books of 40 pages each, 1 text booklet)

Languages: French and English

Images: black & white and color on Munken Lynx paper 120g

Price: 45 €

ISBN : 979-10-92727-42-5

Double book *Bacon / D'Agata* available
for pre-order on **WWW.THEEYES.EU**

LAUNCHING EVENT

Wednesday, November 4 at the bookshop La Comète, from 6pm to 8pm.

ABOUT THE EYES PUBLISHING

The Eyes is a publishing house and a cultural brand content agency specialised in image and photography.

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