

Nature Morte

Contemporary Artists Reinvigorate the Still Life

Michael Petry

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Thought-provoking and richly visual, **Nature Morte** brings together, for the first time, the poignant, provocative re-imaginings of the traditional still life by over 180 international contemporary artists. This visually stunning and timely book reveals how leading artists of the 21st century are reinvigorating the still life, a genre previously synonymous with the sixteenth- and seventeenth-century Old Masters.

Michael Petry's careful selection celebrates works by emerging and established artists alike, from all over the globe, including John Currin, Elmgreen & Dragset, Robert Gober, Renata Hegyi, Damien Hirst, David Hockney, Gary Hume, Sarah Lucas, Beatriz Milhazes, Gabriel Orozco, Elizabeth Peyton, Marc Quinn, Gerhard Richter, Sam Taylor-Wood and Ai Wei Wei. Short and compelling introductions begin each chapter and are followed by dramatic, visually led spreads that pair each work with a perceptive reading of its significance to the still-life tradition.

Petry's engaging, provocative text reveals how contemporary practitioners are revisiting the major motifs of the still life and translating them for the modern world. Petry explores the timeless themes of life, death and the irrevocable passing of time in these new works for our modern world; artworks that invite us to pause and reconsider what it means to be human.

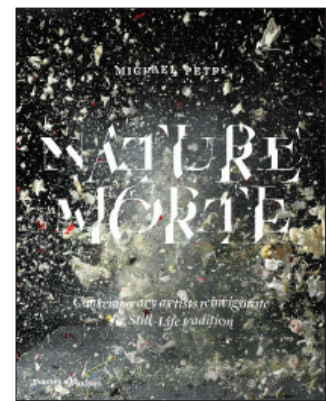
Nature Morte is designed by Barnbrook, a leading London studio at the cutting edge of graphic design. The cover is lenticular.

Contents:

Introduction • Chapter 1: Flora • Chapter 2: Food • Chapter 3: House & Home • Chapter 4: Fauna • Chapter 5: Death

Author

Michael Petry is an artist, curator, Doctor of Arts and Director of Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA), London. He is the author of *Installation Art*, *Installation in the New Millennium* and *The Art of Not Making*, all published by Thames & Hudson.



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