

SYLPH EDITIONS



2010 / II

ANNOUNCING A NEW SERIES

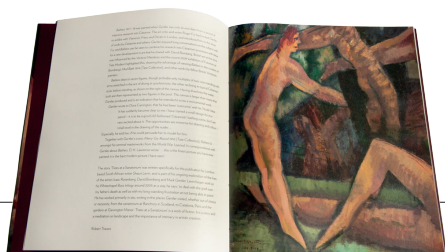
THE NOBILE FOLIOS

The Nobile Folios are monographic explorations of 20th- and 21st-century masterpieces, mostly of British art. Each booklet explores one painting, and one painting only, and overcomes some of the inherent limitations of reproducing any great painting in print, replicating something of the experience of seeing a painting in the flesh.

It is published by Sylph Editions in association with Piano Nobile – a London gallery that specializes in fine quality International, Modern British and Post-War art.

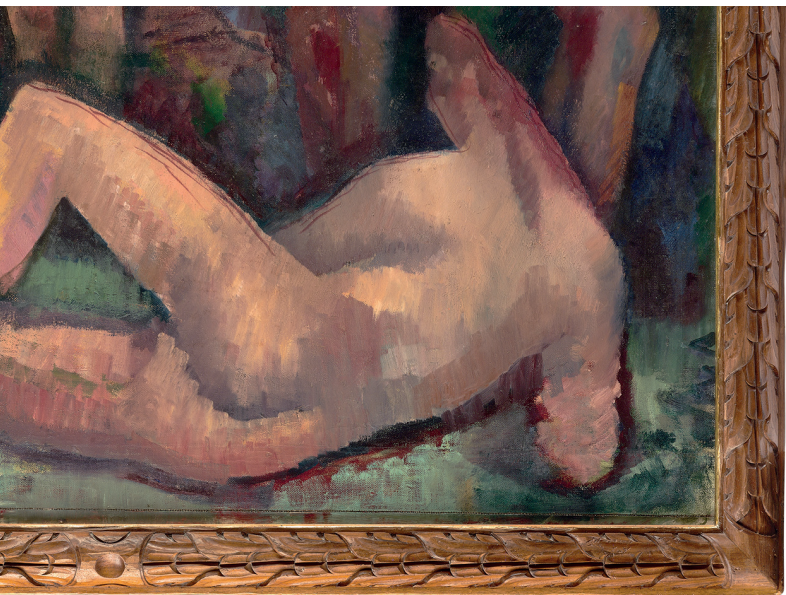
Each spread in *The Nobile Folios* is an attempt to identify and to explore these auxiliary paintings – with an added benefit of words. The juxtaposed texts that form part of *The Nobile Folios*, are informative associations and can represent words that might come to mind when one gazes at the painting. The association, obvious or oblique, complements our attempt to explore the painting and enhances our experience of it.

Forthcoming in the series are explorations of works by Walter Sickert, David Bomberg, Matthew Smith, Frank Auerbach, Leon Kossoff, Bridget Riley and others.



Bathers 1917-18 MARK GERTLER

Trees at a Sanatorium SHAUN LEVIN



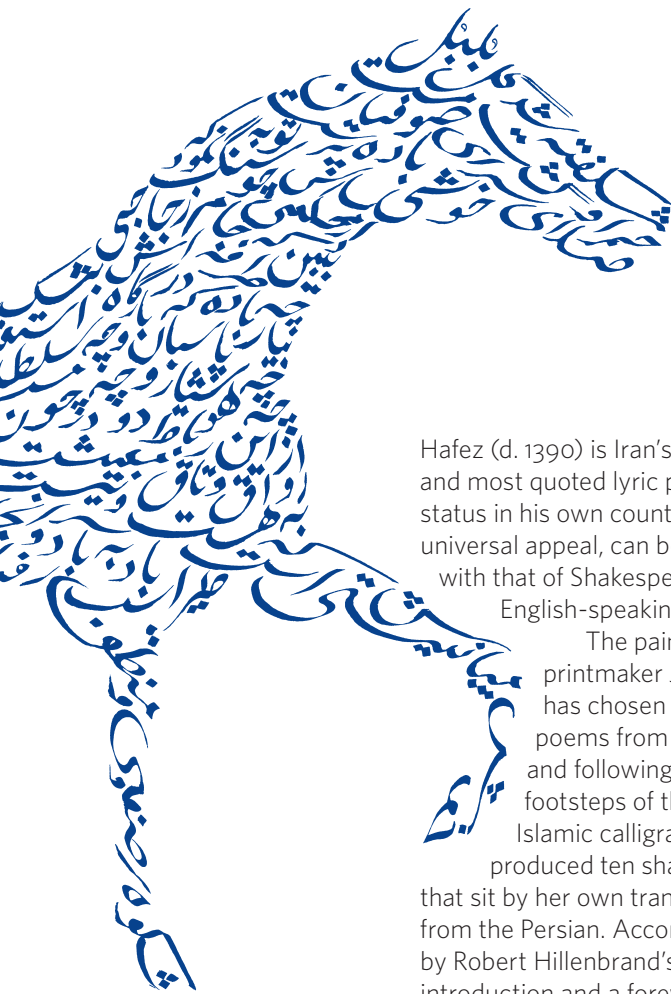
The first of *The Nobile Folios* explores *Bathers 1917-18* by the acclaimed British painter Mark Gertler (1891-1939). The painting is set alongside Shaun Levin's original short story 'Trees at a Sanatorium'.

Mark Gertler was born in Spitalfields in London's East End in 1891, the youngest son of Jewish immigrant parents. *Bathers 1917-18* was painted when Gertler was only 26 and dates from a period of intensive research into Cézanne. *Bathers* is amongst his seminal masterworks from the World War I period.

Shaun Levin's story 'Trees at a Sanatorium' was written specifically for this publication. It is a meditation on landscape and the importance of intimacy in artistic creation. Levin wrote this story visiting places where Gertler stayed – whether out of choice or necessity – from the sanatorium at Banchory in Scotland, to Catalonia, to Paris and the gardens at Garsington Manor.

Ten Poems from Hafez

JILA PEACOCK



Hafez (d. 1390) is Iran's premier and most quoted lyric poet. His status in his own country, and his universal appeal, can be compared with that of Shakespeare in the English-speaking world.

The painter and printmaker Jila Peacock has chosen ten love poems from Hafez and following the footsteps of the great Islamic calligraphers, has produced ten shape-poems that sit by her own translations from the Persian. Accompanied by Robert Hillenbrand's erudite introduction and a foreword by Parvin Loloï, this book is an exceptional achievement, a celebration of the marriage between word and image.

48 pages, 10 colour illustrations, sewn paperback with dust jacket 239 x 282mm | ISBN 978-0-9552963-0-7 £25

Electric Trees: Reflections of Angola

JENNY AND ERAN GALOR



Angola is a land of contrasts: equal to its turbulent history of Portuguese colonization and a civil war that spanned three decades, are the richness and diversity of its landscapes and its people.

Now, with the war behind it, Angola and its people are reawakening. From 2002 onwards, Jenny and Eran Gal-Or formed part of a team setting up new rural settlements around the small town of Waku Kungo deep in Angola's interior. In 27 personal essays and nearly 70 photographs they reflect on and bear witness to the country's defiant revival.

Learned, incisive and humane, the authors present an unparalleled picture of contemporary Angola, never losing eye contact with their readership.

160 pages with 67 original colour photographs

174 x 126 mm | ISBN 978-0-9558896-6-0 £22.00

Robert Wilson From Within

Edited by MARGERY ARENT SAFIR



ROBERT WILSON is an avant-garde theatre artist, whose work ranges across opera, stage works, lighting design, video and even furniture design. This book celebrates the singular achievements of this 'total artist,' from his earliest works. World renowned artists, composers, actors, writers, theatre directors, costume designers, scenographers, scholars, and curators give their perspectives on Wilson's work and on working with Wilson. This lavishly illustrated book also boasts a unique selection of personal images that have inspired Robert Wilson, chosen specifically for this book. Published in association with The Arts Arena of The American University of Paris

With contributions by: MARINA ABRAMOVIĆ, LAURIE ANDERSON, SERGE VON ARX, PIERRE BERGÉ, ANNE BOGART, CHARLES CHEMIN, DANIEL CONRAD, GAO XINGJIAN, PHILIP GLASS, SACHA GOLDMAN, JONATHAN HARVEY, ISABELLE HUPPERT, STEFAN KURT, JOSEPH V. MELILLO, IVAN NAGEL, JESSYE NORMAN, YVONNE RAINER, JACQUES REYNAUD, MARC ROBINSON, JOHN ROCKWELL, JÖRN WEISBRODT, RUFUS WAINWRIGHT and VIKTOR AND ROLF

224 pages more than 100 images, colour and b/w, hardback
250 x 300mm | ISBN 978-09565092-0-8 £35.00

Balanchine Then and Now

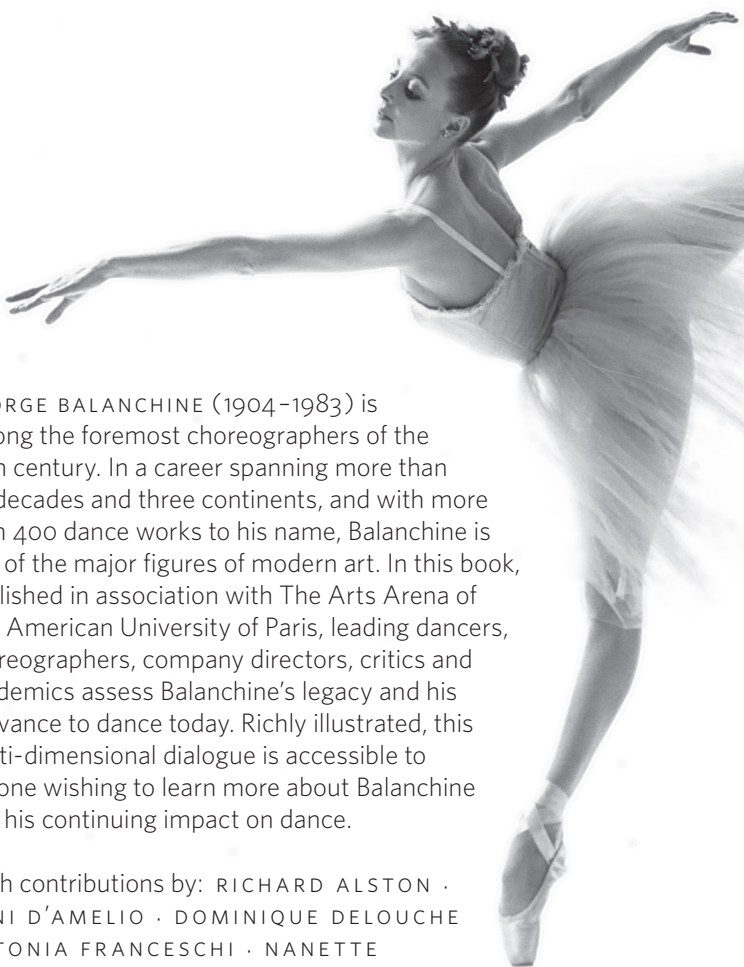
Edited by ANNE HOGAN

GEORGE BALANCHINE (1904–1983) is among the foremost choreographers of the 20th century. In a career spanning more than six decades and three continents, and with more than 400 dance works to his name, Balanchine is one of the major figures of modern art. In this book, published in association with The Arts Arena of The American University of Paris, leading dancers, choreographers, company directors, critics and academics assess Balanchine's legacy and his relevance to dance today. Richly illustrated, this multi-dimensional dialogue is accessible to anyone wishing to learn more about Balanchine and his continuing impact on dance.

With contributions by: RICHARD ALSTON ·
TONI D'AMELIO · DOMINIQUE DELOUCHE
ANTONIA FRANCESCHI · NANETTE
GLUSHAK · STEPHANIE JORDAN · ANNA
KISSELGOFF · GIANNANDREA POESIO ·
FRANCIA RUSSELL · TIM SCHOLL · SUKI SCHORER
VIOLETTE VERDY · ROBERT WILSON ·

128 pages more than 40 images, colour and b/w
239 x 282mm | ISBN 978-0-9552963-9-0

£25.00





SYLPH EDITIONS

SYLPH EDITIONS publishes limited-edition art and photography books, monographs, theoretical essays and different forms of experimental writing. The emphasis is on works in which image and text coexist, conceived as one. Every work is meticulously produced, care given equally both to content and to form.

The Cahiers Series

The Cahiers Series is published jointly by Sylph Editions and the The Center for Writers & Translators at the American University of Paris. The goal of this series is to make available new explorations in writing, in translating, and in the areas linking these two activities.

Each cahier is richly illustrated, is roughly 40 pages, measures 240 x 150mm and costs £10. Cahiers are sold individually and boxed in a set of six for £51. Subscriptions are welcome too. See the Sylph Editions website for details.



1 *Translating Music*

RICHARD PEVEAR

The first volume in the series is by one of the most renowned contemporary translators into English. He discusses his recent experience of translating Tolstoy's *War and Peace*, and offers alongside his illuminating essay a wonderful rendition of Pushkin's long poem *The Tale of the Preacher and His Man Bumpkin*, printed in Russian and English and accompanied by drawings by Pushkin himself.

ISBN 978-0-9552963-1-4



2 *Walking on Air*

MURIEL SPARK

Nine short pieces by Muriel Spark: notes and reflections, dreams, diary entries, stories, a translation, and even a photograph she took in 1988. Assembled by Dan Gunn and Penelope Jardine, this cahier is not only a timely reminder of Sparks' broad range of interests, but also of her wit, humour and literary sensitivity.

ISBN 978-0-9552963-2-1

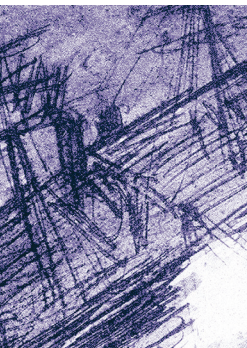


3 **Circles of Silence**

J. HARVEY & J.-C. CARRIÈRE

The opera *Wagner Dream*, by composer Jonathan Harvey, premiered in 2007. In this cahier, Harvey discusses with his librettist Jean-Claude Carrière the ideas underlying the opera and, in a detailed essay about the undecidability of music, reveals the opera's Buddhist leitmotifs. With images from the opera and explanatory marginalia, this cahier offers a clear insight into the work of one of the foremost contemporary composers of electro-acoustic music.

ISBN 978-0-9552963-3-8

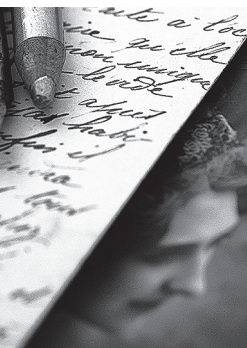


4 **Drunken Boats**

ALAN JENKINS

In between two new and previously unpublished poems, Alan Jenkins offers his refreshing translation of Rimbaud's masterpiece: *Le Bateau ivre*. With images by Rimbaud, Verlaine, and Bill Pownall (whose work was a source of inspiration for the poems here), this cahier sails down several rivers, placid and turbulent, and finds there more than one drunken boat.

ISBN 978-0-9552963-4-5



5 **Proust, Blanchot and a Woman in Red**

LYDIA DAVIS

Following her acclaimed translation of *Swann's Way*, Lydia Davis offers a partial alphabet of Proust translation problems – and their solutions. She muses on the near-impossibility of summarising works by Maurice Blanchot, and ends with a group of short narratives that explore the space between dream and waking reality. This cahier is a wondrous adventure into the perils and delights of translating, of reading – and of dreaming.

ISBN 978-0-9552963-5-2



6 **Text and Textile**

ISABELLA DUCROT

Isabella Ducrot is a Roman textile artist and painter, who in this cahier presents reflections on the nature of textile and weaving which arise both from her major textile collection and from her close reading of mythology and art history. Her meditations are illustrated by her own art and are introduced by a specially-written poem by the celebrated Italian poet Patrizia Cavalli.

ISBN 978-0-9552963-6-9



7 *Days Bygone*

RACHEL SHIHOR

Four excerpts from Rachel Shihor's novella *Yankinton* have been selected, and translated from the Hebrew for this cahier. These poignant and humorous tales are as much about the act of recollection as they are about the remembered Tel Aviv of the 1940s. In a playful and yet muted style, Shihor tells of the everyday life of a child beginning to grasp her surroundings. Six works by the painter David Hendler further explore the city.

ISBN 978-0-9552963-7-6



8 *When The Pie Was Opened*

PAUL MULDOON

This cahier presents new work by the celebrated Irish poet Paul Muldoon: four original works, 'The Windshield', 'Balls' (a five-sonnet sequence), 'Quail', and the title series of poems, 'When the Pie Was Opened'. Interspersed with these are the poet's translations: from Latin, from Anglo-Saxon, from Medieval Welsh, from Greek, and from Irish. The cahier is completed by drawings and an etching by the Sicilian artist Lanfranco Quadrio.

ISBN 978-0-9552963-8-3



9 *Notes from the Hall of Uselessness*

SIMON LEYS

Simon Leys, novelist, unflinching cultural and political commentator, Sinologist, and occasional illustrator, presents here timely meditations on the experience and hazards of literary translation. Preceding his essay are observations on everything from demented tyrants to musical geniuses who gain insights from vacuum cleaners. Leys is rightly renowned for his wisdom, his insight, and his linguistic and literary expertise.

ISBN 978-0-9558896-3-9



10 *Józef Czapski: A Life in Translation*

KEITH BOTSFORD

Józef Czapski (1896-1993) was an artist, author, critic, and one of the founders of the influential Polish emigré monthly *Kultura* (published in Paris until 2000). But who was the real Czapski? This cahier is a bold attempt by Keith Botsford to answer this question. Violating convention, he attempts to write Czapski's autobiography, or a 'biography from within'. Besides Czapski's own words, twelve of his paintings bear testimony to this momentous life.

ISBN 978-0-9558896-4-6



11 *In the Thick of Things*

VINCEN CORNU

Vincen Cornu, a Paris-based architect, attempts to 'translate' architectural sensation into words and images, in order to convey the inspirations behind his work and the ways in which buildings, and the spaces they create, can offer journeys of imaginative discovery. He takes the reader back to early theories of architecture, through topics as diverse as skyscrapers, railway tracks, and grain barns in Northern Spain and the works of masters in the field.

ISBN 978-0-9558896-7-7



12 *Lost and Found*

ALISON LESLIE GOLD

Alison Leslie Gold, known best for her work on Anne Frank and the Holocaust, relates a personal memoir, centred on recent losses of loved ones and on various findings that to some extent offset the losses. This is explored through a series of letters, a meditation on ageing, friendship, and the sort of 'translation' required when writing to the dead. Her text is accompanied by 13 paintings from Charlotte Salomon's timeless masterpiece *Leben? oder Teater?*

ISBN 978-0-9558896-8-4



13 *Ballade Nocturne*

GAO XINGJIAN

This cahier publishes for the first time *Ballade Nocturne*, the latest dramatic work by Nobel laureate Gao Xingjian. Written in French, and translated for the Cahiers Series by Claire Conceison, the full text presented here is of a 'libretto for a dance performance'. The cahier contains an introduction by the translator, and reproductions of five ink and wash drawings by Gao Xingjian; it is completed by a booklet with the text in its original French version.

ISBN 978-0-9558896-9-1



14 *Animalinside*

LÁSZLÓ KRASZNAHORKAI & MAX NEUMANN

This cahier is the result of a collaboration between a writer and a painter. Hungarian novelist László Krasznahorkai, author of *The Melancholy of Resistance* and *War & War*, responds with fourteen texts to 14 depictions of a strange and ill-formed creature made by the renowned German painter Max Neumann. The texts speak from within the head of Neumann's creature that seems to be menacing existence itself. The cahier is introduced with a preface by Irish novelist Colm Tóibín.

ISBN 978-0-9565092-1-5