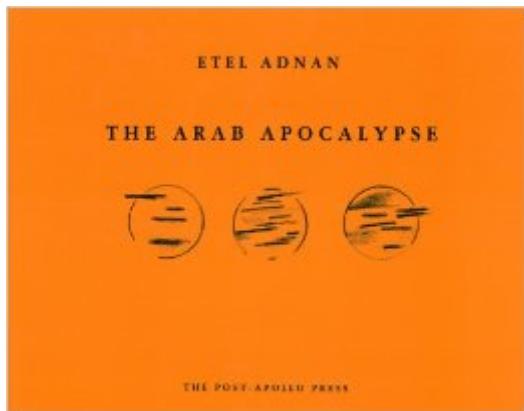


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The Arab Apocalypse



Synopsis

Poetry. Middle Eastern studies. Translated from the French by the author. Reprinted with a new foreward by Jalal Toufic. "This book, a masterwork of the dislocations and radiant outcries of the Arab world, reaffirms Etel Adnan, who authored the great poem, Jebu, as among the foremost poets of the French Language. THE ARAB APOCALYPSE is an immersion into a rapture of chaos clawing towards destiny, and nullified hope refusing its zero. Is is also the journey of soul through the cartography of a global immediacy rarely registered by maps, replete with signposts like hieroglyphs in a storm of shrapnel and broken glass. And above all it is a book that, though capable of being read in its orderly sequence, has so surrendered to 'being there,' it can rivet the sensibility to the Middle Eastern condition at any point in the text--so rapid are its mutations, so becoming its becomingness--like a wisdom book or a book of Changes"--Jack Hirschman."It has a power and intensity that few poets today can musterâ "only Allen Ginsberg's Howl comes to mind."â "Alice Molloy"The power of Adnan's language and imagery reminds us that she is indeed one of the most significant post-modern poets in contemporary Arab culture."â "Kamal Boullatta"THE ARAB APOCALYPSE is, to date, Adnan's most triumphant battle with the exactness of words."â "Douglas Powell"The poem invokes a mythic past of Gilgamesh, Tammouz, and Ishtar to presage a present that resists narration, THE ARAB APOCALYPSE contests an uncritical reflection on the immediate historical past."â "Barbara Harlow

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Elsewhere Etel Adnan has written already two decades ago: T.E. Lawrence was the total embodiment, and consumption by fire, of the English Colonialist actions in the Middle East of his time. By this all of the subsequent actions ("beacon-on-the hill etc.) taken by US representatives Reagan and 2 Bush's could be seen to have ignored the region's truths, so many of the objectives of the Iraq War not having been accomplished. Etel Adnan has spoken on Beirut. She makes Derrida's flight from Algeria to Paris look like an abandonment. Etel Adnan has spoken on Palestine and the Palestinian. Etel Adnan speaks in English in this book, despite its having been published in French originally. Etel's French version is not the searching language of the "French poets." Rather, her English shows more insight for this text, and the Post-Apollo edition is a magnificent demonstration of poetry and publishing for a pittance (\$20). Who sells their copy of City Lights "Howl" by Ginsberg? no one. Adnan's "The Arab Apocalypse" is the same. Etel Adnan speaks on the Sun and the Arab (59 verses) in this Arab book, XV: "In the halls of the sun we manufactured virulent religions. We burned still-born children HOU! HOU! the solar goddess! The brain is a sun STOP the sun is an eye!" Each nuclear explosion blooms into a sun-brain like a flower! "Arabs are dancing in the dust DOUM! the Tribe is delirious the yellow sun children's toy in the shanty-towns is eating the sea Each bullet is a ball planted in the brain YES!"

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