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Catherine Millet France

The courage of being oneself

The Author

Catherine Millet is the editor of *Art Press*, an influential Paris art magazine. She has written books on modern art, including a monograph on the painter Yves Klein. *The Sexual Life of Catherine M* has sold over a million copies worldwide. She lives in Paris with her husband.

Bibliography

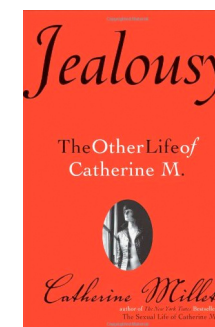
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Zoom

Jealousy : The Other Life of Catherine M. (Grove Press, 2010)



Catherine Millet's best-selling *The Sexual Life of Catherine M.* was a landmark book—a portrait of a sexual life lived without boundaries and without a safety net. Described as “eloquent, graphic—and sometimes even poignant” by *Newsweek*, and as “[perhaps] one of the most erotic books ever written” by *Playboy*, it drew international attention for its audacity, and the apparently superhuman sangfroid required of Millet and her partner, Jacques Henric, with whom she had an extremely

public and active open relationship.

Now, Millet's follow-up answers the first book's implicit question: How did you avoid jealousy? “I had love at home,” Millet explains, “I sought only pleasure in the world outside.” But one day she discovered a letter in their apartment that made it clear that Jacques was seriously involved with someone else. *Jealousy* details the crisis provoked by this discovery, and Millet's attempts to reconcile her need for freedom and sexual liberation with the very real heartache that Jacques's infidelity caused.

If *The Sexual Life of Catherine M.* seemed to disregard emotion, *Jealousy* is its radical complement: the paradoxical confession of a libertine who discovers that love, in any of its forms, can have a dark side.

Press

“An honest, brutal piece of confession and self-analysis.”—The Guardian (UK) “Readers will scamper after every morsel of this delicious, disturbing account.”

Bookforum

“A haunting story of fragile female identity, sexually gained, violently lost.”

The New York Times Book Review

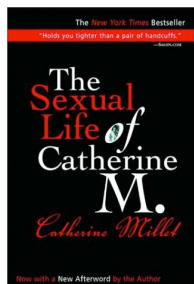
D'art press à Catherine M. Entretiens avec Richard Leydier (Gallimard, 2011)
[From Art Press to Catherine M.]



Founded in Paris in 1972, *Art Press* is regarded as one of the best international magazines on contemporary art, keeping up with the latest creations, while providing useful resources to analyse a field that often seem fascinating but puzzling. The history of the magazine is intricately linked with the recent transformations of contemporary art, from the latest avant-gardes to the effects of globalization today. *Art Press* has played an active part in shaping the recent history of art through the viewpoints it stood up for and the debates it fostered.

In this book, Catherine Millet, founder and chief editor of the magazine, takes stock of these years. It is also a dialogue between two generations of art critics as she also goes back on her own career, answering the questions of one of her closest colleagues, Richard Leydier. Therefore, Catherine Millet, who is also the author of the best seller *The Sexual Life of Catherine M.*, puts her experience as an art critique in perspective with that of a writer.

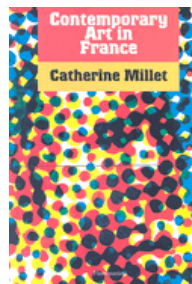
The Sexual Life of Catherine M. (Grove Press, 2002)



Since it was first published in France, *The Sexual Life of Catherine M.* has become a bestseller all around the world and has been hailed as one of the most important books on sexuality to be published in decades. Since her youth, Catherine Millet, the eminent editor of *Art Press*, has led an extraordinarily active and free sexual life—from al fresco encounters in Italy to a gang bang on the edge of the Bois du Boulogne to a high-class orgy at a chichi Parisian restaurant. She has taken pleasure in the indistinct darkness of a peep show booth and under the probing light of a movie camera at an orgy. And in *The Sexual Life of Catherine M.* she recounts it all, from tender interludes with a lover to situations where her partners were so numerous and simultaneous they became indistinguishable parts of a collective organism.

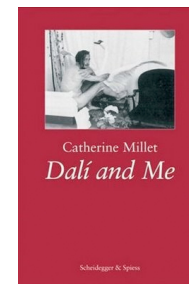
A graphic account of a life of physical gratification and a relentlessly honest look at the consequences, both liberating and otherwise, of sex stripped of sentiment, *The Sexual Life of Catherine M.* is “truly a masterpiece of sexual exploration [that] will be a classic” (*The Hartford Courant*).

Contemporary Art in France (Flammarion, 2006)



A comprehensive review of the artistic movements that have taken place in France from the 1960s to the present, this study benefits from the anecdotes and personal memories of its author, Catherine Millet. The internationally respected art critic, who was herself an active participant in these movements, breathes life into this factual chronology of the contemporary art scene in France. She exposes the often unexpected links between movements by underscoring their contradictions and taking into consideration the social and cultural changes that have occurred since the 1960s in France and across the globe. An extensive reference, this book provides the keys to understanding the international contemporary art scene as a whole. *Contemporary Art in France* serves as an historical essay, offering a profound analysis of the prevailing tendencies and characteristics of art of the past forty years. Available for the first time in English, the book is completed by a chronology of events, a thorough account of the latest creative developments, and more than 300 illustrations.

Dali and Me (Verlag Scheidegger und Spiess, 2006)



Salvador Dalí's (1904–89) surrealist paintings such as *The Persistence of Memory* and *The Metamorphosis of Narcissus* are internationally beloved for their unforgettable images and eccentric metaphors for the human condition. His lesser-known but equally intriguing writings, on the other hand, are remarkably coarse, describing human bodies and evocations of sexuality with a bewildering mixture of crude realism and naïve simplicity.

Dali and Me is an account by art historian and controversial author Catherine Millet of a highly personal encounter with the artist's celebrated paintings and self-reflective writings. One of the first studies of the notoriously idiosyncratic artist's essays, this revolutionary book reveals all the narcissism, anxiety, and visual genius of the most famous—and infamous—of the surrealists.

Based on years of scrupulous research into Dalí's life and art yet deeply enriched by Millet's autobiographical journey, this landmark volume uncovers the reverberations of Dalí's influence on his friends and contemporaries. In its explorations of both Millet's and Dalí's inner workings, *Dali and Me* ultimately becomes an argument in book form that personal involvement can be the key to understanding one of the most compelling oeuvres in art history.