TITLE INFORMATION
Tel: +44 (0) 1394 389950
Email: uksales@accartbooks.com
Web: https://www.accartbooks.com/uk



Ruth Marten: All about Eve

Edited by Ina Dinter

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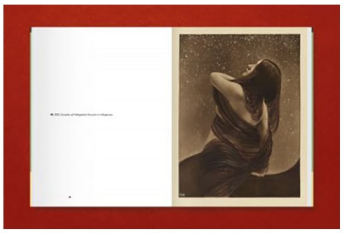
- New monograph on the highly acclaimed New York artist
- Surreal visual worlds full of subtle humour
- An artistic dialogue between past and present
- Published to coincide with an exhibition at Kunstmuseum Villa Zanders, Bergisch Gladbach, December 2024 - April 2025

All About Eve is the latest series of the American artist Ruth Marten (*1949) which she has been developing since 2022. Here she unfolds a complex interplay involving the boundaries of reality, time, and genre.

She began her career as a tattoo artist and later worked as an illustrator for various publishers and magazines. It was during this time that she discovered the technique of overpainting and collage, subsequently to become integral to her artistic practice. Marten's works are based on old graphic prints from the 18th and 19th centuries, as well as on photographs from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. By reworking the originals, she creates a fascinating link between historical representations and contemporary perspectives.

The *All About Eve* series reflects on the radical cultural shift of the 1920s: the heliogravures reworked by Marten depict female dancers from a French variety theatre, embodying the new freedoms of the post-war era. Through her artistic reworkings, Marten emphasises the diversity and complexity of female possibilities, infusing them with her characteristic dash of humour and subversion.

Ina Dinter studied art history and philosophy in Tübingen and Florence. In 2015, she received her doctorate from the Catholic University of Eichstätt with the dissertation *Claire, Rose, Blanche – James Ensor's pictorial strategies in love gardens, nymph paintings and the late work on the Belgian painter and draughtsman James Ensor*. Dinter completed a traineeship at the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin and curated exhibitions in several museums, including the Kupferstichkabinett of the Staatliche Museen and the Hamburger Bahnhof. In 2017 she became curator and exhibition director of the Nationalgalerie im Hamburger Bahnhof. In 2019, she moved to Reutlingen as director of the Kunstmuseum Reutlingen im Spendhaus. In 2024, she moved to the Villa Zanders Art Museum in Bergisch Gladbach as its new director.







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