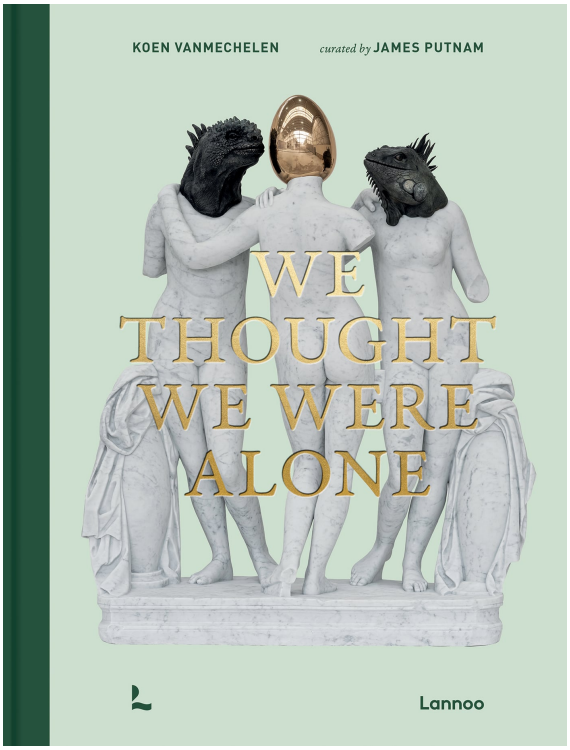
TITLE INFORMATION
Tel: +44 (0) 1394 389950
Email: uksales@accartbooks.com
Web: https://www.accartbooks.com/uk



We Thought We Were Alone

Koen Vanmechelen

Curated by James Putnam

ISBN	9789059966895
Publisher	Lannoo Publishers
Binding	Hardback
Territory	World excluding Benelux France, Switzerland & Scandinavia
Size	255 mm x 195 mm
Pages	208 Pages
Illustrations	75 color
Price	£40.00

- Our greatest wealth lies in the diversity of life
- Book accompanying the exhibition of the same title by Koen Vanmechelen during the Venice Biennale from 9 May until 22 November 2026
- With images of 50 new artworks in a historic palazzo
- Contains texts by leading scientists and experts, as well as personal reflections by the artist

During the Venice Biennale, Belgian artist and thinker Koen Vanmechelen is presenting a solo exhibition in the historic Palazzo Rota Ivancich. The exhibition, entitled *We Thought We Were Alone*, spans three floors and takes visitors on a journey through key themes in the artist's oeuvre: hybridity, identity and survival, through the connection between all forms of life. The title, *We Thought We Were Alone*, refers to the premise that humans are not central to the functioning of the earth, but that every organism has a role to play in a complex system that is actually self-regulating. In addition to the artworks, the book also explores Vanmechelen's long history with the Italian city and the communities that invariably form around his art. It includes a chapter on Wild Gene Festival – the collaboration between the artist and singer Youssou N'Dour – and essays by voices such as human rights expert Manfred Nowak and physicist Thomas Hertog.

Koen Vanmechelen (1965) is an artist and a thinker. His work explores the human animal, hybridity and the breaking down of boundaries, inviting us to reflect on our connection with other species and the world around us.







Published 21st Sep 2026