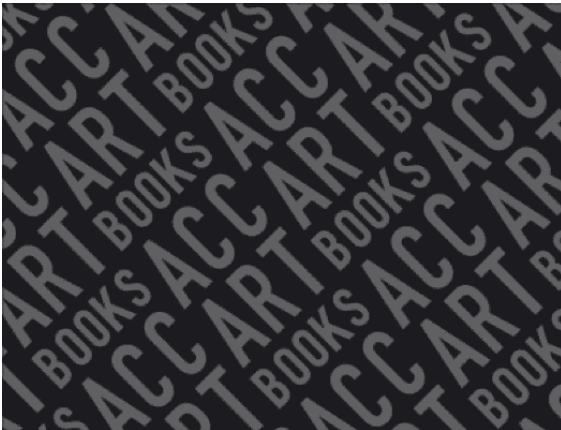




Ferdi

Afra Eisma

Suzanne van Leeuwen

ISBN	9789493531550
Publisher	Hannibal Books
Binding	Hardback
Territory	USA & Canada
Size	9.05 in x 10.83 in
Pages	252 Pages
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Price	\$55.00

- **The first major international study of Ferdi:** The book introduces an important but long-overlooked postwar Dutch artist to an international audience, filling a significant gap in art historical scholarship
- **New perspectives on postwar modernism:** Through original essays and previously underexplored works, the publication repositions Ferdi within the broader history of twentieth-century art, offering fresh insights into themes such as gender, sexuality, spirituality, and the relationship between humans and nature
- **A richly illustrated overview of a multidisciplinary practice:** Featuring works across painting, welded iron jewelry, and vibrant textile sculptures, the book showcases the remarkable diversity and originality of Ferdi's artistic practice
- The exhibition opens at Kunsten Museum of Modern Art Aalborg before traveling to Bonnefanten

Published to mark the centenary of Ferdi(na) Tajiri-Jansen (Ferdí) (1927–1969), this volume offers the first comprehensive international introduction to the work of one of the most original yet overlooked figures in postwar art. Across an experimental career spanning the 1950s and 1960s, Ferdi developed a highly distinctive visual language that moved fluidly between welded iron jewelry, painting, and exuberant textile sculptures, challenging conventional boundaries between art, craft, and design.

Working during a period of profound social and cultural transformation, Ferdi explored questions that remain strikingly relevant today: gender roles, sexuality, eroticism, spirituality, and the relationship between human beings and the natural world. Her playful yet uncompromising practice reflects a moment when artistic expression and broader conceptions of identity and society were being fundamentally reimagined.

Despite the originality and ambition of her work, Ferdi has never received the international recognition accorded to many of her male contemporaries. Bringing together key works from across her career, this richly illustrated publication reassesses her artistic legacy and situates her within the wider history of postwar European art. Through new scholarship and fresh perspectives, it reveals an artist whose innovative practice deserves a central place in the story of twentieth-century modernism.

Afra Eisma (b. 1993) creates immersive textile and ceramic installations that transform personal stories into vibrant, tactile worlds, exploring emotion, vulnerability, connection, and healing. **Suzanne van Leeuwen** is Curator and Conservator of Jewellery at the Rijksmuseum, specialising in jewellery history, gemology, fabrication techniques, and metal conservation. **Charlotte Franzen** is an art historian and collections specialist who served as Head of Collections at Bonnefanten (2020–2026), where she championed inclusive, sustainable collection management and conservation. Giotta Tajiri and Ryo Tajiri, daughters of Ferdi Tajiri-Jansen, join Louise Bjeldbak Henriksen, Project Curator at Kunsten Museum of Modern Art Aalborg, for a personal conversation reflecting on Ferdi's life and artistic practice while offering intimate memories and unique insights.

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