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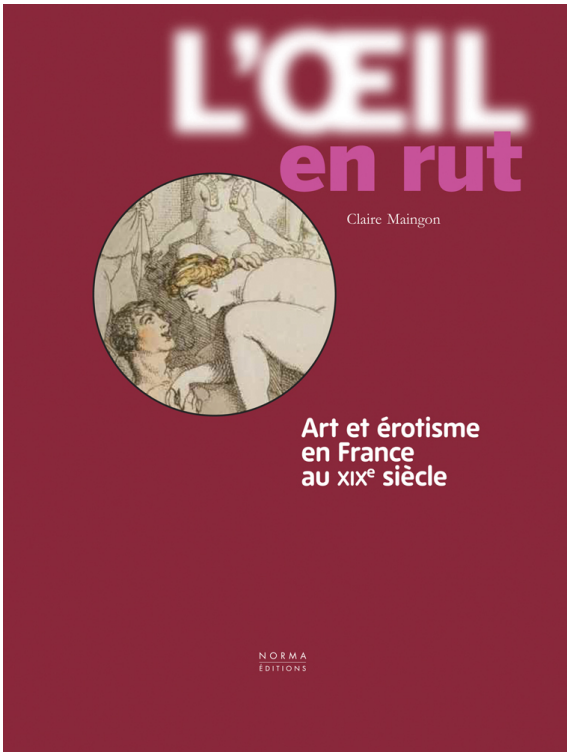

L'Œil en rut

Claire Maingon

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- Nudity or obscenity. During the 19th century, eroticism takes on a new place in Western visual culture
- This book reviews the major reflections on the theme of nudity in the field of art history and the history of sensibilities

Nudity, lasciviousness, sensuality, provocation, shamelessness, or obscenity. During the 19th century, eroticism takes on a new place in Western visual culture, in particular thanks to the development of reproduction such as photography, press or lithography.

Result of long and meticulous research, this book reviews the major reflections carried out on the theme of nudity in the field of art history and the history of sensibilities. It studies the reception of nudity in France, based on documentary and iconographic sources renewed (little-known works, drawings and photographs, newspapers, archives, texts of laws) and allows us to better understand this history of erotic art of the nineteenth century, long perpetuated by the sole taste of description.

By placing the works in their context, by comparing expressions and aesthetics, and studying visual culture of time, Claire Maingon opens up new fields of reflection, while allowing to discover unknown or forgotten artists such as Broc, Gavarni, Dubufe, Galimard, Ranft, Eakins, alongside the big names in the history of 19th century, David, Ingres, Delacroix, Courbet, Manet, Rodin.

Text in French.

Claire Maingon is a lecturer in the history of contemporary art at the University of Rouen. Director of the journal *Sculptures*, she is notably the author of *Les Chefs-d'oeuvre du Patrimoine Erotique*, Beaux-Arts éditions, 2019, and *The Erotic Scandals of Art*, Beaux-Arts éditions, 2016. She is also co-author of *La Colonne Vendôme*, Éditions Norma, 2021.

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