

## M to M of M/M (Paris)

A 528-page monograph presenting for the first time twenty years of works by M/M (Paris), one of the most emblematic and influential design practices and art partnerships of the twenty-first century.



M to M of M/M (Paris) Foreword by Hans Ulrich Obrist Designed by Graphic Thought Facility

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Michaël Amzalag and Mathias Augustyniak originally established M/M (Paris) as a graphic design studio in 1992. Their close associations with the music, fashion and art worlds have led to their becoming one of the most distinctive and acclaimed creative voices of their generation, within graphic design and beyond.

Published to mark their twentieth anniversary, this is the definitive monograph. It records hundreds of their mind-blowing projects, each represented in illustrations and photographs and arranged alphabetically from 'M' to 'M'.

While print, drawing, photography and an unconventional approach to typography lie at the heart of M/M's work, they have also produced films, objects or interiors. 'Our work is about expressing the idea of a dialogue. We transfer elements from fashion to music to art and back again, and keep using different mediums,' they explain.

Each work they produce is unique, but certain elements recur and reverberate—leitmotifs that draw their output, despite its range, into a unified whole.

The monograph features collaborations with the finest from a spectrum of creative worlds, including fashion works with the likes of **Balenciaga**, **Calvin Klein, Stella McCartney, Marc Jacobs** and **Yohji Yamamoto**; music works with **Benjamin Biolay, Björk, Kanye West** and **Madonna**; magazines such as *Vogue Paris, Arena Homme*+ or *Interview*; art projects and exhibitions at the **Centre Pompidou, Tate Modern** and **Guggenheim Museum**.



About the author: Emily King is a graphic design historian and curator who has written widely on design-related subjects. She lives in London.

Interviews with some of their closest collaborators such as **Björk**, **Nicolas Ghesquière**, **Pierre Huyghe**, **Inez van Lamsweerde & Vinoodh Matadin**, **Sarah Morris** or **Glenn O'Brien**, as well as Amzalag and Augustyniak themselves, tell M/M's story. These texts reveal their areas of interest, define their position both within graphic design and beyond and shed new light on the duo's creative process. Internationally renowned art curator **Hans Ulrich Obrist** contributes a preface, while contemporary artist **Philippe Parreno** offers an essay about their joint projects.

These multiple conversations and recollections of shared experiences paint an overview of the evolution of the creative world since the early 90s.

This ambitious monograph is a rare document and unparalleled insight into the work and minds of Europe's most thoughtful and influential image-makers.

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I can't imagine myself with a cover done by an artist other than them. Every time, it's like they give me my finished record. It's like a wonderful gift. Benjamin Biolay, singer



Their world is like a labyrinth, and there's always a new path. You don't know where you're going, but it takes you to another world. **Nicolas Ghesquière**, fashion designer



One of the reasons we work so well together is that we don't sit down with bullet points and put down a master plan. It's like the total opposite. **Björk**, musician



They treat art as another channel, as part of the chain of signs. For me, that is what is most radical about their work. **Nicolas Bourriaud**, curator



M/M are among the most inventive and defining graphic designers of their generation. [...] I am excited to see how they will continue to change the rules of the game in the future, again and again. Hans Ulrich Obrist, curator



There is authorship and a strong political stance behind their work with signs, and that is what I'm interested in. **Pierre Huyghe**, artist



It's an artistic way to work, and I've always felt that there's no reason not to do things to an artist's standard. **Glenn O'Brien**, editor and writer



What I really appreciate about Mathias and Michaël is that they flicker between very mainstream forms and very marginal forms in a way that questions these categories in the first place. Sarah Morris, artist



We begin to play a game where art extends to design, where pictures fade into words, where an object cannot be differentiated from its exhibition. Philippe Parreno, artist



They've completely revolutionized the art of graphics for theatre. Éric Vigner, director



Together with M/M we have four brains. It's much easier than doing something all by yourself. Inez van Lamsweerde & Vinoodh Matadin, photographers



The overarching, most impressive thing with M/M, which became evident quite early on, is that they had a longterm vision in terms of developing a body of work. Paul Neale (Graphic Thought Facility), graphic designer



There is a very special sense of contemporaneity in Mathias and Michaël's work. Irène Silvagni, fashion consultant



The idea of the book was to create a compass to archive our work, not just in the studio, but also in the world. M/M (Paris)