

AS DEEP AS I COULD REMEMBER, AS FAR AS I COULD SEE

Tarik Kiswanson

with an essay of Jesi Khadivi

Jean Boîte Éditions, Paris, 2018

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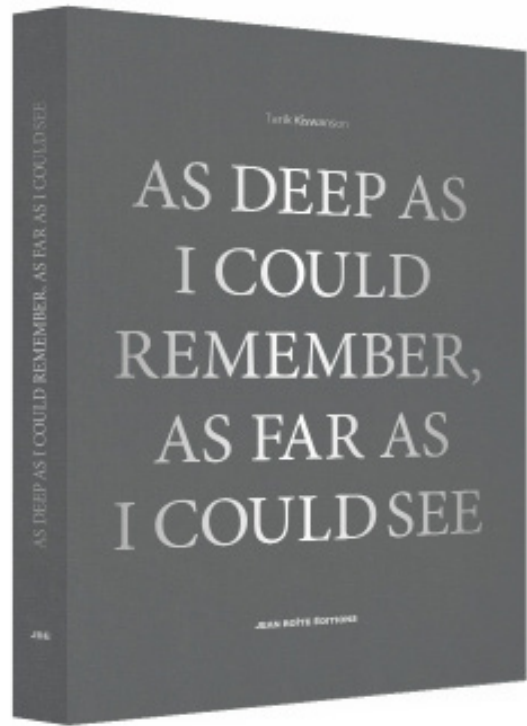
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“The book [...], is read with your eyes, the words were also written to be felt with other senses.” Jesi Khadivi

This first book by Tarik Kiswanson brings together two poems: two polyphonic narratives that explore the notions of desire, plural identities, borders and métissage.

The first one, composed as an interview between the artist and his alter ego, a pre-adolescent boy who gives his name to the poem, *Vadim*. This exchange is then split, multiplied and conceptually hybridized in *As Deep as I Could Remember, As Far as I Could See*. The accumulation of experiences and voices reflects a human condition in perpetual movement, and offers a new weave of universal history and the construction of our individuality.

The poems are followed by an essay written by Jesi Khadivi, curator and writer which highlights the artist's conceptual strategies of textual and sculptural weaving.

Born in 1986 in Sweden, Tarik Kiswanson, whose family comes from Palestine, develops a work that demonstrates a commitment to a “poetic of métissage.”

Tarik Kiswanson

Born in 1986 in Halmstad, Sweden where his family exiled from Palestine in the 1980, Tarik Kiswanson lives and works in Paris, France. His artistic practice – which encompasses sculpture, performance, and poetry – evinces an engagement with the poetics of métissage: a means of writing and surviving between multiple conditions and contexts.

This crossroad, as cultural studies scholar Paul Gilroy writes, “is a special location where unforeseen, magical things can happen.” The reduction, refraction, multiplication and disintegration of form and language in Kiswanson’s work evoke the contingency of memory and polyphonic hybridity.

The artist’s practice examines questions of borders, displacement and interstitiality that specifically relate to the context of what is lost, and what is gained, in the first generation of migration.

Through his work, he conceives conceptual strategies that articulate a fluid “politics of identity” – one that encompasses the various collisions of culture that have shaped both his personal experience and artistic practice.

Édouard Glissant’s notion of the “poetics of relation” has greatly influenced the kinetic and responsive qualities of the artist’s work.

As our contemporary moment is one of accelerating multiplicity, thinking relationally can help to actualize a shared world of “infinite difference.” Kiswanson’s practice translates this idea to the level of perception. In some sculptures, multiple distinct forms fuse into one object, while in others, the layered, reflective surfaces perform the simultaneous proliferation and disintegration of those who encounter them.

Tarik Kiswanson received his MFA from École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux Arts de Paris (2014) and BFA from Central Saint Martins in London (2010). He has recently presented his work at Lafayette Anticipations (2018), Fondation d’entreprise Ricard à Paris (2018), Mudam au Luxembourg (2017), and MRAC à Sérignan (2016).



Tarik Kiswanson Photo © Margot Videcoq

Jesi Khadivi

Independent curator, writer and editor based in Berlin. In 2013, she received her MA in Curatorial Practice from California College of the Arts, San Francisco. Khadivi is the editor of *Sur* (Guayaba Press, Mexico City) and the director of *Porcino* (Berlin). She has curated exhibitions at Fondation Ricard, Paris; carlier | gebauer, Berlin, and the Wattis Institute for Contemporary Art, San Francisco and her writing has appeared in publications such as *Frieze*, *Fillip*, *Flash Art*, *Kaleidoscope*, *Ibraaz*, and *The Brooklyn Rail*.



Jesi Khadivi Photo © Petrov Arne

This collection of poems by Tarik Kiswanson is published by Jean Boîte Éditions in conjunction with the exhibitions :

Tarik Kiswanson,
Come, come as of age.
Curated by Jesi Khadivi
at the Fondation d'entreprise Ricard
from March 13 to April 2, 2018

and

Tarik Kiswanson,
AS DEEP AS I COULD REMEMBER,
AS FAR AS I COULD SEE
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Lafayette Anticipations -
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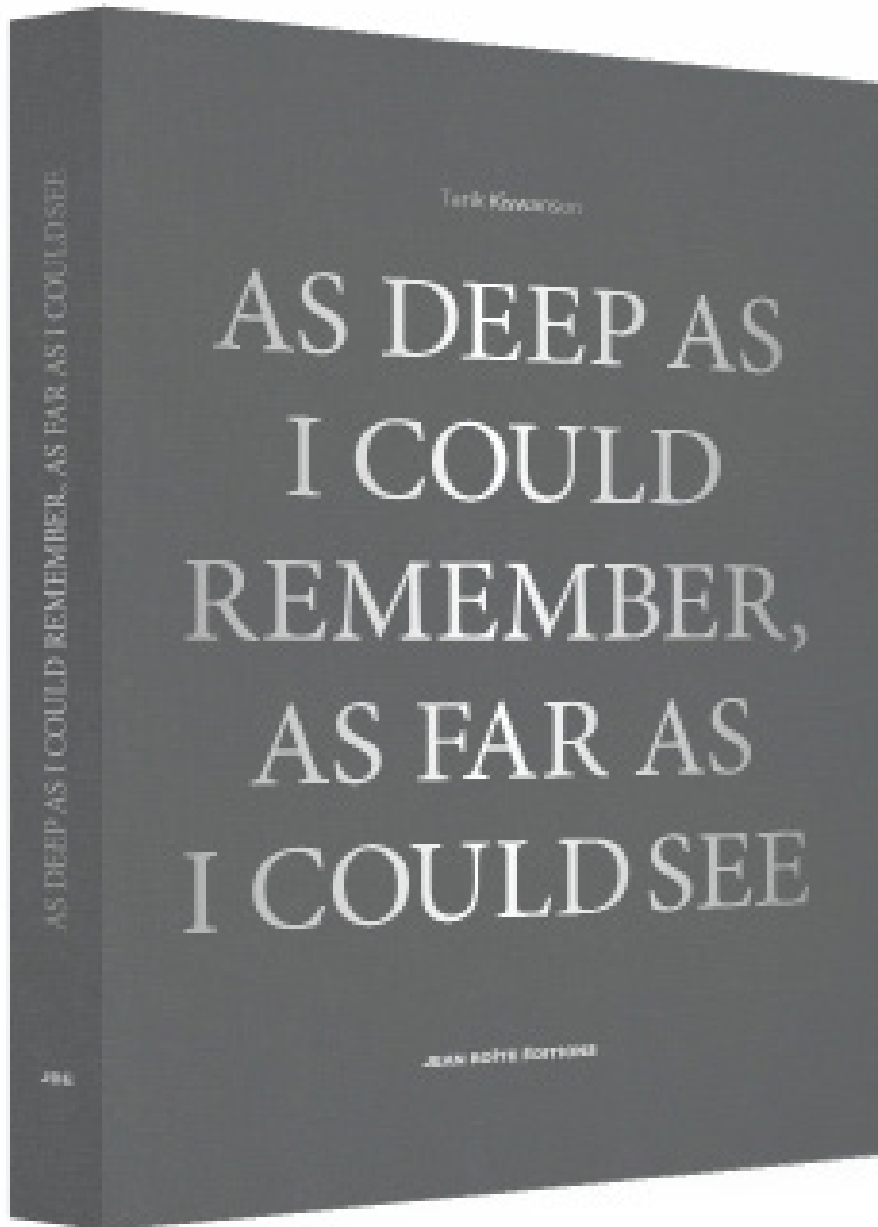
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Birth, 2018, Tarik Kiswanson, détail,
Photo © Aurélien Mole



Photo © Martin Argyroglo



IX

He left filthy mud traces behind him. Dirty it gets as he enters your consciousness, unfolding herself, himself, itself in something you will never forget. Silently spoken, speaking about things, the things that really matter the most. Come loudly and softly now, come,
come,
come of age.

X

Not the son you wished for.

XI

You have been holding back for too long. You have been denying yourself the best thing. Lay down, spread yourself out, have a rest, enjoy the view. In a hundred years from now, no one, nobody will have remembered this.

84

As Deep As I Could Remember, As Far As I Could See

The Welder

Tarik Kiswanson

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