



My Heart Laid Bare: Other Texts (Paperback)

By Charles Baudelaire

Contra Mundum Press, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. In My Heart Laid Bare, an apodictic work of aphorism, maxim, note, and extended reflection, we encounter a fierce dandy who revolts against utilitarianism: to be useful, Baudelaire gibes, is to be hideous. Yet, contrarily, it is not dissolution that this poEte maudit praises or celebrates. Although he rejects Progress, he prizes what he calls true progress, for him moral, the work of the individual alone. The dandy is not disaffected, but a rigorous spectator that burrows into the heart of reality itself; situated at the center of the world, yet hidden from it, this incognito figure tears back the flesh of humanity like a devilish surgeon. Through this act of absorption, observation, and analysis, like Rimbaud s Supreme Scientist, Baudelaire s dandy acquires a subtle understanding of the entire moral mechanism of this world. Here we have the poet as philosopher king and transvaluator of values; here we have the disciplined flAneur. Baudelaire the keen symptomatologist who escapes the nightmare of Time via Pleasure or Work. If Pleasure is consumptive for him, Work is fortifying, that is, not the work of...

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