



## Jim Shaw Paperback Covers

£26.00

Jim Shaw is known for his desire to produce an immersive visual oeuvre aimed at exploring the dark side of the American psyche.

Since the end of the 1970s, his manifold practice has offered a reflexive mirror to our contemporary societies through extensive series, the mise-en-scene of alter egos, and a passionate interest in the stakes and iconography of popular culture.

'Paperback Covers' derives from the comprehensive corpus of the 'Dream Drawings' which ape the appearance of book covers, both in terms of dimensions and volume.

The reference to the physicality of cheap paperbacks is combined with a nod to the Anglo-American graphic design tradition, with its full-page images and publisher or collection logos. All that is missing is the text.

Titleless, authorless, but not fiction-less, the paintings depict dream scenes whose titles shed light on narrative elements, condensing the narrative into a single image, in which the first-person narrator identifies himself as Jim Shaw.

They become possible snapshots from Shaw's autobiography, but they also form a pool of cultural forms and references of which the paperback is just one aspect. Comic strips, illustrations, naive and scholarly painting, and fantastical and popular narratives are all conjured up by the corpus.

'Paperback Covers' constitutes a counter-encyclopedia of the cultural, scientific, and societal desires and neurosis of the 20th century.

Edited by Marc Jancou, and introduced by Lionel Bovier and Samuel Gross. Featuring a creative writing piece by the London-based writer and art critic Charlie Fox.

### Product Details

Artist(s)	Jim Shaw
Author(s)	Lionel Bovier, Charlie Fox, Samuel Gross
Editor(s)	Clément Dirié, Marc Jancou
Publisher	JRP   Editions
ISBN	9783037645659
Format	softback
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Weight	373

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