



Written by Isabelle Brocard & Yves Thomas

Directed by Isabelle Brocard

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Pictanovo & CNC

Intention & concept

the image of this perfect mother, of this desexualised woman, frozen in eternal youth. reflection of its era, of one society. So, I ended up saying to myself that it wasn't Mary's fault, and that I wanted to know more about the development of this influential icon. So I've decided to tell the story of how Mary has been portrayed, rather like a portrait of a star with an exceptional destiny. By observing all the faces that artists and anonymous people have given her, and by putting her iconography into perspective with the help of specialists in history, ethnology and theology, I propose a retrospective of the roles played by this young Jewish girl who, in spite of herself, became the most famous woman in the world.

For 2,000 years, Mary, the mother of Jesus, has By observing all the faces that artists and been the most illustrated woman in the world. anonymous people have given her, and by putting What can we learn about our societies by her iconography into perspective with the help of exploring the representations of a young Jewish specialists in history, ethnology and theology, I girl who became the most famous woman in propose a retrospective of the roles played by this the world? What was she meant to say? By young Jewish girl who, in spite of herself, became the taking a closer look at the thousand faces she most famous woman in the world. Mary is at once an has been given by painters and sculptors over icon of service and an uncontrollable icon: at the the centuries, the story of the place of women is service of a God who needs a womb, at the service of told. And today, at a time when the patriarchal her son, at the service of the first Christians who have model is being deconstructed, Mary could have to establish their religion in the Roman world, at the a lot to tell us... I've always been intrigued by service of the Church, the nation and artists. She has always embodied the image of feminine perfection and a model of the believer's commitment. However, But at the same time, an image is only the like all myths, she evolves, adapts and transforms, becoming a mirror of the people who venerate her, and thus escaping the official model. She is a fickle figure, with such plasticity that her cult has to be constantly revisited by the Church, which nonetheless claims exclusivity. Mary, chosen by God from among all women, is at once omnipresent and elusive... This two-part documentary looks at the history of representations of Mary and attempts to understand, century after century, what the use of myth and the cult of Mary tell us about our societies and their relationship with religion, the feminine, the sacred, morality and art. This two-part documentary looks at the history of representations of Mary and attempts to understand, century after century, what the use of

myth and the cult of Mary tell us about our societies and their relationship with religion, the feminine, the sacred, morality and art. Based on an analysis of iconography and sometimes texts, the survey follows the birth of the myth and its development like a soap opera, mainly chronologically and geographically. The multidisciplinary insights provided by the speakers not only place the works in the context in which they were produced, but also examine today's world through the prism of this timeless icon. Indeed, Mary and her avatars have never left the collective imagination and therefore the field of our representations. With each face of Mary, we need to look at the purpose for which this figure has emerged and the effects it has had on society, art, religion, history, etc. However, a closer look at these images reveals that for a long time now the figure of Mary has, in her own way, transcended and shaken up the religious and patriarchal ideologies she is supposed to serve.









Speakers contacted and in attendance



DELPHINE HORVILLEUR

Rabbi and philosopher, author of En tenue d'Eve Féminin, pudeur et judaïsme, among other books.

ANNE SOUPA

Theologian and author of Dieu aime-t-il les femmes? Anne Soupa has applied to become Archbishop of Lyon

HOURIA ABDELHAHOUED

Psychoanalyst - Author of Figures du féminin en Islam

SHERIN KANKAHN

Lady of the Mariam Mosque

MARION MÜLLER-COLLARD

Pastor, Protestant theologian, writer

ELISABETH CLAVERIE

Anthropologist, CNRS research director

Specialist in Marian apparitions and their role in conflicts, author of Les guerres de la Vierge (The Virgin's Wars).

NATHALIE DIETSCHY

Art historian, University of Lausanne

Specialist in the relationship between sacred and secular art in the 20th and 21st centuries

PHILIPPE DESCOLA

Ethnologist, author of Les formes du visible

DOMINIQUE DESJEUX

Anthropologist, Le marché des dieux:

How religious innovations are born

From Judaism to Christianity

FABIENNE HENRYOT

Curator, National Library of Lausanne, co-author of Dictionnaire historique de la Vierge Marie

MICHEL PASTOUREAU

Medieval historian, anthropologist

Author of Bleu and Le petit livre des couleurs

PATRICK BOUCHERON

Historian of the Middle Ages and Renaissance.

Author of Conjurer la peur, essai sur la force politique des images.

MICHAEL PEPPARD

Professor of Theology, Yale University

NEVILLE ROWLEY

Art historian, curator at Berlin's Bode Museum

MARINA WARNER

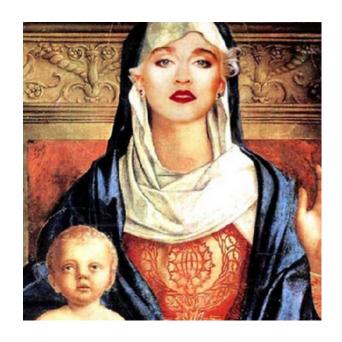
Mythographer, author of Seule entre toutes les femmes, mythe et culte de la Vierge Marie

And the artists in their studios: KIKI SMITH, SOASIG CHAMAILLARD, etc...

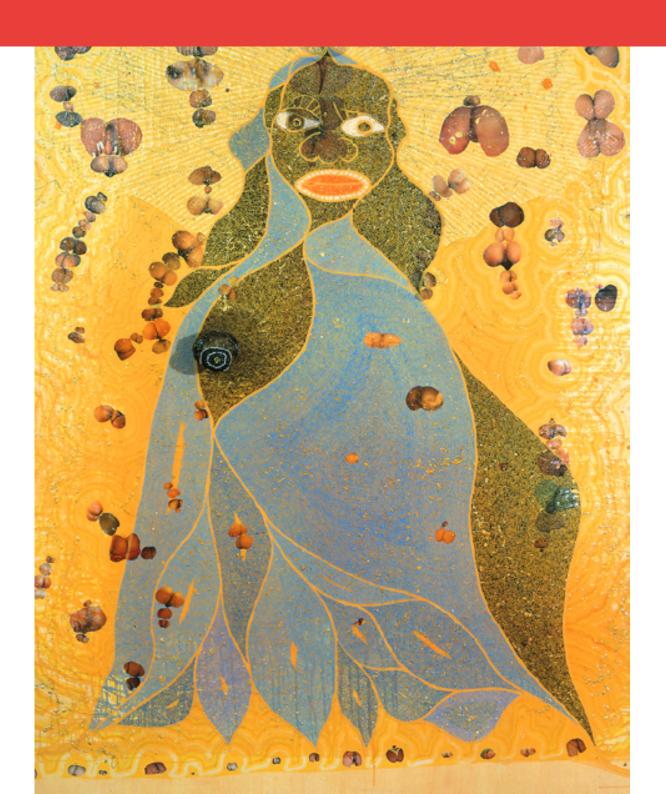












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