



Power Mask
The Power of Masks
Walter van Beirendonck
Text by Valeries Steele
Text by Kaat Debo

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- Walter Van Beirendonck's book on all the different aspects of 'masks' includes work by James Ensor, Paul McCarthy, Keith Haring, Louise Bourgeois, Emil Nolde, Axel Hoedt, Leigh Bower, Man Ray, Pablo Picasso, André Breton...
- With texts by Valerie Steele, Kaat Debo, and Chris Dercon
- Elaborates on the many different aspects of masks: from the link between Western art and African masks, to their supernatural aspect, rituals about masks, masks in fashion, and even masks as a fetish

Since the nineties, Walter Van Beirendonck has been fascinated with masks. They change your identity, invoke a certain atmosphere and have an instant impact. Many artists, among whom are André Breton, Pablo Picasso and even Brueghel, have been influenced by them. *Power Mask – The Power of Masks* elaborates on the many different aspects of masks: the link between Western art and African masks, the supernatural aspect, rituals about masks, masks in fashion or as a fetish... Walter Van Beirendonck is “*a truly engaged visionary and a passionate designer, artist and teacher.*” – Jurgi Persoons, fashion designer. “*Walter Van Beirendonck succeeded where I have failed; he turned me into a muscle-man instantly. He is a true artist and there’s not many of them around.*” – Bono, lead singer of U2 “*Come along and take a ride into the crazy helter-skelter, inside-out, upside-down world of Walter Van Beirendonck. Colours and shapes reach psychedelic dimensions to charm and astound you.*” – Stephen Jones, milliner. This book accompanies an expo in the Wereldmuseum (World Museum) Rotterdam, from 1 September 2017 until 7 January 2018. Facebook [@waltervanbeirendonckfanpage](#), [@wereldmuseum](#) Twitter [@wereldmuseum](#) Instagram [@waltervanbeirendonck](#), [@wereldmuseum](#) www.waltervanbeirendonck.com, www.wereldmuseum.nl

Walter Van Beirendonck has launched clothing lines of his own making since 1983. His creations are characterised by bright, exceptional colour combinations and a strong graphical influence. He supervises and teaches at the Antwerp Fashion Academy.