



Silvie Defraoui
Often, It Is a Painting on a Wall in a Building within a Landscape and so on

Edited by Julie Enckell Julliard

Edited by Federica Martini

Edited by Sarah Burkhalter

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- In the interview, Silvie Defraoui talks about her experiences with the national and international art scene, as well as about her projects and practice
- Complements the book *Silvie & Chérif Defraoui – Archives du Futur* (Scheidegger & Spiess, 2021)
- By women artists for art students: Female artists give personal insight into their work, their experiences, and the meaning behind their art
- Each volume in the *On Words* series offers an interview in the artist's native language along with a full English translation

Swiss artist Silvie Defraoui, born in 1935, is a pioneer of video art and art education in Switzerland. Beginning in 1975, she worked in collaboration with her husband Chérif Defraoui (1932–1994). Together they developed the *Archives du Futur*, a reflection on images, their status, and potential for memory and the future. The two artists also founded the legendary *Atelier Médias Mixtes* at Geneva's *École supérieure des Beaux-Arts* (now *HEAD—Genève*). Since 1995, Defraoui has pursued a practice using various forms of expression, including projection, installation, ceramics, and serigraphy.

This book is part of the new *On Words* series that presents conversations with contemporary women artists. Through them, readers come to understand the sources from which they draw inspiration, the themes in their work, and their view of the world. Edited by Julie Enckell, Federica Martini, and Sarah Burkhalter and bringing together a wide range of viewpoints, the *On Words* series adds a new narrative to polyphonic art history as told by those who actively shape it.

Text in English and French.

Julie Enckell is an art historian and a director at *HEAD—Genève*, where she heads the Cultural Development Department.

Federica Martini is an art historian and curator and heads the Visual Arts department at *EDHEA* in Sierre, Switzerland. She is also a visiting scholar at London's University of the Arts.

Sarah Burkhalter is an art historian and head of the *Antenne romande* of the Swiss Institute for Art Research (*SIK-ISEA*) in Lausanne and a member of *SIK-ISEA's* board.