



A DESERT IN THE HEART OF THE WORLD

Showcasing over 120 photographs taken over the course of the four seasons, both in colour and black-and-white, *A Desert in the Heart of the World* traces the footprints of the Carthusian monks throughout the region surrounding the Grande Chartreuse. Crosses, chapels and clearings, iron mines, tilt hammers and forges – these are the visible relics from the many centuries of the monks' presence. From the ancient distillery to the ruined bridges, old paths and new roads... all bear witness to the close relationship between man and nature, the secular and the spiritual, the everyday and the sacred.

These photographs of fragments scattered across the landscape provide intriguing clues to the sweeping legacy of this religious order. Several of the images focus on both the abundant water and the verdant forest, two key resources of the community that have, over the centuries, played a central role in the reputation and development of the monastery. Other photographs, more abstract, taken in close-up or bathed in a hazy darkness, reveal a hidden and secret world, reminiscent of the order itself, which every year continues to captivate and fascinate visitors to the Chartreuse mountains.

This book is available with French and English translations. It is published by l'Atelier K with the support of the DREAL Rhône-Alpes, the Office National des Forêts and the Parc de Chartreuse.

It is the second part of a collaboration between Nadège Druzkowsky and Carlo D'Alessandro, which gave birth to the film *A Desert in the Heart of the World* in the spring of 2015. The film, commissioned by L'Atelier K, is available on DVD.

You can watch the trailer here : <https://vimeo.com/96135943>

Carlo D'Alessandro is a Scottish Cinematographer and Photographer, winner of the Royal Television Scotland awards in 2014 and 2011. Nadège Druzkowsky currently works as a journalist and visual artist. She holds a Masters degree from the Glasgow School of Art.

CONTACT & ORDER :

The book is available in book shops and on the website of l'Atelier K:

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