

DESCRIPTION OF THE BOOK

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Nudos Salvajes

Aubin Arroyo, Jean-Michel Othoniel, Juan Manuel Ruisánchez Serra, Fabiola Manjarrez

This book tells the story of an encounter.

In April 2015, the young and talented Mexican mathematician Aubin Arroyo shared with me his researches on wild knots and reflections theory, which he had been calculating and analyzing for more than fifteen years. The virtual images born of these mathematical formulae bore an uncanny resemblance to the images of my sculptures. Arroyo first discovered my work thanks to the internet. Following this virtual encounter, he came to Paris in November of 2015 to visit my studio, and we spent a great deal discussing this surprising coincidence. What were the probabilities that our seemingly distinct worlds would come together? That a connection would be made between mathematics and contemporary art, between two countries so far apart, Mexico and France, between the rational and the intuitive?

In 2017, the Mathematics Institute at the National Autonomous University of Mexico asked Aubin Arroyo to be in charge of designing the mathematical content and selecting the objects for the permanent exhibition of « La sala de Matemáticas » in the Science Museum of the University. In this hall to be inaugurated in December 2017, some of his researches will be shown for the first time to the public. To accompany Arroyo's mathematical theories in the Museum, the University acquired one of my sculptures in mirrored glass, *The Infinite Knot*, for its collections. On this occasion, we published this book with a text by Aubin Arroyo and Juan Manuel Ruisánchez Serra offering an insight into the «Nudos Salvajes» (wild knots). In so doing, we also discovered the astonishing parallels between the mathematician's images and my own. Completing our exchange and reinforcing the connections between Mathematics and Art, Aubin Arroyo and Fabiola Manjarrez also developed a mathematical interpretation of my sculptures shaped like Borromean rings.

Jean-Michel Othoniel

Aubin Arroyo is a Mexican researcher and mathematician born on August 5, 1974 in Mexico City. He lives and works in Cuernavaca and with the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM). Jean-Michel Othoniel is a contemporary French sculptor born on January 27, 1964 in Saint-Étienne, France. Since the end of the 90s, Othoniel has been working on glass.









Pages from the book, Aubin Arroyo's *Nudos Salvajes* theory, virtual images & mathematical classification of Jean-Michel Othoniel's knots.