

New release by Lebled Soloviev Editions: *The Museum of the Past That Could Have Been*

Lebled Soloviev Editions presents *The Museum of the Past That Could Have Been* by narrative artist Guillaume Sardin. A curated archive of speculative relics and architectural drawings, Sardin offers us a journey through alternate historical trajectories that could have unfolded.

Documented history is shaped by dominant narratives, but Sardin argues that we are equally shaped by the road not taken. "I've drafted a time map of tipping points that could have changed our material culture and use of symbols," he says. His work for the book encompasses "a lot of sketches, piles of papers on the desks, drawing to create a world out of those statues, vases, amulets and landmarks that could have existed."

It's a fascinating exploration through alternate mythologies and architectural ghosts. Within the pieces, we find a challenge to the constraints of a single, definitive historical canon shaped by the victors, in an imaginary collection of counterfactual archaeological finds.

What if Mithraism had superseded Christianity, or Cleopatra had won at Actium? *The Museum of the Past That Could Have Been* invites readers to reconsider the tangible artifacts left behind in an adventurous Borgesian exploration of forgotten paths and human potential.

Pieces include sketches of the St Peter's Basilica Baldachin, designed by artisans from the Kingdom of Kongo, and a forgotten deity from the source of the Nile, unexpectedly unearthed in Philae.

"We are not telling all the stories we should be telling," says Sardin, reflecting on the missed potential of the past. With this book, he opens up a wider view of history, challenging hegemonies and inviting a deeper look at how cultural interchanges have shaped our world.

"Guillaume's work challenges how we understand the past itself," explains Francois Lebled, publishing founder. "*The Museum of the Past That Could Have Been* expands our relationship with time, space, and memory. It's only right that it has a permanent, printed home."

Sardin's practice is grounded in an architectural background and an anthropological perspective shaped by his tenure as a lecturer at the University of Rwanda. Each artifact stands as an ideological witness to how human societies manifest order and meaning in stone, ornament, and signage, reminding us that our present reality is only one of many possible outcomes within a vast, unmapped landscape of possibility.

Read the full interview with Guillaume Sardin:

www.lebledsoloviev.com/editorial/artist-review-guillaume-sardin

About Guillaume Sardin

Trained as an architect, Guillaume Sardin is a narrative artist whose practice oscillates between France and Rwanda. His anthropological approach, refined during his tenure as a lecturer at the University of Rwanda, allows him to shift perspectives and move beyond Western-centered narrations. Using a signature clear line style, Sardin's drawings unearth forgotten mythologies and recompose the world by playfully intertwining past and present influences. His work serves as a tribute to global tales and diverse cultures, constantly questioning our relationship with the past through a curious and passionate approach to design and storytelling.

About Lebled Soloviev Editions

Lebled Soloviev Editions is an art publishing house dedicated to artistic excellence. Built on a twelve-year heritage of independent visual storytelling, the house bucks the trend for digital with a belief in the enduring power of the printed page.

"We believe that great work deserves a tactile home," Lebled explains. By blending craftsmanship with clarity and visual narrative, Lebled Soloviev frames and curates creative visions into permanent objects of beauty and lasting cultural significance. Previous collaborators include Mária Švarbová, Laurent Castellani, and Chiara Zonca, with work by Claire Luxton and Stefen de Jong slated for 2026 and 2027. Zannier Hotels, Rosa et Al, and Söderberg Scandinavian Bakery are among the commissioning companies who have seen their visions realized in premium print.

By treating every book as a disciplined craft, they ensure that the highest standards of design and production meet the visual integrity of the artistic contributors.

"In an increasingly ephemeral digital world, the art book serves as a vital anchor," says Lebled. "Our mission is to celebrate the enduring character of print. We aren't just publishing books; we are crafting landmarks of cultural heritage that will remain relevant for decades."

Read the full interview with Francois Lebled:

www.lebledsoloviev.com/editorial/interview-with-the-founder-francois-lebled

BOOK(S) INFORMATION

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Artist: Guillaume Sardin

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PRESS INFORMATION

Book Page:

<https://www.lebledsoloviev.com/product/the-museum-of-the-past-that-could-have-been>

Press Page:

www.lebledsoloviev.com/press/press-sardin

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Embargo: None. Available for immediate release

IMAGE CREDITS INFORMATION

All illustrations: Guillaume Sardin - [@agsardin](https://www.instagram.com/agsardin)

All book pages and Illustrations in the book context: Lebled Soloviev Editions - [@lebledsoloviev](https://www.instagram.com/lebledsoloviev)

Mr Sardin's portrait: Baptiste Estebanez - [@loindesfleurs/](https://www.instagram.com/loindesfleurs/)