



# DESERT DESIGN

CONTEMPORARY RUGS OF THE ORIENTAL REGION OF MOROCCO

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**DESERT DESIGN** was a collaborative book project.

This edition was published to coincide with the exhibition, also titled *Desert Design*, at the **musée YVES SAINT LAURENT marrakech** from June 16 to October 8, 2019, and at the **musée Bargoin / Clermont Auvergne Métropole**, Clermont-Ferrand from November 22, 2019 to April 5, 2020.

The rug collection was built between February 2011 and February 2018 by **Lahcen Aït Khouya, Arnaud Maurières, and Eric Ossart**

Restoration of the rugs: **M'bark Aït Laouad**

The following people worked together on this publication:

**Simon Njami:** foreword

**Arnaud Maurières:** text

**Christine Bouilloc:** afterword and textile analysis

**Charlotte Croissant:** textile analysis

**Nicolas Schimp:** location photography

**Rachid Bouzidi:** photographs of the rugs

**Chérie Tomate:** graphic design and production

**José Abete:** translation from French

plume  
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+ musée bargoin

**Contrast:** The first word that comes to mind when one stumbles upon these multicolored rugs in the desert region where they were woven, a landscape where the color palette is dominated by sky and earth tones. **Contemporary:** An immediate appreciation for the incredible talent of the women who, without any reference to "Western" culture, created these textiles. **Sharing:** The desire to communicate with these weavers and to know them better provided the impetus behind our journeys, along with our desire to share our discoveries with you. This is why this book exists.



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ISBN : 978-2-36672-183-6  
28,00 € prix TTC France



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