



drop dead gorgeous

chantal zakari

Drop Dead Gorgeous is a visual book comprised of scientific and editorial illustrations of the Covid-19 virus sourced online during April, May and June, 2020.

The book is designed in the style of a colorist painting, in a sequence where images are positioned opposite a purposefully chosen companion illustrations. Each page reveals the tension between the seductive aesthetics of the image and its deadly pandemic effect. While scientific images transform into editorial illustrations, the book gains momentum building a loose narrative towards a sci-fi ending.

As Covid-19 affects every nation, some images in the book are paired with the headline from its online source published in its original language. Like photographs made of the Kennedy assassination, the Challenger disaster, and the terror of 9/11, the iconic imagery of Covid-19 collected in *Drop Dead Gorgeous* is shaped by the visual lexicon of a generation on an international scale.

hardcover linen
7x7"
100 pages
indigo press
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\$35



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and pictures:
<http://thecorner.net/dropdeadgorgeous>

Chantal Zakari is an interdisciplinary artist, designer and art educator. In her work, she draws upon contemporary social issues by making connections through personal narratives, history and popular culture. Inspired by social phenomena she positions herself in relationship to a public or a sub-culture. Her studio practice freely combines research methodologies and artistic strategies borrowed from various disciplines such as photography, documentary, performance, storytelling, installation, graphic design and social interventions.

*Zakari has published solo and collaboratively with her husband Mike Mandel since the 90s. Her past books *webAffairs* (2005), *The State of Ata* (2010), *They Came To Baghdad* (2012), *Lockdown Archive* (2015), *Campaign* (2018), *A Catalog of Flags* (2018), and *Defunct Colleges* (2019) have been self-published under the imprint of 18Publications. Zakari is a Professor at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University. She is also a member of Kingston Gallery, Boston.*