

This book traces the work and research of filmmakers and visual artists Joana Hadjithomas and Khalil Joreige into junk and spam e-mails, specifically, advance-fee frauds and scam messages. Here, the artists unfold material that they have collected since 1999, focusing on the way that personal narratives are formed and articulated in a post-digital age. This work functions as a jumping-off point for a broader discussion by leading scholars and thinkers on the nature of power and trust in the age of the Internet. Underlying this is an interrogation of faith: How has trust been recomposed by the Internet, and equally, how does the traditional practice of faith question the way that individuals relate to each other online?



...supper, we enquired about a trustworthy person to whom I eventually be entrusted; we considered requesting that you send me money and to send it to us in small amounts according to our needs as against us. You are probably aware of the circumstances of my unfortunate master, and of his tragic end. Fate was kinder to me when I reached Germany, but was soon reduced to a state of dire poverty which led me to return to France. There I was arrested and taken to prison for possessing a forged passport, I was clapped in irons and for a long and cruel sickness, I find myself in the Bicêtre infirmary. Before returning to France, I had taken the precaution of hiding the location of a trunk which, fortunately, is still in my possession. Consider which I have fallen, I believe that no blame could fall on me as I am buried close to your town. Among the various names I had collected, while at the hotel, I chose yours. I do not know you personally, but the reputation of honesty and trust in the town where you live vouches for the fact that you

...enraged enemies, we fled, but they followed our trail, and we were closed to being arrested when we arrived a short distance from your town; we were forced to abandon our coach, our trunks, in short all our luggage; all we could salvage was a small case containing Madam's jewellery and 30 000 gold francs. However, fearing to be arrested with these belongings, we searched for an isolated place, not far from where we had been forced to stop. Once there, we drew a map of the lo-

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...Kindly let me know, Sir, if you are willing to carry out the mission I wish to entrust you with. I will be willing to carry out the mission I wish to entrust you with. I will be worthy of the trust placed in you by God and yourself.

Joana Hadjithomas & Khalil Joreige

THE RUMORS OF THE WORLD

Rethinking Trust in the Age of the Internet

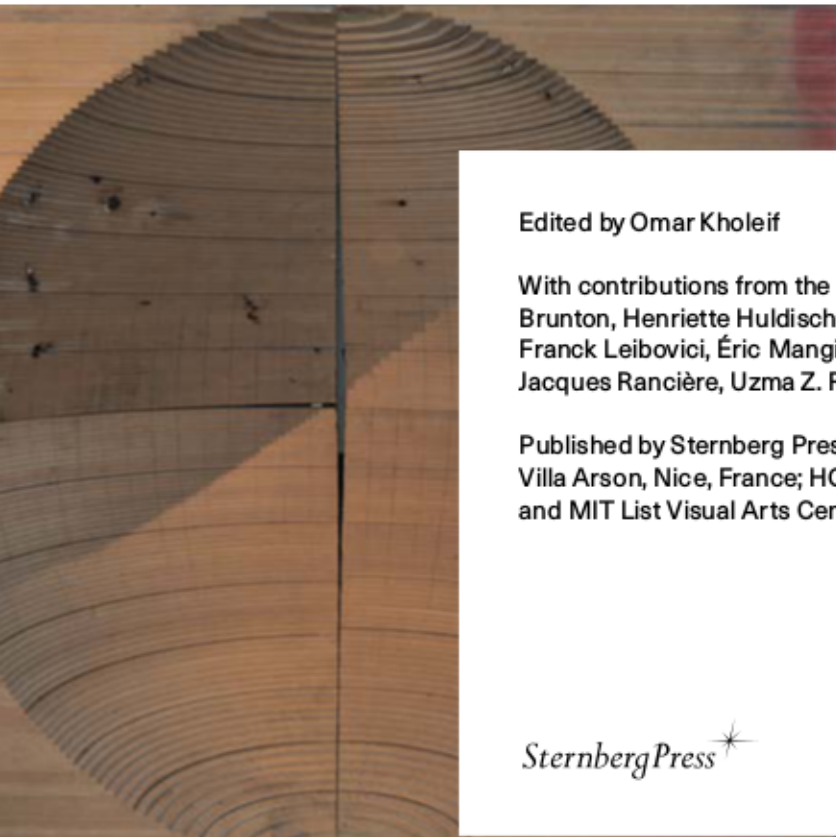
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...sure then, wearing a disguise, I hid myself in the *** hotel.

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...osal. Should I tell you the mission I wish to entrust you with. I will be worthy of the trust placed in you by God and yourself.



Edited by Omar Kholeif

With contributions from the artists and Nicolas Auray, Finn Brunton, Henriette Huldish, Omar Kholeif, Norman M. Klein, Franck Leibovici, Éric Mangion, Laura U. Marks, Sarah Perks, Jacques Rancière, Uzma Z. Rizvi, Rasha Salti

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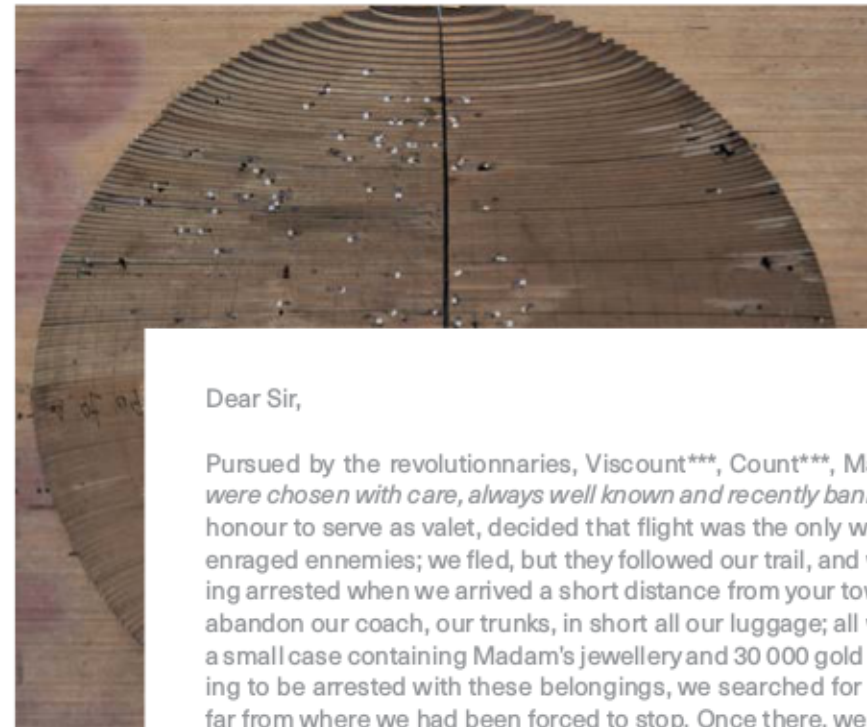
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Joana Hadjithomas & Khalil Joreige

THE RUMORS OF THE WORLD
Rethinking Trust in the Age of the Internet



Dear Sir,

Pursued by the revolutionaries, Viscount***, Count***, Marquis***, (*the people were chosen with care, always well known and recently banished*) whom I had the honour to serve as valet, decided that flight was the only way he could evade his enraged enemies; we fled, but they followed our trail, and we were closed to being arrested when we arrived a short distance from your town; we were forced to abandon our coach, our trunks, in short all our luggage; all we could salvage was a small case containing Madam's jewellery and 30 000 gold francs. However, fearing to be arrested with these belongings, we searched for an isolated place, not far from where we had been forced to stop. Once there, we drew a map of the lo-

