



*Peer E. Sørensen*  
*Modernismens ansigter*  
*420 sider*  
*Aarhus Universitetsforlag*

Oftentimes we need an overview, why things have become what they are, how they look forward, how the world has been affected by wars, repression, energy, poetry and art.

This book is a very well-documented and nuanced introduction to analyses of how the value system has created a radical break with the past. We are told how revolutions, fascism and violence permeate modernism, and what its currents have set in motion.

With some unique illustrations accompanied by an at times almost musical text we go around an incredible number of subjects - from Salvador Dalí, Freud, Hans Arp, Picasso, Olivier Messiaen, Arnold Schönberg, Arthur Rimbaud, the universe around Virginia Woolf, Claude Cahun and an incredible amount more.

Peer Sørensen has both depth and breadth. It is essential for an edition like this, that one goes down into the material in the individual eras and among the individual names. One can do this with this edition.

The book's many illustrations are often works of art in themselves, which one can immerse oneself in and recognize, e.g. the sexual and also the repressing time and the self. Read, for example, a beautiful illustrated text, which follows Hans Bellmer's doll figure, which tells so much about his art with decompensated, female bodies and parts.

One notices on one's own body the time's surface in the European culture and pulls at the same time the threads up for surrealism, which actually pulls the threads further back in time, than one actually goes and thinks.

Read the book and enjoy it and become wiser about the world.