



# The History & Arts of the Dominatrix, Collector's Edition

*Anne O. Nomis*

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THE HISTORY & ARTS OF THE DOMINATRIX by Anne O Nomis

The History & Arts of the Dominatrix is the first book of its kind, documenting the Dominatrix's history and practices as 'arts'. Positively reviewed by industry magazines, Dominatrices themselves, and library review journals, the book has been referred to as the 'Dominatrix's bible'.

Its elusive author Anne O Nomis (a word-play on anonymous) has a Masters degree in Comparative Art and Archaeology from UCL (University College London). She spent four years researching the underground history of the Dominatrix, drawing from sources in the British Library's Rare Books collection of 18th and 19th Century 'forbidden books', museum artwork, newspapers, vintage sources and prints, which are illustrated in full-colour within this historic volume.

Nomis traces the ancient roots of the Dominatrix to sacred rituals to Goddesses of sexuality. A hymn to the Goddess Inanna of Mesopotamia features rituals of gender transformation, punishment, pain and ecstasy, recorded in clay cunneiform tablets. The authorship of the hymns is linked to the high en-priestess Enheduanna, regarded by many as the first recorded author in history. The hymns are seen in context against artworks of the Goddess in power poses, her body language akin to those which modern-day Dominatrices adopt.

Into the English history record, the secular profession appears in books from the 17th Century, with flagellation prints of the Dominatrix in role of 'Whipstress' and 'School-Mistress'. The ladies providing birch discipline were interlinked with royalty, nobility, parliamentarians and secret societies. By the 19th Century, London held 20 sumptuously appointed discipline houses, run by 'Governess' Dominatrices, one of whom invented a special machine for whipping, known as the Berkley Horse.

In the 20th Century, the book presents rare vintage snapshots of mid-20th Century ladies of the 'bizarre underground' in time, space and place, from London, New York, The Hague and The Herbertstrasse.

Lastly, Nomis examines the contemporary occupation of the modern-day Dominatrix, and contributes a theory of their 'Seven Realm Arts' characterizing their practices in a framework beyond the catch-all term of BDSM.

Since being published, 'The History & Arts of the Dominatrix' has become the 'curriculum book' for Mistress training around the world, including the world's oldest BDSM training chateau, La Domaine Esemar, near New York.

Illustrated with artwork and 86+ images from the British Museum, Iraq Museum, Penn Museum, Oriental Institute of Chicago, Fitzwilliam Museum of Cambridge University, Villa of Mysteries Pompeii, British Library Rare Books, Library of Congress Washington DC, National Portrait Gallery, Yale Center for British Art, Kinsey Institute, with vintage images by artist John Willie from Béliér Press, vintage Dominatrices from DDI Magazine, Atom Age and private collection, contemporary artwork by Natasha Gornik, Kate Peters, Phil Miller, Nuit' d'Or and Lucina Nathanael.

SPECIAL LIMITED EDITION HARDCOVER: Design inspired by the Victorian 'forbidden book', with gold foil and quarter-bound, accentuating the art of book fetish. Limited edition of 2,000 copies only, each individually numbered.

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5 star reviews, and editorial reviews by DDI Magazine, Massad Magazine, Leatherati, Library Journal and more.

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