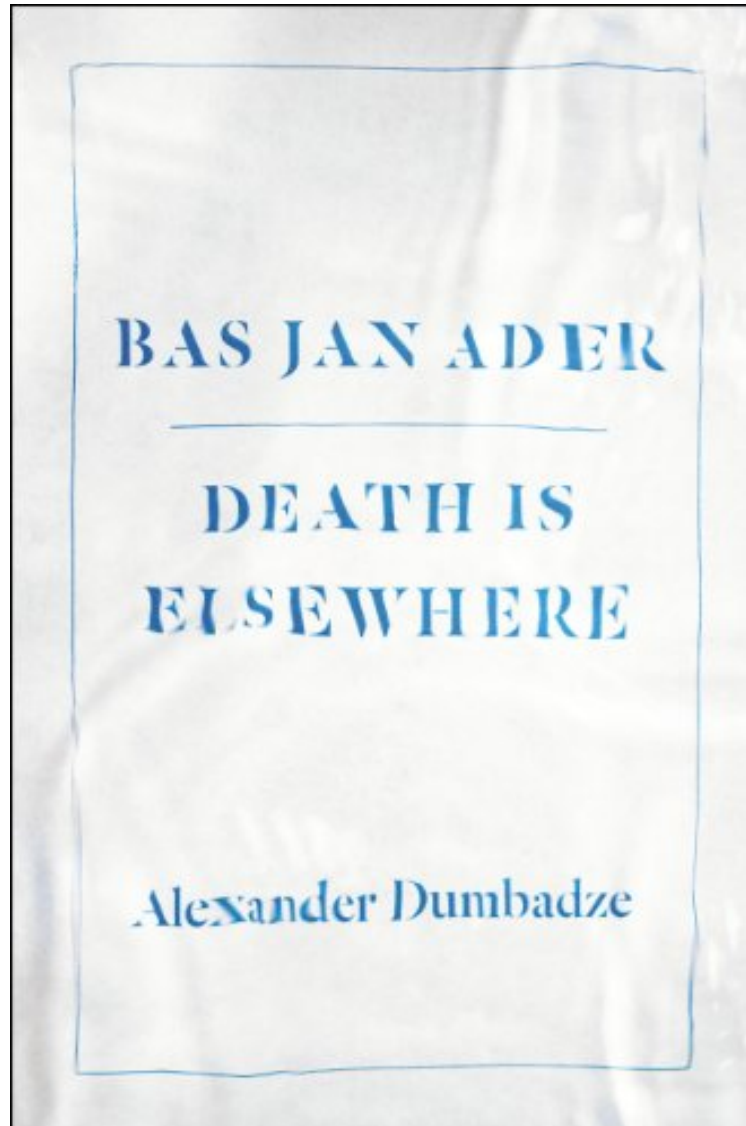


Bas Jan Ader: Death Is Elsewhere

Alexander Dumbadze

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Alexander Dumbadze : Bas Jan Ader: Death Is Elsewhere before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bas Jan Ader: Death Is Elsewhere:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. As with Aders life, too short. By Katya Cohen The book was ok; it gave me insights into the scene around Bas Jan Ader at the time in which he was working in LA that are usually lacking from reviews of his work when it is shown nowadays. I also think that the author's insights on why Ader seems to be relevant and is shown more now than when he was alive makes sense and was interesting to read. My beef with the book, at least in Kindle form, is that it seems to end too abruptly and is rather short, which for blah blah on art

might be a plus for some people (-; but I was left wanting more. 6 of 10 people found the following review helpful. This book is cerebral at the expense of accuracy. By now I knew Bas very well. Dumbadze's book makes the mistake of over-intellectualizing his work instead of looking at it in the context of his life -- especially his abandonment and other fears, and his many efforts to escape those fears: women, pot, gambling/speculative investments. Above all, though, the author subscribes to a currently fashionable school of art criticism that posits that the piece itself and the critic are the two most important elements, and that, having completed the work, the artist is no longer important. If you subscribe to that absurdly fatuous point of view, you'll love this book. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Best Ader Book Available By WMI found this book to be extremely well written and expertly researched. It combines biography and analysis of Ader's work in a manner that is both accessible and enlightening. I learned a great deal about the artist's life, and gained a much deeper understanding of the complexities of his work as an artist. It's the best book on Ader available and one of my favorite books I have read this year.

On July 9, 1975, Dutch-born artist Bas Jan Ader set sail from Chatham, Massachusetts, on a thirteen-foot sailboat. He was bound for Falmouth, England, on the second leg of a three-part piece titled *In Search of the Miraculous*. The damaged boat was found south of the western tip of Ireland nearly a year later. Ader was never seen again.

“Alexander Dumbadze is a wonderfully engaging writer. He concentrates tremendous psychological energy in the telling of a taut and revealing story. This is one of the most compelling pieces of art writing that I have yet encountered.”