

# Paul Nougé, Paul Colinet, Louis Scutenaire

## *Ideas Have No Smell: Three Belgian Surrealist Booklets*

Translated from the French and edited by M. Kasper  
Introduced by Mary Ann Caws

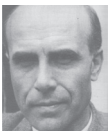
*Ideas Have No Smell* collects the first English-language translation of three Belgian Surrealist works: *Transfigured Publicity*, visual texts by poet and photographer Paul Nougé; the whimsical, hand-drawn artist's book, *Abstractive Treatise on Obeuse* by Paul Colinet; and *For Balthazar*, a collection of aphorisms and observations by the ever skeptical author, lawyer, and anarchist Louis Scutenaire. In addition to the booklets presented in a facsimile-style translation by M. Kasper, this special edition includes an introduction by scholar Mary Ann Caws and a poster reproduction of the 1926 handwritten panneau of Nougé's visual poems.

“ The Belgian Surrealists wrote a sparkling minor literature in the shadow of the Parisian grand-standers. They were more radical, rational, and imbued with the wit, folly and brevity of everyday life.

— MCKENZIE WARK

“ The three Belgian Surrealists included in this delightful sampler represent a movement much too little known in the English-speaking world. This edition, with its excellent translations, is a real treasure trove.

— MARJORIE PERLOFF



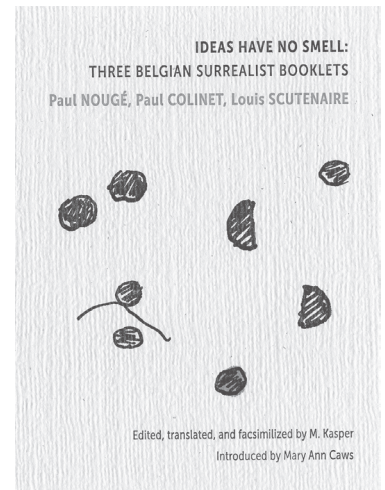
**Paul Colinet** (1898–1957) became acquainted with the Belgian Surrealist Group in the 1930's. After World War II, he founded several key Belgian avant-garde journals and published two books of poems and prose poems.



**Paul Nougé** (1895–1967) was a founding member of both the Belgian Communist Party (1921) and the Belgian Surrealist Group (1924). In the latter, he became the central literary and theoretical figure.



**Louis Scutenaire** (1905–1987) joined the Surrealist Group in 1926. “Scut,” as he was affectionately known by legions of readers, was most famous for his aphorisms, first published in 1945 as *Mes Inscriptions*.



Special Edition

Poetry/Art | \$30

Lost Literature Series #25

Set of three booklets and fold-out poster

4.75 x 6.125 in.

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**M. Kasper** was born in the Bronx in 1947. He lived overseas for some years and worked as a librarian for many in Western Massachusetts. His previous translations include *The Lamp's Tales & Other Short Prose* by Paul Colinet (with Rochelle Ratner), *Correspondance: The Birth of Belgian Surrealism* (with Jan Baetens), and *The Development of Aerial Militarism and The Demobilization of European Ground Forces, and Fortresses and Naval Fleets* by Paul Scheerbart, among others. He has also published numerous artists' books.

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