



**CREATED:** 2017 at Bundanon

**MEDIA:** Concertina format with 16 pages  
Cyanotype on Arches watercolour paper  
Binding by Doug Spowart

**SIZE:** 11 x 14 x .4 cm

**EDITION:** Two unique states

**EXHIBITIONS**

2022 *HOME*  
Gallery on Ovens, Wangaratta

## ROLAND BARTHES

A book by Doug Spowart

Roland Barthes the French writer and theorist, has contributed significantly to the discourse and critique of photography.

Barthes very carefully chooses his words. The translators of his essays are equally careful in the selection of English words to ensure the essence of the original French. Arguably there are passages in Barthes writing that are dense with meaning, semiotics and obscurities that may allow flexibility for reader interpretation.

His book *La Chambre Clair* (Camera Lucida) and other writings including his essay on the *Death of the Author* have been an inspiration for some of my writing about concepts on photography.

In 2017 during an artist in residence at Bundanon I created a response to Barthes' discussion around the photograph of his mother in the Wintergarden. The portrait has become enigmatic, as although he references it, he never reveals it to the reader.

In this book I have attempted to visually represent my reading of Barthes. In this work there are sharp fragments of clarity amongst other passages that are mere fuzzy shapes that obfuscate any attempt for the reader to find meaning.