The Bachelor Stripped Bare by Cabri Geometre, Even

1.1. The Bride stripped bare by her Bachelors, even

The Bride stripped bare by her Bachelors, even commonly known as *The Large Glass* (or simply *The Glass*) is the masterwork of Marcel Duchamp, and it is also one of the most representative and influential works of art of the 20th century. Duchamp spent several years completing his project, but the work was left unfinished in 1923. The actual execution of the work starts in 1915, but the first ideas date back to the Summer of 1912.

Duchamp planned each detail of this complex work, and left a huge corpus of notes, sketches, and blueprints, documenting not only his intentions and the desired final outcome, but also the different executive techniques for each single part of the *Glass*. These notes were published by Duchamp himself in three main collections.

The first one, edited in 1914, commonly known as *The 1914 Box* **(Fig. 1)** (because of the Kodak box containing the reproductions of the originals) contains sixteen notes and drawings; the second collection, dated 1934, is known as *The Green Box* **(Fig. 2)** (because of the green color of its binding) and contains a larger group of notes and sketches; finally, the third collection, named *A l'infinitif* but commonly known as *The White Box*, **(Fig. 3)** edited in 1966, contains for the most part a quantity of notes regarding mathematical speculations on the fourth dimension, directly related to the *Glass* and other works. Duchamp asserted that this huge

apparatus of notes must be considered an integral part of the *Glass*.
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