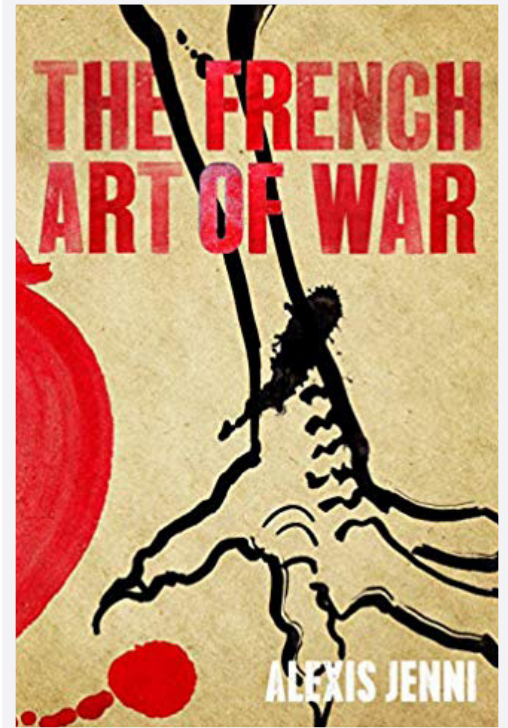


European Voices: A Reading & Conversation with Alexis Jenni



Tuesday, April 28, 2020
2 - 3:30 PM

Pardee School of Global
Studies
Boston University
121 Bay State Road

Alexis Jenni will read from and discuss his Prix Goncourt-winning debut novel, *The French Art of War*, which appeared in an English translation by Frank Wynne in 2017.

Defeated, unambitious and with his life in ruins, a young man moves back to Lyon, his home town, on the brink of the Gulf War. There he meets Victorien Salagnon, a skilful artist and veteran of the great colonial wars of Indochina, Vietnam and Algeria. The young man agrees to write Salagnon's life story in exchange for painting lessons, and so *The French Art of War* is a first-hand account of the French twenty-year war as told by those who witnessed the senseless horrors and rivers of blood shed throughout history.

The novel is both disturbing and humane, and reflects on how France, and the modern world, have been shaped by war and colonialism. A multi-layered, accurate and thought-provoking read.

Alexis Jenni is a biology teacher in Lyon, France. He refers to himself as a 'Sunday writer.'

