

**Another thing I wanted  
to tell you**



# **Mathias Augustyniak**

**Graphic  
designer  
On drawing**

**“When Michael and I created M/M, our goal was to redefine reality, but by little pieces, and according to the means of two people. So the name M/M was a sort of tool: in a sense, it erased part of our identity as individuals, but on the other hand, it was a way of accepting it. As I got closer to 40, I began to master my job, and so I was able to work on subjectivity; I became aware that, while I was drawing, I was not conveying other people’s signs, but going deeper into myself. Drawing is close to poetry, insofar as it goes beyond morals and craft to express what’s inside of us, through a very personal language. In poetry as with drawings, it is precisely when parts of the ego collapse that you create the best work, that you get to redefine what identity is about.”**

Born in 1967 in Cavaillon, France, Mathias Augustyniak is one half of the graphic design studio M/M Paris, created in 1992 with Michael Amzalag. Cutting their teeth designing record sleeves, they

have since worked with artists including Pierre Huyghe, Liam Gillick and Dominique Gonzalez-Foerster, musicians from Björk to Madonna, and fashion designers such as Yohji Yamamoto, Balenciaga and Givenchy. They have also designed stage sets for operas, interiors of cafés (have a drink at the Café Etienne-Marcel in Beaubourg) and contributed to the design of magazines such as Vogue Paris, Interview and Purple. Nonetheless, it would be unfair to focus solely on these achievements – M/M have exhibited their work at the Guggenheim in New York, Centre Pompidou in Paris and Mathias contributed to the Poetry Marathon at London’s Serpentine Gallery last year. Most recently, and aside from his activity as part of the M/M duo, Mathias has started to work on his drawings from a more personal point of view.

**Words** Donatien Grau

**André Wolff photographed Mathias with his drawings in Café de Flore in Paris**