

***UN RESERVOIR A PAYSAGES – TWENTY-TWO DREAMLIKE,  
SERIALIZED LANDSCAPES BY ITALIAN ARTIST FULVIO TESTA***

Gioia, Dana. *Un Reservoir à Paysages*. Chicago: Richard Ramsay, 1992. Softbound. Illustrated. Un-paginated. Limited edition of 1000.

A small booklet of twenty-two landscape watercolors by Italian artist Fulvio Testa (b. 1947), published for the 1992 exhibition *Fulvio Testa, Watercolors and Recent Paintings* at the Richard Ramsay gallery in Chicago. The works all depict the same or similar mountain landscapes, but with a variety of different moods, times of day, types of weather, and lighting effect, and according to the introductory text by Dana Gioia, all were made within the same three days and in the same sketchbook. Gioia also mentions both the similarities and differences between Testa's work and landscape painters of times gone by, and the included works certainly bring to mind Claude Monet's serialized images of places like Rouen Cathedral as well as later, more simplified landscape paintings. Each watercolor is beautifully reproduced in this volume, and at the back is a facsimile of a letter to Testa, dated June 1988, that forms the origins of the book's title. The sentiment "un reservoir à paysages" proves somewhat difficult to replicate in a tidy little English phrase, as its meaning clearly goes beyond the literal translations of each word. It seems to evoke the idea of capturing and collecting the intangible essences of the landscape, resulting in a series of dreamlike images of scenes that are similar to each other and yet very different at the same time. The book is in near-mint condition.

**\$40.00**

