

GILLES LAPOUGE

L'ENCRE DU VOYAGEUR



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The Traveler's Ink

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A collection of the writings and reveries of a "writer-traveler" that reveal travel's hidden wonders.

A journey is nothing more than ink. Every act of exploration echoes an earlier manuscript. Christopher Columbus found the America he first came across in Marco Polo's accounts. The missionaries who opened up Brazil in the 16th century knew the writings of the ancients, Pliny the Younger and Herodotus, by heart—and "discovered" the Amazon in the equatorial rainforest. In my reading and writing, I have visited such faraway places as India, Iceland, and Tahiti. I have added my jottings to the marks already there, in hopes of lending them new life and revealing their surprises and miracles.

Awards: Prix Fémina essai 2007