

## LETTER TO SCHEIWILLER DATED JULY 21ST, 1928

Paris, July 21st, '28

Considering that my name is now known all over the world, I believe that the book could be very successful. The French translation will certainly be published in Paris.

Dear Sir,

I am sending you a small drawing which you can use as you see fit.

The title of the drawing is "The Archeologist".

I take this opportunity to ask you if you would be willing to publish a book that I am in the process of writing and which will be finished in the autumn. It is a follow up of metaphysical stories that will have the title "Hebdomeros".

Two passages of this book have already appeared in Waldmar George's volume published by "Croniques du jour".

The book is written in Italian and I am gradually translating into French.<sup>2</sup>

In anticipation of your answer, I greet you cordially.

G. de Chirico

2 rue Henri Bocquillon  
(15))

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<sup>1</sup>By courtesy of A. Vastano.

<sup>2</sup>*Hebdomeros* was most certainly written in French. An Italian translation was later made which de Chirico edited. The fact that de Chirico states that he was writing the novel in Italian corresponds to the mentality of the time in which a total Italianization of all artistic manifestations was underway. Under such circumstances, it was not possible for the novel to be written in French, even more so when one considers the violent conflict aimed at the artist by Italian fascist circles regarding an interview he gave in "Comoedia" in December of 1927. It is difficult to explain (see de Sanna) the reason why *Hebdomeros*, which should have been published in Italian in 1938, was blocked, presumably by de Chirico himself due to the alteration of his text. It was eventually published in Italian by Bompiani in 1941 with a statement on the 4° inside cover saying the book was originally written in Italian. Even in this edition there are differences with respect to the original version.