

org is an online platform, collecting, describing, presenting and generating documents of all sorts. It documents documents.

Your path through the collection lead along A DONNER, Swarms, From Asturias, Into Cantabria, Passing Time Near a Particle Accelerator, It's Pouring, Album, Album, A Bibliographic Reference, Original Copy, Crocodile Copy, Swarms, A peregrine falcon in the internal perimeter, 12:13, Flashlight in a dark corner of the Oval Room, Room 3, Crash (2), Crash (1), Garage Paul > Garage Robert (collection of 2023), Market

What constitutes a 'document' and how does it function?

According to the *Oxford English Dictionary*, the etymological origin is the Latin 'documentum', meaning 'lesson, proof, instance, specimen'. As a verb, it is 'to prove or support (something) by documentary evidence', and 'to provide with documents'. The online version of the *OED* includes a draft addition, whereby a document (as a noun) is 'a collection of data in digital form that is considered a single item and typically has a unique filename by which it can be stored, retrieved, or transmitted (as a file, a spreadsheet, or a graphic)'. The current use of the noun 'document' is defined as '*something* written, inscribed, etc., which furnishes evidence or information upon any subject, as a manuscript, title-deed, tomb-stone, coin, picture, etc.' (emphasis added).

Both 'something' and that first 'etc.' leave ample room for discussion. A document doubts whether it functions as something unique, or as something reproducible. A passport is a document, but a flyer equally so. Moreover, there is a circular reasoning: to document is 'to provide with documents'. Defining (the functioning of) a document most likely involves ideas of communication, information, evidence, inscriptions, and implies notions of objectivity and neutrality – but the document is neither reducible to one of them, nor is it equal to their sum. It is hard to pinpoint it, as it disperses into and is affected by other fields: it is intrinsically tied to the history of media and to important currents in literature, photography and art; it is linked to epistemic and power structures. However ubiquitous it is, as an often tangible thing in our environment, and as a concept, a document *deranges*.

the-documents.org continuously gathers documents and provides them with a short textual description, explanation, or digression, written by multiple authors. In *Paper Knowledge*, Lisa Gitelman paraphrases ‘documentalist’ Suzanne Briet, stating that ‘an antelope running wild would not be a document, but an antelope taken into a zoo would be one, presumably because it would then be framed – or reframed – as an example, specimen, or instance’. The gathered files are all documents – if they weren’t before publication, they now are. That is what the-documents.org, irreversibly, *does*. It is a zoo turning an antelope into an ‘antelope’.

As you made your way through the collection, the-documents.org tracked the entries you viewed. It documented your path through the website. As such, the time spent on the-documents.org turned into this – a new document.

This document was compiled by _____ on 03.05.2024 14:48, printed on _____ and contains 18 documents on 38 pages. (<https://the-documents.org/log/03-05-2024-6053/>)

the-documents.org is a project created and edited by De Cleene De Cleene; design & development by atelier Haegeman Temmerman.

the-documents.org has been online since 23.05.2021.

Notes

- De Cleene De Cleene is Michiel De Cleene and Arnout De Cleene. Together they form a research group that focusses on novel ways of approaching the everyday, by artistic means and from a cultural and critical perspective.
www.decleenedecleene.be / info@decleenedecleene.be
- This project was made possible with the support of the Flemish Government and KASK & Conservatorium, the school of arts of HOGENT and Howest. It is part of the research project *Documenting Objects*, financed by the HOGENT Arts Research Fund.

Sources

- Briet, S. *Qu'est-ce que la documentation?* Paris: Edit, 1951.
- Gitelman, L. *Paper Knowledge. Toward a Media History of Documents*. Durham/ London: Duke University Press, 2014.
- *Oxford English Dictionary Online*. Accessed on 13.05.2021.



Flanders
State of the Art



A snow-covered stainless steel and glass shelf has a note, written in red marker, cello-taped to one of the steel supports: ‘A DONNER’.

Now a park, the Place Marie Janson – colloquially called *Carré Moscou* or *Carré Monnaies* – used to house *L’Hôtel des Monnaies/het Munthof*. For a century, the coins of some twenty-two countries were minted in this building.

Sources

- [hotel_monnaies_nl.pdf](#)



type
photograph

date
03.04.2024

filename
_44A8275.dng

size
52,46 MB

author
Michiel De Cleene

category
card, decoration, dusk, precipitation, sign, waste

16:36:35

July. Our eight-month-old son has a fever. We have a hard time getting him to drink enough. The tally marks on the back of a tortellini-box keep track of the diapers he wets and the millilitres of milk and electrolytes he's able to hold down.

Stuck inside with worrying parents, a sticker-book about a farm is his brother's favourite pass-time.

Tired of having to go back and forth between the pastures and the sticker-filled sheets we decide to use my arm as a repository for animals that share a habitat.



type
photograph

date
23.01.2024

filename
IMG_6467.jpeg

size
1,66 MB

author
Michiel De Cleene

category
collecting, family, hand, sticker

16:39:02

A half a day's walk from the Fuente Dé *teleférico*,
there are less and less traces of passers-by. The path
to Sotres suddenly runs through a lush green.
The fence between two pastures keeps the sheep
from crossing and coincides with the border
between two regions. A hole in the fence would
change the landscape's hue.



type
photograph

date
15.05.2021

filename
_MG_9795.jpg

size
4,6MB

author
Arnout De Cleene

category
animal, landscape, government

16:41:39

On the second to last day of a research visit at CERN, there was some spare time in the schedule. I took a long walk towards building 282 in search of some excavation samples: cylindrical pieces of rock that were preserved when the tunnel was dug, glued to a block of wood and frequently exhibited in museums over the last three decades as material evidence of the earthwork and as a witness to the depth. The route led me along the back of building 363 where the wind caused young trees – now gone – to scuff the facade over time.

Notes

First published in: De Cleene, M. *Reference Guide*. Amsterdam: Roma Publications, 2019, as W.569.EXC CERN, Towards Building 282, in search of excavation samples



type
photograph

date
11.07.2021

filename
cern_011.tif

size
57,57 MB

author
Michiel De Cleene

category
archaeology, architecture, archive, landscape, physics, Reference Guide, technology, tree, wind

16:42:12

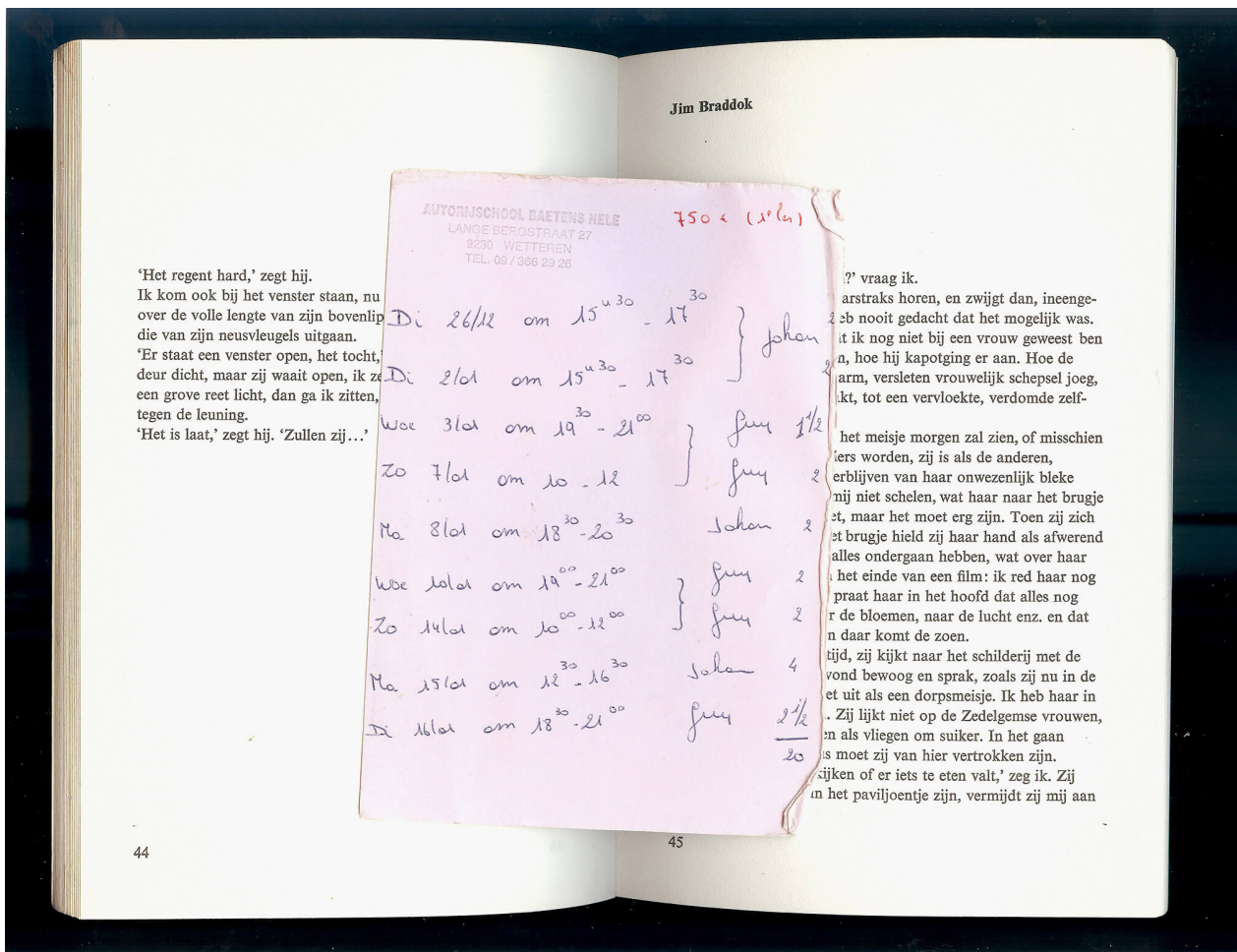
In his debut novel 'De Metsiers' Hugo Claus employs a multiple narrative perspective. In the copy I picked up in a thrift store, there's a bookmark between pages 44 and 45 where the perspective shifts from Ana to Jim Braddok. It's pouring. The pink piece of paper lists 9 sessions at a driving school. There's a total of 20 hours, taught alternately by Johan and Guy.

Notes

In 2000, 2006 and 2017 the twenty-sixth of December was a Tuesday.
(Earlier years are improbable, since the Euro was not introduced yet.)

Sources

Claus, H. *De Metsiers*. Amsterdam: Uitgeverij De Bezige Bij, 1978.



At the State Archive in Kortrijk, I am leafing
through a 1955 photo album of the construction of
the provisional church in Lokeren by the famous
furniture company Kunstwerkstede De Coene.
Gigantic wooden, prefabricated beams structure
the building. It is cold. An old man in a grey suit
shuffles between the racks to look up the date of
birth of his great great grandmother. Snow covers
the unfinished provisional roof. A bus passes,
I reckon, through the pouring rain.



type	date	filename	size	author
audio	22.12.2020	VP100184.MP3	1,8MB	Arnout De Cleene

category
archive, architecture, book, data storage, De Coene, precipitation

At the State Archive in Kortrijk, I am leafing
through a 1955 photo album of the construction of
the provisional church in Lokeren by the famous
furniture company Kunstwerkstede De Coene.
Gigantic wooden, prefabricated beams structure
the building. It is cold. An old man in a grey suit
shuffles between the racks to look up the date of
birth of his great great grandmother. Snow covers
the unfinished provisional roof. A bus passes,
I reckon, through the pouring rain.



type	date	filename	size	author
audio	22.12.2020	VP100184.MP3	1,8MB	Arnout De Cleene

category
archive, architecture, book, data storage, De Coene, precipitation

16:43:30

‘ORIGINAL. Rire de tout ce qui est original, le
haïr, le bafouer, et l’exterminer si l’on peut.’
[‘ORIGINAL. Laugh with everything that’s
original, hate it, scold it, exterminate it if you can.’]

Sources

Flaubert. *Bouvard et Pécuchet* (présenté par Raymond Queneau). Paris:
Livres de poche, 1959 (with p. 232-233: dried leaf of a ginkgo tree, and p.
324-325: dried leaf of a birch tree), p. 429 [2,00 EUR, Librairie Vic-sur-
Cère, August 2021].



type	date	filename	size	author
photograph	14.09.2021	_MG_7413.JPG	5,2MB	Arnout De Cleene
category	book, botany, tree, encyclopaedia, replica/copy, literature, collecting, hand			

16:43:34

On Wednesday, May 9, 2018 at 2:23:14 PM Koh Elaine starts the thread *original or original copy* on the The Free Dictionary by Farlex's forum.

the-documents.c

'Is "original copy" correct or should it be "original"? Thanks.'

The seventh reply to Elaine's question is Wilmar's on Thursday (his was preceded by towan52, georgew, NKM, Koh Elaine, Sarriesfan, ChrisKC, Ashwin Joshi).

'An original copy IS the original.

Folks usually call the document first created the original, but some will say original copy. If I run that original thru the copy machine, I end up with two copies (yes, I said copies) of the same thing – the original and the duplicate of it (in terms of content). This is how the term is commonly used.

If your writing or conversation depends heavily on understand the difference, I would recommend using the terms original and duplicates. There are many times when that is very important, in that the original must be retained by a particular party, and the duplicates are marked as such and distributed or stored as required depending on the document and the circumstance.

If you are just trying to make sure that you have enough copies to distribute to everyone at the company meeting this afternoon, use whatever terms trips your trigger. But, if you want to ensure that you keep custody of the original, so that you can make additional duplicates (copies) when additional people attend, then be more specific about the words you use.

OH, and, please, in the future, include some context with your question. Asking if "word" is correct doesn't go very far in supplying a reasonably useful response.'

Sources

https://forum.thefreedictionary.com/postst182102_original-or-original-copy.aspx

Joined: 6/4/2015

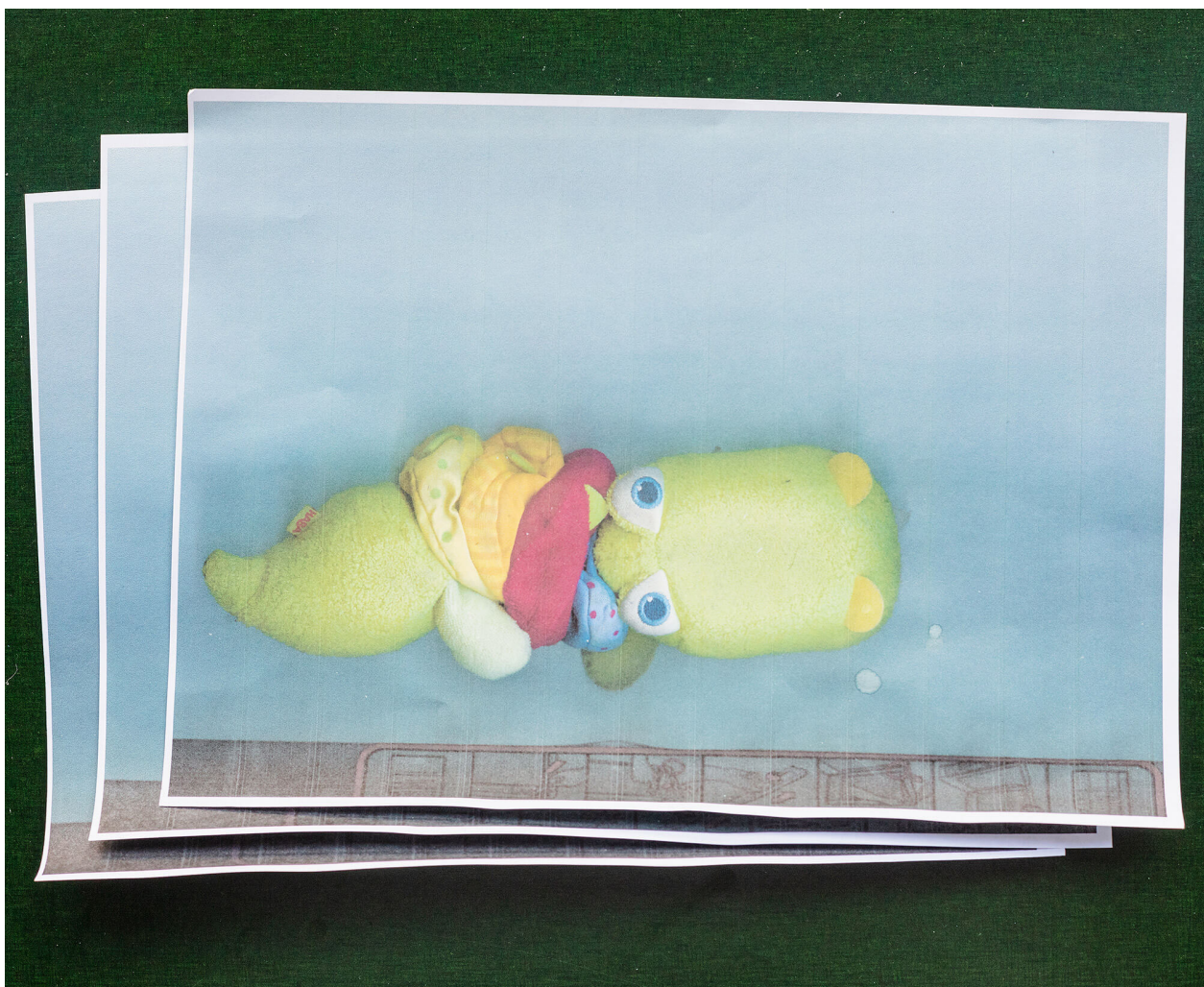
Neurons: 1,278,032

Location: Vinton, Iowa, United States

type	date	filename	size	author
screenshot	16.02.2021	Schermafbeelding 2021-02-16 om 11.08.01.png	45KB	Michiel De Cleene
category	archive, mistake, replica/copy, technology			

16:43:58

Our one year old's favourite toy he's not supposed to play with is the *HP Officejet Pro L7590 All-in-one* in my office. I have given up on forbidding him to play with it. We have a new game: he brings me one of his other toys, we put it on the flatbed, close the lid – as far as possible –, press the button 'START COPY – COLOR' and wait for the print to come out of the machine. When we place the original onto the copy, he laughs. So far we have copied his blue pacifier, his planet-earth-bouncy-ball and his rattling crocodile.



type
photograph

date
16.02.2021

filename
_44A8728.dng

size
50,04MB

author
Michiel De Cleene

category
animal, archive, decoration, house, replica/copy, technology, trompe l'oeil, family

16:44:18

July. Our eight-month-old son has a fever. We have a hard time getting him to drink enough. The tally marks on the back of a tortellini-box keep track of the diapers he wets and the millilitres of milk and electrolytes he's able to hold down.

Stuck inside with worrying parents, a sticker-book about a farm is his brother's favourite pass-time.

Tired of having to go back and forth between the pastures and the sticker-filled sheets we decide to use my arm as a repository for animals that share a habitat.



type
photograph

date
23.01.2024

filename
IMG_6467.jpeg

size
1,66 MB

author
Michiel De Cleene

category
collecting, family, hand, sticker

16:45:21

At the nuclear waste processing facility. While the photographer and the head of the communication department are making their way from the processing building to the temporary storage building, they walk past the central chimney.

‘On the highest of the accessible levels of the chimney, operators were finding small steel rings. They gathered them, but soon noticed that new rings were added. At a certain point at a rate of one ring a day.

[...]

It took them some time to realize what they were, so they started collecting them by slipping them onto a piece of rope. By now the rings on the rope span about this distance [spreads his arms to indicate a distance of about 1.2m].

[...]

They turned out to be rings that came from pigeon’s legs.

[...]

On top of our chimney resides a peregrine falcon.

[...]

I was told pigeon fanciers have a tendency to give a peregrine falcon – or any other bird of prey in their area – a hand at disappearing, but this one took up residency in the internal perimeter, where – as you know – access is severely restricted.’

Notes

First published in: De Cleene, M. *Reference Guide*. Amsterdam: Roma Publications, 2019



type
photograph

date
02.03.2022

filename
duivenringen_001.jpg

size
20,04 MB

author
Michiel De Cleene

category
animal, collecting, food, Reference Guide, technology, waste, hand

16:45:31

During a two hour tour, H.V. (head of the science collection) guided us from the library to the observatory and back. Along the way, he touched upon various rarities: one hundred ninety-five volumes of the *Encyclopédie Méthodique* (according to H.V. the most complete copy left in the world), the severed summit of Mont Blanc (‘Actually de Saussure brought back a triangular piece of rock from just below the snow line near the summit’), an original copy of the publication on the infamous Lügensteine (‘These date back to the time before the hoax was unveiled’)...

In guiding us from room to room, H.V. piled oddity upon curiosity. He showed a particular interest in all things fish-related.

Notes

- First published in: De Cleene, M. *Reference Guide*. Amsterdam: Roma Publications, 2019



```
category
animal, archaeology, architecture, archive, astronomy, book, encounter, hand, Reference Guide, replica/copy
```

16:45:54

A square photograph with an Arabic and French text underneath it is mounted on a foam board, in turn mounted on a sheet of plexiglass. The picture in the middle is flanked by a photograph of and a text about the tumuli of Umm Jidr (left) and the excavations at Abou Saybi (right). They are mounted on the West wall of Guest Room 3 at the Qual'at Al-Bahrain Site Museum, Seef, Bahrain.

Necropolises make up the main archaeological testimonies of the Tylos period (4th century BC – 3rd century AD). The urn in the photograph contains the remains of several babies. They most likely fell victim to an epidemic. The size of the ruler next to the urn remains unspecified.

Notes

The photograph of Room 3 was made while in mandatory self-isolation after flying to Bahrain from Frankfurt and waiting for the result of a Covid-19 test.



type
photograph

date
11.12.2020

filename
_44A7372.dng

size
49,3MB

author
Michiel De Cleene

category
archaeology, Bahrain, epidemic, scale, decoration

16:46:00

Near Avenue 61 on an artificial island close to Seef, a truck is being towed after the driver lost control over the vehicle and flipped it onto its side. A warm wind blows in from the Persian Gulf.

A police officer signals us to come closer. 'Why are you taking pictures?' he asks. 'This is just an accident. You have to delete the pictures from your phone. Now.' After checking the pictures-folder on our phones, he gets in his car, drives a few metres, stops the car and rolls down his window. 'And don't do it again!' he yells. Then he drives off, raising a cloud of sand in his wake.

Notes

Photograph taken and recovered from my trash bin on 18.12.2020.



type	date	filename	size	author
photograph	08.05.2021	IMG_5071.jpeg	2,71MB	Michiel De Cleene

category
Bahrain, crash, data storage, drought, government, interference, mistake, parking, sand, technology

16:46:11

In June, 2014, a severe hailstorm hit Belgium. Warnings were broadcast. A football game between the national teams of Belgium and Tunisia was paused. The morning after, there were small dents in the hood and the roof of the car, each a square centimeter in size, some 10 centimeters separated from each other. The storm didn't get a name.

Assessing the damage, the insurance company's expert took the dents into account to establish the wreck's worth.



type
photograph

date
16.10.2020

filename
IMG_2236.JPG

size
2,8MB

author
Arnout De Cleene

category
automobile, crash, precipitation, insurance

16:46:57

A year ago I moved into Solange's appartement.
From the balcony, I see half the parking lot and the
adjacent high rise. On the mailbox, I haven't
replaced her name for mine.

1. GARAGE PAUL, (+32) 0489. 764 540 / recto-
verso NL/FR
2. CASH 24, (+32) 0466 15 32 16 / recto-verso
NL/FR
3. GARAGE NADIM (+32) 0470 606 474 / recto-
verso NL (1)
4. GARAGE NADIM (+32) 0470 606 474 / recto-
verso FR (2)
5. GARAGE GABRIEL (+32) 0489 76 45 40 /
recto-verso NL (1)
6. GARAGE GABRIEL (+32) 0489 76 45 40 /
recto-verso FR (2)
7. MAGNUM's (+32) 0492 92 70 70 / recto-verso
FR
8. GARAGE ROBERT (+32) 0492 92 70 70 / recto-
verso FR (1)
9. GARAGE ROBERT (+32) 0492 92 70 70 / recto-
verso FR (2)

I don't know whether Solange owned a car.

Notes



- Bieke Criel, lives and works in Gent (BE). Intrigued by landscape, movement, light and the poetics of what lies in between. Does not own a car, loves to drive one. Part of 019.

GARAGE PAUL

WILT U UW AUTO VERKOPEN ?

NEEM DAN CONTACT MET ONS OP !!

UW AUTO INTERESSEERT ONS !

• Voor alle voertuigen (4x4, bestelwagen...) • Zelfs wanneer er geen groot aantal km op de Teller staat • Zonder technische controle • Beschadigd • Met mechanische Problemen. **7/7 et**

0489. 764 540

GSM. (+32) SMS. **0489. 764 540**

Email: europe.cars.export@gmail.com A.U.B. niet op de openbare weg gooien! Dank u.

DIRECT ANTWOORD CASH BETALING !!!



GARAGE GABRIEL AUTO EXPORT

Aankopen van alle merken gebruikte voertuigen

Zelfs zonder technische controle beschadigd of met veel km.

Betaling via OVERSCHRIJVING of CONTANT

24/7

Als u hem wil verkopen nu of later neem contact op met ons!

GSM. / SMS. (+32) **0489 76 45 40**

europe.cars.export@gmail.com

Neem niet op de openbare weg gegooid worden

CASH 24 Uw wagen interesseert ons!

AANKOOP GEBRUIKTE AUTO'S

Zelfs zonder keuring, veel km., of beschadigd.

Bij CASH 24 is uw wagen geld waard, Beste aankoop prijs.

Bel ons gerust! G.S.M. **0466 15 32 16**

24/7

Neem niet op de openbare weg gegooid worden

GARAGE GABRIEL AUTO EXPORT

Achats de véhicules d'occasion toutes marques

Même accidentée, beaucoup de km., sans contrôle technique ou en panne

Paiement par VIREMENT ou CASH

24/7

Si vous avez envie de la vendre, maintenant ou plus tard contactez-nous!

GSM. / SMS. (+32) **0489 76 45 40**

europe.cars.export@gmail.com

Ne pas jeter sur la voie publique SVP

GARAGE NADIM

Goede dag, u wilt uw auto verkopen, nu of later ?

WIJ KOPEN AAN GOEDE PRIJS.

Zelfs zonder technisch controle of beschadigd.

Contacteer ons via SMS of telefoon!

0470 606 474

GSM. (+32) email: alex1965@live.be

A.U.B. niet op de openbare weg gooien! Dank u.



MAGNUM'S

Vendez votre voiture d'occasion facilement et sûrement

Même accidentée ou en panne, sans contrôle technique

7/7

GSM. / SMS. (+32) my.auto.be@gmail.com

0492.92.70.70

Ne pas jeter sur la voie publique SVP



GARAGE NADIM

Bonjour, vous désirez vendre votre voiture, maintenant ou plus tard ?

NOUS LE REPRENONS À UN EXCELLENT PRIX.

Même sans contrôle technique ou accidenté.

Contactez-nous par SMS ou par téléphone!

0470 606 474

GSM. (+32) email: alex1965@live.be

Merci de ne pas jeter sur voie publique!



GARAGE ROBERT

ENVIE DE VENDRE VOTRE VÉHICULE ?

PRENEZ CONTACT AVEC NOUS !!

VOTRE VÉHICULE NOUS INTÉRESSE !

• Pour tous véhicules (4x4, camionnette...) • Même avec beaucoup de km. au compteur • Sans contrôle technique • Accidentée • Avec problèmes mécaniques.

GSM. / SMS. (+32) **0492 92 70 70**

my.auto.be@gmail.com

S.V.P. Ne pas jeter sur la voie publique. Merci.



GARAGE ROBERT

ENVIE DE VENDRE VOTRE VÉHICULE ?

PRENEZ CONTACT AVEC NOUS !!

VOTRE VÉHICULE NOUS INTÉRESSE !

• Pour tous véhicules (4x4, camionnette...) • Même avec beaucoup de km. au compteur • Sans contrôle technique • Accidentée • Avec problèmes mécaniques.

GSM. / SMS. (+32) **0492 92 70 70**

my.auto.be@gmail.com

S.V.P. Ne pas jeter sur la voie publique. Merci.



type	date	filename	size	author
scan	17.01.2024	biekecriel_scan_6MB_jpeg_Doc.1_.jp	6 MB	Bieke Criel
category	archive, automobile, card, collecting			

16:47:23

K. says that the stall where he usually buys fruit has already been packed up. But he is not worried about the quality of the fruit the other vendor sells. He gestures encouragingly.

Five signs of type-1, eleven of type-2 and two of type-3 are visible. Four of type-2 (two visible, two deduced) and two of type-3 retain two vehicles.

Notes

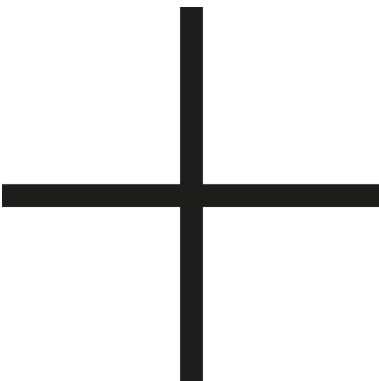
1.



2.



3.



- Márk Redele pursues projects that fundamentally relate to architecture and its practice but rarely look like architecture. www.markredele.com



type
photograph

date
26.12.2021

filename
market_.jpg

size
3,82 MB

author
Márk Redele

category
automobile, economy, food, fruit, landscape, manual, parking, precipitation, sign

16:48:01

