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, Magnifier, License Plate, Neptune in opposition [9/20] – Rooftops, a windmill and power lines, Neptune in opposition [18/20] – View of an interior, Neptune in opposition [10/20] – Kinship, Deneef 'for ever', pgealerts.alerts.pge.com/, Saturn Stationary, Neptune in opposition [6/20] – Pier, Plaster, Last night I dreamt of Juan Pedro, Raisins, A Seismic Change, Magic Mountain, Room 3, Neptune in opposition [16/20] – Unrest, Slightly Askew (2), Crash (2), Waybill, Schelp, Quarry, An Unfired Mortar, What the left hand forgot, Negative sheet 17, negative 36, negative 36,5, John's Sparta K-10 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 22.05.2024 12:33, printed on _____ and contains 26 documents on 58 pages. (https://the-documents.org/log/22-05-2024-6065/)

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.

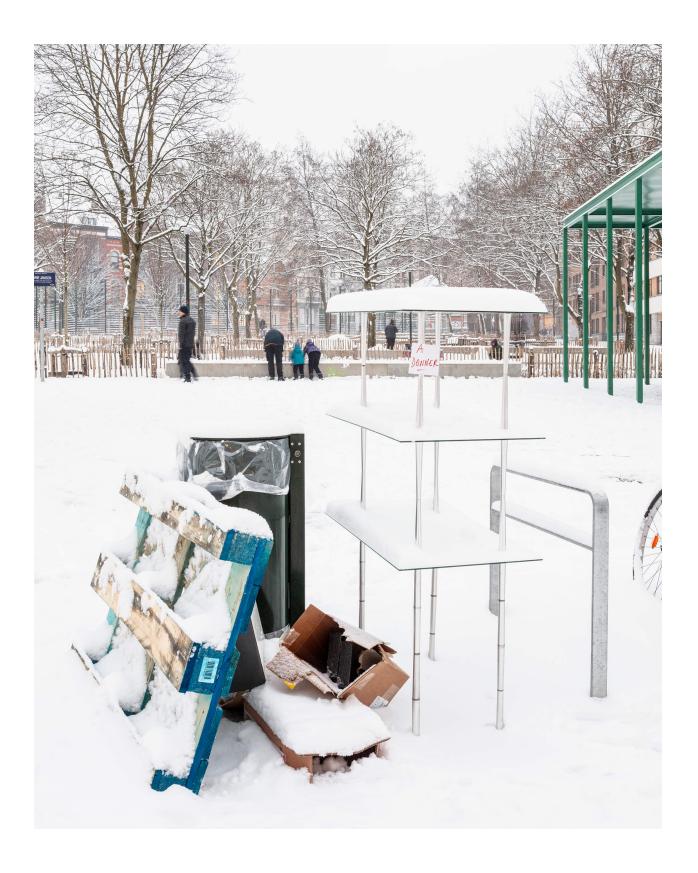




A snow-covered stainless steel and glass shelf has a note, written in red marker, cello-taped to one of the steel supports: 'A DONNER'.

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.

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type photograph date 03.04.2024 filename _44A8275.dng size 52,46 MB author Michiel De Cleene

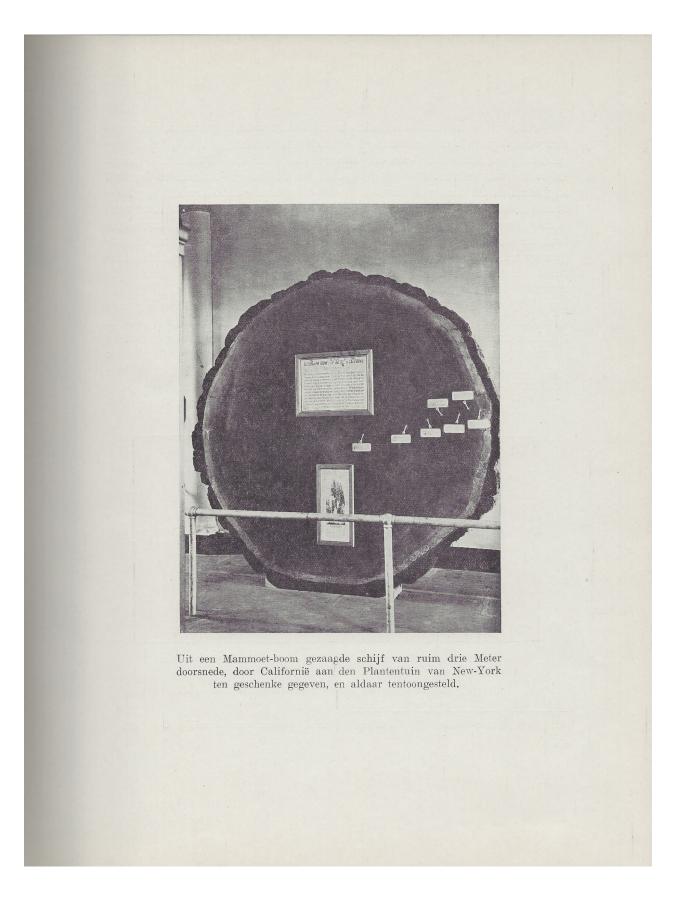
category card, decoration, dusk, precipitation, sign, waste

('Slice of more than three meters in diameter, sawn from a Mammoth-tree, given by California to the botanical garden of New York, and presented there')

Thiery describes the 'patriarchs' of the plant world. This slice of a Sequoia, which fell in 1917 in Yosemite National Park, is 1694 years old. A woman of the New York Botanical Institue, where the slice of the patriarch is presented, counted the rings. If one would look at the picture with a magnifying glass, Thiery writes in a footnote, the reader (with good eyes and a fair amount of knowledge of the English language) would be able to read the labels indicating the important global events the tree witnessed. They are transcribed and translated by the author. The end of the Roman occupation of Great Britain. Columbus arriving in America. The Declaration of Independence. This is a lie: the text is illegible, even when using a magnifier.

In the photograph, the slice, as on view in the New York Botanical Institute, is presented upright. To prevent it from rolling away, two small triangular slices of wood were posited at the left and right side of the slice. The type of wood of these slices, nor the age of the patriarch from which they stem, are known.

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type scan date 04.01.2021 filename Document_2021-01-04_114324.jpg size 3,1MB author Arnout De Cleene

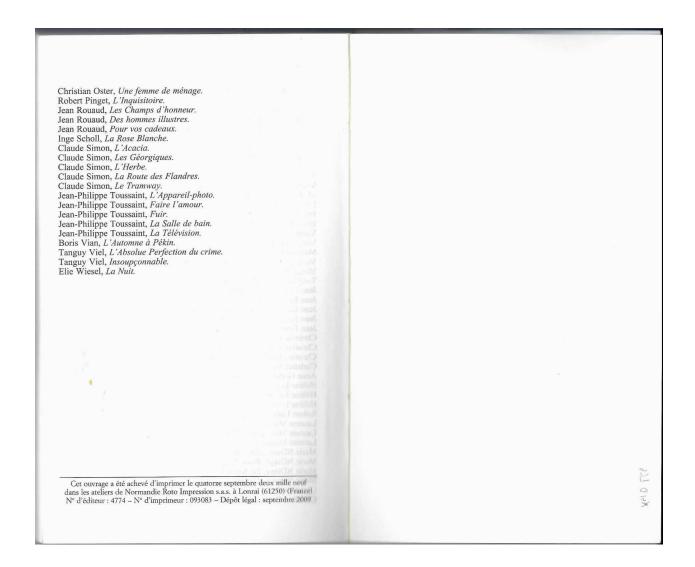
category book, botany, card, tree, scale, sign, mistake

During the preparation of a seminar, I reread Pierre Bayard's *Qui a tué Roger Ackroyd?* (2008). On the inside of the back cover, there's an inscription: it appears I wrote down a license plate number – something I have the habit of doing when a situation seems suspicious.

In *Qui à tué Roger Ackroyd?*, Bayard analyzes Agatha Christie's famous detective novel *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* (1926). The literary critic disagrees with detective Hercule Poirot's conclusion: Ackroyd's murderer is not the narrator, James Sheppard, as Poirot would have it. It's a delirious interpretation, 'consistant à rechercher minutieusement des indices, à interpréter des faits et à organiser nos déductions en une construction d'ensemble harmonieuse'.

The car with license plate number XHD 558 is unknown to me. I can't recall what I saw that urged me to write it down, nor the time or location when I saw it.

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type scan date 15.08.2023 filename ackroyd.pdf size 431 KB author Arnout De Cleene

A scene in German author and director Alexander Kluge's *Die Patriotin*: a half-dome opens; the protagonist, Gabi Teichert, stares into the telescope. A montage follows: the waxing crescent moon coming into focus; a night vision of a cityscape with industrial elements; archival footage of a cityscape with skyscrapers during daytime; a giant fire; a woman giving birth aided by a midwife; raindrops falling into a puddle of water; a time-lapse video of a city at sundown; a ship floating by with, in the background, on the shore, windmills; images of tanks rolling by; close-ups of a purple-lit face of someone looking into the camera; archival footage of an air raid.^{1,2}

In a conversation with Ben Lerner, Kluge sees himself as someone 'creating constellations': 'We deal with moving bodies. "Moving reality." [...] And this is something that you cannot present in a linear way, but in the form of constellations. "Constellation" refers to cosmic matter and gravitation. There are suns, moons, planets. There are also the dust particles, tiny particles that orbit around the sun for centuries according to physical laws. And there's no hinge, no screw that connects them. Invisible connections."³

the-documents.

Sources

- Kluge, A. (dir.) Die Patriotin. München: Kairos Film, 1979. https://youtu.be/ZRuQ3SUgSSk?t=449
- 2 Kluge, A. *Die Patriotin. Texte/Bilder 1-6*. Frankfurt am Main:
- Zweitausendeins, 1979, 60-64.
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 Lerner, B. & Kluge, A. *The Snows of Venice. The Lerner-Kluge-*
- container. Leipzig: Spector Books, 2018, 66.
- Excerpt from <u>Towards Civil Dusk</u> (De Cleene De Cleene, 2020)

Neptune in opposition [9/20] – Rooftops, a windmill and power lines



type video date 23.09.2022 filename 2020-09-23-0837_1-CapObj.mp4 size 10,76 MB author De Cleene De Cleene

category architecture, astronomy, house, landscape, Neptune, wind

An observer draws on experience, and *instantly* sees a female partridge. Cumulus clouds. The Southern pole star. It's the 'all-at-once-ness of virtuoso perception', Lorraine Daston writes: 'Sure, swift, and silent, "without pause for mental analysis," observation is grounded in long familiarity with the phenomena in question, be they curlews or streptococcus bacteria' (101).

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Sources

- Excerpt from Towards Civil Dusk (De Cleene De Cleene, 2020)
- Daston, L. 'On Scientific Observation'. Isis, 99 (1), 2008, 97-110.

Neptune in opposition [18/20] – View of an interior



type video date 03.10.2022

filename 2020-06-11-2007_6-CapObj.mp4 size 106,19 MB author De Cleene De Cleene

category architecture, astronomy, decoration, house, Neptune, technology

Theory becomes the apparatus. A metonymic relation. A trope of nearness. Miniscule gravitational disturbances become known as a kilometres-long, L-shaped facility. Particle physics: a circular tunnel beneath the Geneva hinterland.

Somewhere in the early 1970s, our grandfather, a carpenter by trade, buys a telescope^{1,2}, installs it on the lawn, and points it over the hedge. 'I remember seeing the craters on the moon. The rings of Saturn,' he told us.

In the shabby plywood box I made to transport the telescope lies a metal ring I ground flat to be able to attach my camera and focus it on infinity.

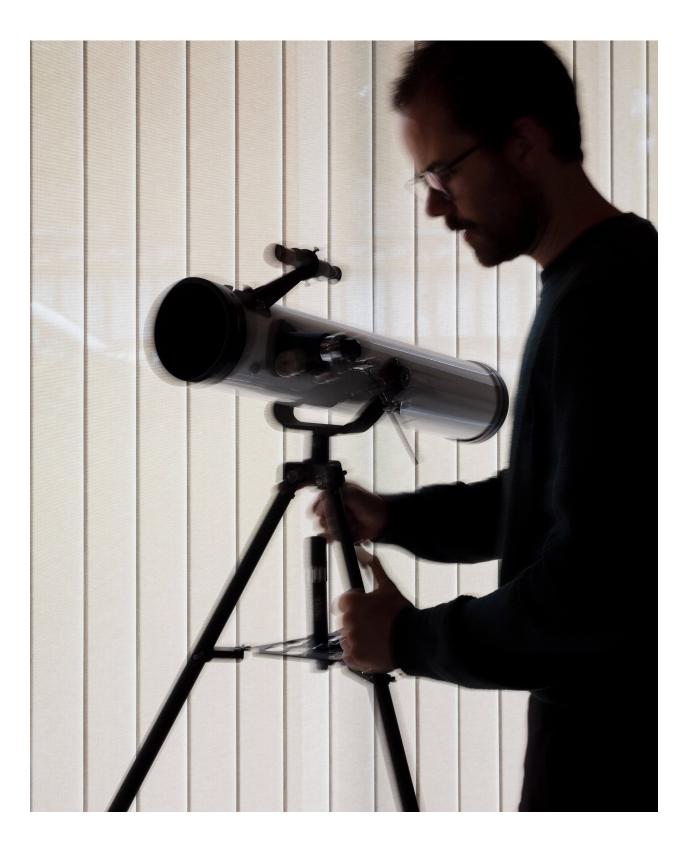
The hedge, now three metres in height, shields the lower part of the sky from sight and needs pruning.

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Notes

- 1 Tasco / Reg. No. 83140 / 140 Power / Reflection telescope / D=3" / F=700mm / Coated optics / Model No. 3TE-R / Japan
- 2 'It never fails to draw you in closer the moment when you raise a pair of binoculars to your eyes. In that instant, life is magnified clearly; as if just for you. The curious bird that becomes instantly identifiable. The night sky that never looked the same after that night. The actual sweat running down the brow of a sports hero. The sun scattering light across a clear stream as you trace for signs of a Rainbow trout. These are the moments of magic that Tasco delivers. Simple, pure and honest. And for another split-second, you're struck by the quality of experience weighed against the value you'd previously placed on "just a pair of binoculars." Welcome to a world where, "Seeing is Believing." (Tasco Manifesto).

Neptune in opposition [10/20] – Kinship



type photograph date 24.09.2022 filename _44A4753.dng, _44A4787.dng size 56,09 MB, 49,37 MB

author De Cleene De Cleene

category astronomy, family, hand, Neptune, packaging, technology

the-documents.

Neptune in opposition [10/20] – Kinship



The previous owners of the house we moved into, left us a piece of a newspaper that was used to clad the wall at the time the building was built, and which they found when they renovated the house. The sport-section of the socialist newspaper *Vooruit* is dated 18 November 1931. It features articles on cycling and soccer. Recently, we noticed the plaster is coming off the wall in one corner of the living room. With sufficient rain, it might reveal other events that happened on that 1931 November Wednesday.

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typedatefilenamesizeauthorscan20.02.2021Document_2021-02-20_133700.jpg1,7MBArnout De Cleene

category architecture, fissure, decoration, house, precipitation

On a windy morning in April, I was on a video call with a friend, curator Maziar Afrassiabi. He listened patiently from Rotterdam as I labored over a direction for my research. It concerned a device I installed in his art space, Rib, six months prior, that monitored blackouts across California by scraping real-time data from utility companies. When a county experienced a significant blackout, it would cut Rib's electricity in kind—causing Rib to inherit and adapt to conditions that shape Californian infrastructure. During its operation, I'd been researching the grid—learning what it is, why it fails, and how communities respond when it does.

We took a short break. Maziar, with tired eyes, stepped away for a smoke. While waiting, I watched the power lines outside my window sway limply in the breeze. In spite of its apparent lifelessness, I've always thought of electricity as a psychological force. My mind wandered through a cursory model of the grid, idiosyncratically cloudy and detailed.

Energy simultaneously generated and used, cascading infrastructural operations in a blink. Outlying stations burning, vaporizing, absorbing fuel, spinning vast electromagnetic turbines. Oscillating current. Neighboring transformers boosting volts to kilovolts, compensating for lost energy coursing through long-distance transmission supported by pylons peppered across Menlo Park.

Current flows into enclosed substations. Transformers, insulators, resembling a kind of industrial Watts Towers—though uninhabitable and anonymous by comparison—step voltages back down to levels safe enough for wires traversing the city. They branch out through streets via buried cables or, like the lines outside my window, are strung atop Douglas fir utility poles at roughly 30meter intervals...curious vestigial markers. I'd read somewhere they were provisionally pitched when Samuel Morse found that telegraph signals wouldn't transmit through the earth.

Each pole divides vertically into distinct zones, spaced apart for safety. Treacherous high-voltage wires from substations pass along the top, while safer signals—cable internet and landlines—hang nearest to the ground. The high-voltage wires enter through a barrel-shaped pole-mounted transformer. Within, submerged in oil, two tightly wound copper

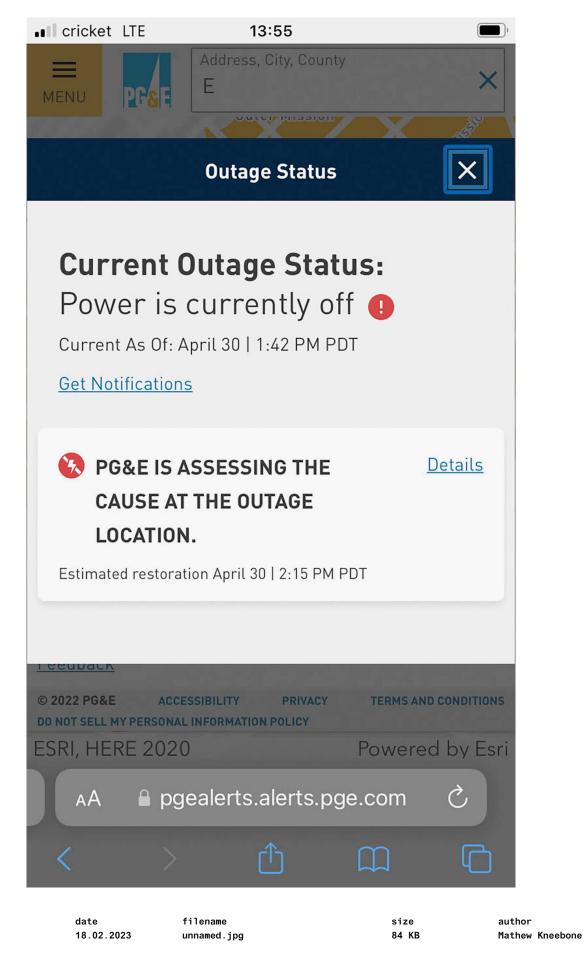
Notes

 <u>Mathew Kneebone</u> is an artist based in San Francisco. His interdisciplinary practices takes different forms, all in relation to an interest in electricity and technology. He teaches studio and thesis writing at California College of the Arts. the-documents.c

coils magnetically harmonize, delivering 240 and 120 volts to three exiting wires, each connected to the electrical meter attached to the building...

A blackout in my neighborhood cut my thoughts and the meeting short. The sudden silence in my apartment indicated Maziar was also in the dark. I received a text message from him and the utility company.

pgealerts.alerts.pge.com/



category house, interference, technology, tree, wind

type

screenshot

On May 23rd 2021, the planet Saturn appears to be stationary among the surrounding celestial bodies in the night sky.¹ This is an attempt to capture this planetary standstill.²

A telescope is set up in a pasture, near a forest edge, pointed to the south-southeast morning sky.³

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Notes

- 1 The standstill is de facto inexistent. It's the moment when Saturn's apparent prograde motion turns to a retrograde motion. Since Earth completes its orbit in a shorter period of time than the planets outside its orbit, it periodically overtakes them, like a faster car on a multi-lane highway. When this occurs, the planet being passed will first appear to stop its eastward drift, and then drift back toward the west.
- 2 In astrology, Saturn's retrograde movement is generally a time of karmic rebalancing. Previous bad behavior could be punished. But hard work and responsibility could also be rewarded.
- 3 This is the third instalment of De Cleene De Cleene's Public Observatory. Thanks to Volkssterrenwacht Mira, Grimbergen.

Sources

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- Gittelman, L. Paper Knowledge. Toward a Media History of Documents. Durham/London: Duke University Press, 2014.
 - Oxford English Dictionary Online. Accessed on 13.05.2021.
- 'Saturn Retrograde May 23, 2021 Karmic Love', Astrology King. Accessed on 15.05.2021.



type video date 22.05.2021

filename - size - author De Cleene De Cleene

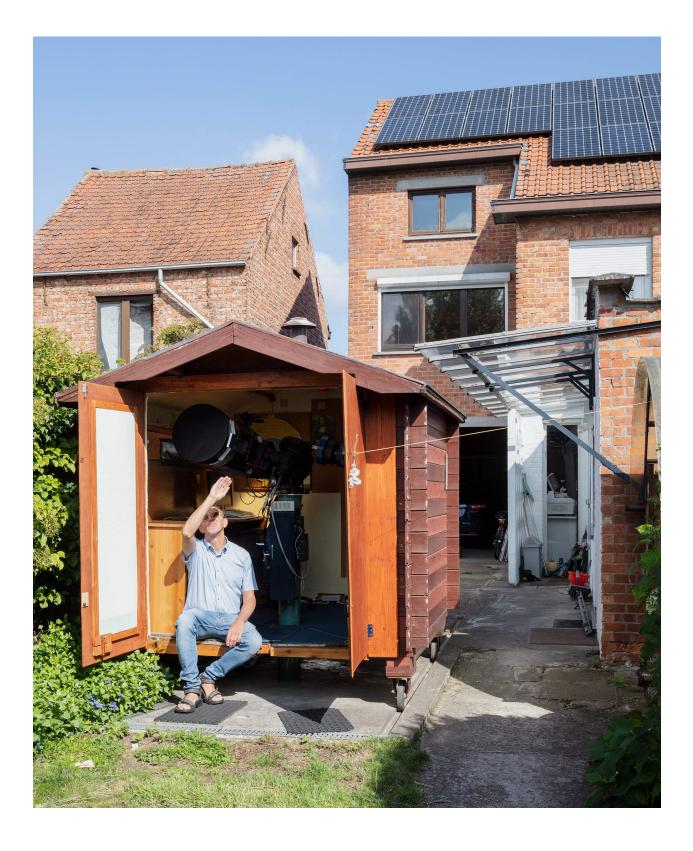
category astronomy, botany, landscape, mirror, music, tree

As an architectural structure, the pier is fundamental in observational astronomy: it can be found in the backyards of amateur observatories, as well as in professional ones. This column is a quintessential part of the physical interventions that are necessary to distinguish noise from valuable data. The pier disjoints the telescope from the observer, from the observatory and from the surroundings. Tremors of passing cars, the astronomer's footsteps and coughs, the neighbour's soundsystem: they could result in an agitated telescope. A falling mug would cause the instrument to shift lightyears away from its target.

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Notes

- In August 2019, I visited Chris De Pauw, an astrophotographer, at home. He showed me his private observatory. As we were both waiting for clouds to obscure the sun and get softer light for the photograph, he told me about the rolling shed, its advantages and the modifications he was planning on.
- On closing the observatory by rolling the shed over the instrument he manoeuvred the instrument into its 'park'-position: an azimuth of 160 degrees and an elevation of 8 degrees above the horizon. The shed's doors and hinges barely cleared the telescope.



type photograph date 21.09.2022 filename

_44A7375.dng, _44A7394.dng

size 55,61 MB, 56,96 MB

author De Cleene De Cleene

category architecture, astronomy, encounter, Neptune, technology

the-documents.

Neptune in opposition [6/20] – Pier



As a result of intense drainage of drinking water, an area around the Belgian city of Waver was designated as having a potential for land subsidence – the downward movement of the soil over an extended period of time. People in Waver were startled to find their town mentioned in an international study published in *Science*. Flemish newspaper *De Standaard* uncovered that the researchers had used an older study, published in 2005, which claimed that the soil in Waver had moved some five centimeters in a period of eleven years. Pictures of fissures in Waver-facades had been added to the original article.

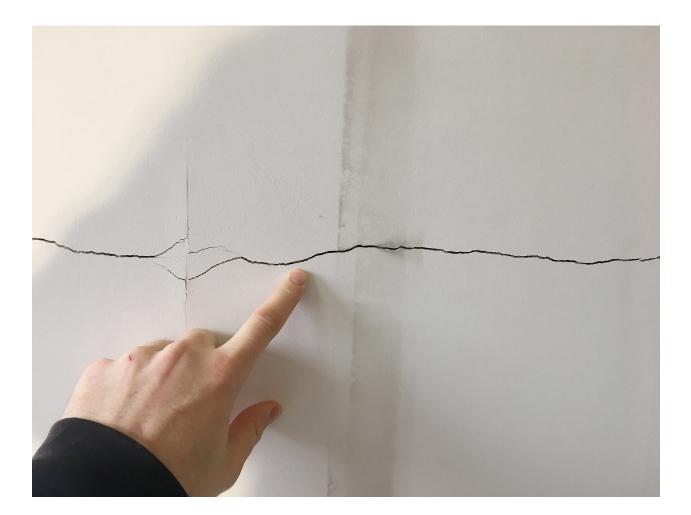
Last year, cracks in our living room wall were covered up by placing plasterboard in front of the plastered brick wall. As such, we avoided having to paint the wall with the cracks and the marks left by the IKEA Billy bookcases.

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Sources

- https://science.sciencemag.org/content/sci/suppl/2020/12/29/371.6524.34. DC1/abb8549_Herrera_SM.pdf
- https://www.standaard.be/cnt/dmf20210106_97889104
- http://earth.esa.int/fringe2005/proceedings/papers/677_devleeschouwer.p df

org Plaster



type photograph date 11.12.2020 filename IMG_0280.JPG size 2,6MB author Arnout De Cleene

category drought, fissure, brick, house, seismology, precipitation, book, hand

12:33:00

While I was sitting in the laundromat one evening waiting for my laundry to finish its cycle, *La Isla Bonita* by Madonna came on the radio. Competing with the rustle of seven rotating laundry machines, the song reminded me of a T-shirt that was now being washed.

The short phrase in the song's lyrics 'last night I dreamt of San Pedro' would nestle itself somewhere in the back of my head and bubble up every now and again for no particular reason. I made this shirt for the occasion of Valentine's Day in 2019 to commemorate my friendship with Jan-Pieter. I remember once mumbling the lyrics to *La Isla Bonita*, replacing 'San Pedro' for 'Juan Pedro', forgetting it for some time and then a while later printing it on a T-shirt.

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Notes

Tjobo Kho is a graphic designer and publisher based in Amsterdam. Since 2017 part of the floating collective and publishing platform OUTLINE, and recently started his own publishing house *no kiss*?

brg Last night I dreamt of Juan Pedro



type photograph date 25.07.2022 filename photo_2022-07-11_17-29-40.jpg size 132 KB author Tjobo Kho

category music

12:33:01

When I grew up, my parents told me that the number of raisins in the local baker's raisin bread attested to the result of the most recent soccer match of KAA Gent. A victory was celebrated by throwing more raisins into the dough than usual, a loaf following a painful loss was hardly a raisin bread at all.

The baker retired long ago. Today my two-year-old son picked out all the raisins from his slice of bread. KAA Gent's last game was a tie against Union.

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org Raisins



type photograph date 30.12.2021 filename IMG_9810.HEIC size 1,2 MB author Michiel De Cleene

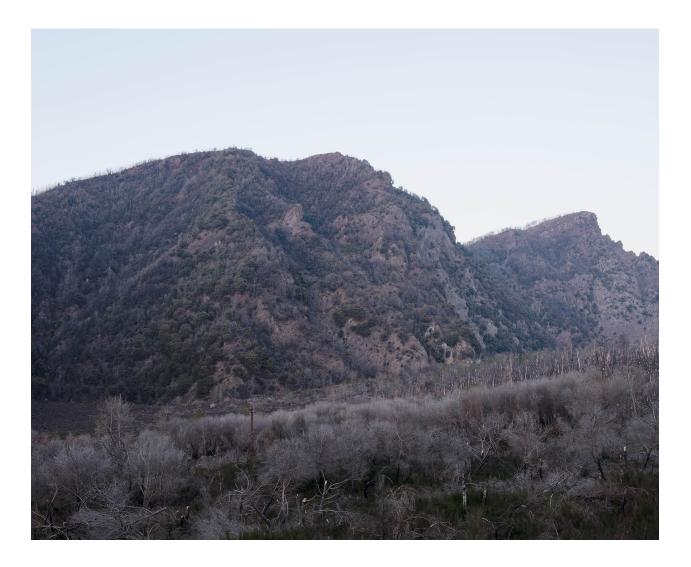
category family, food

12:33:01

The road down from the top of Mount Vesuvius, at Atrio Del Cavallo. The sun sets. The last tourist bus has headed down. Then the headlights of the guardian's car swing their way down. It must be freezing. I am holding an orange-sized piece of petrified lava, probably stemming from the 1872 or 1944 eruption. A kilometer further down the road, the old Observatory is empty. Nowadays, monitoring seismic changes is done in a research centre in the city of Naples. Their seismographic registrations can be followed online, in real time. Two headlights swirling along the slopes, underneath me, are coming upwards.

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org A Seismic Change



type audio date 15.01.2021 filename A seismic change.mp3 size 862KB author Arnout De Cleene

category automobile, data storage, dusk, seismology, Vesuvius

12:33:01

A skiing holiday with my in-laws. The ski pass does not allow you to visit Schatzalp. We buy a separate ticket and take the train up the hill to the hotel, which served as the backdrop for Thomas Mann's *Magic Mountain*. The stately hotel and former sanatorium is gorgeous.

Meanwhile, a new virus is spreading. Some people are coughing. I am keeping distance while waiting in line to take the train back down to the snowcovered village.

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type scan date 14.02.2021 filename Document_2021-02-14_140547.jpg size 770KB author Arnout De Cleene

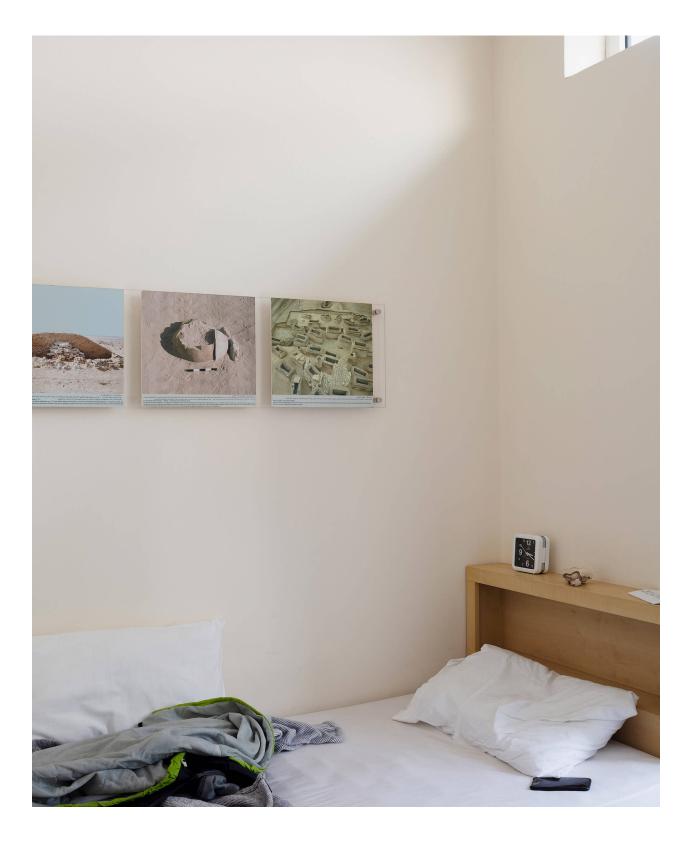
category book, card, precipitation, epidemic, family

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.

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org Room 3



type photograph date 11.12.2020 filename _44A7372.dng size 49,3MB author Michiel De Cleene

category archaeology, Bahrain, epidemic, scale, decoration

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In Six Stories from the End of Representation, James Elkins writes: 'Astrophysicists are well practised in "cleaning up" photographic plates by adjusting colour and contrast, removing images of dust, correcting aberrations, restoring lost pixels, and balancing uneven background illumination. When it comes to blur, the usual strategy is to specify what counts as "smooth" and what counts as "pointlike," and then refine the image until it exhibits the required pointlike properties'¹. Still, some astronomic images keep a certain amount of blur (although it would be technically possible to delineate them). Elkins continues: 'blur does not need to be a matter of distance from some hypothetical optimal clarity: it can be a functional scale, independent of the viewer's notions of clarity and even of the image itself'².

On the night of 22 November 2021, I join John Sussenbach in his backyard while he captures Neptune.

He invites me to join him and his wife for dinner. A prayer. Soup and bread. The images he makes, he explains, are complex from a temporal point of view. The light coming from Neptune has travelled for four hours before it reaches us. Moreover, these images are not photographs of a singular moment, but stacked frames of a video-recording. In doing so, he can, to some extent, eliminate the effects of a bad 'seeing': the negative effect atmospheric turbulence has on the light that reaches the telescope.

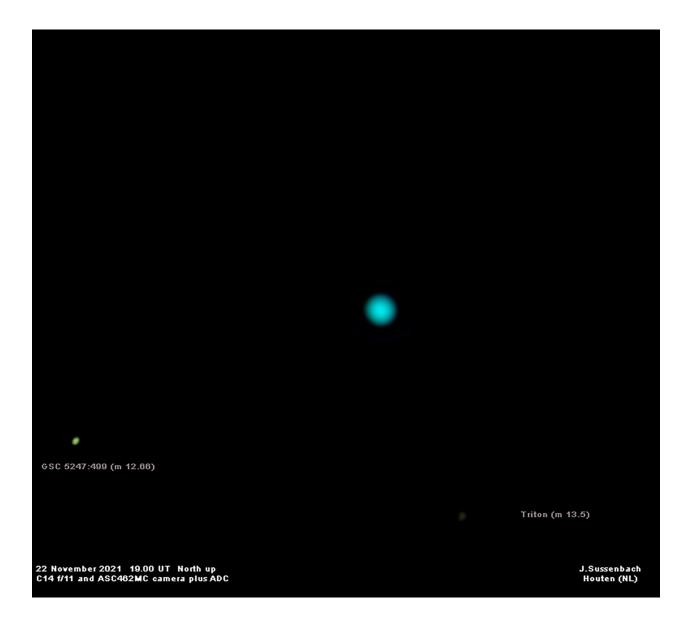
A bright dot is jumping around on his laptop's screen. 'That's Neptune', he says. With his index finger he follows the dot. 'That's the bad seeing. That's the unrest.'

The next day I send him the photograph I took of him standing on his ladder, dangerously placed on the edge of the tarp covering his pool. 'Nice to see the open star cluster Pleiades in your photograph', he replies. He attaches the image he made that night: 'If there would have been a clear storm on Neptune, it would have shown'.

Sources

- Image by John Sussenbach. 22 November 2021 19.00 UT North up C14 f/11 and ASC462MC camera plus ADC, Houten (NL)
- Elkins, J. Six Stories from the End of Representation. Images in Painting, Photography, Astronomy, Microscopy, Particle Physics, and Quantum Mechanics, 1980-2000. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2008, 59.
- Mechanics, 1980-2000. Stanfold. Stanfold University Fless, 2008,
- 2 Ibid., 62-63.

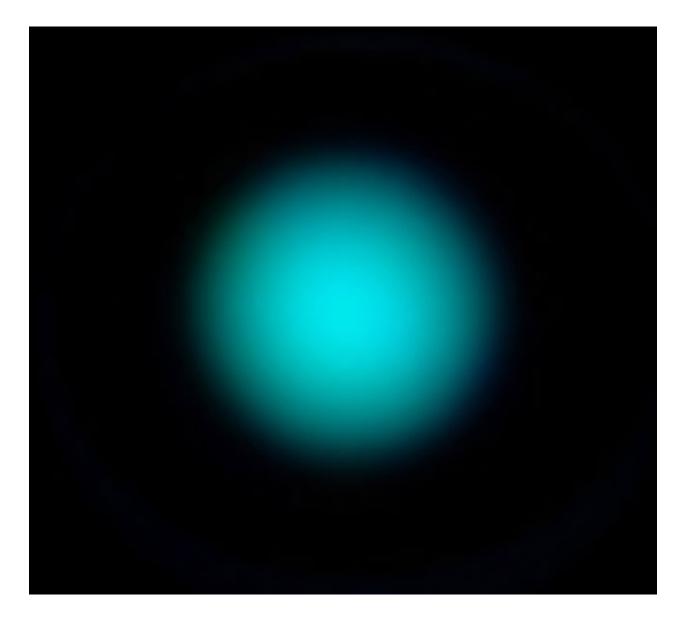
Neptune in opposition [16/20] – Unrest



		filename		
type	date	nep221121-1900UT-RGB-ASI462MC-	size	author
photograph	30.09.2022	JSussenbach.jpg	74 KB	De Cleene De Cleene

category astronomy, encounter, house, mistake, Neptune, physics, technology

the-documents.



It must have been four or five years ago, that I noticed the change in Tabasco's[®] up until then stable, unchanged and thus kind of unfashionable presence in supermarkets (vinegar section). On one of the box's sides, there had always been a photograph of a man, clipboard in hand, looking upwards to a huge wooden barrel full of Tabasco[®]. He was inspecting something, from the outside, writing it down.

A couple of years ago, the man disappeared from the packaging. I think he was replaced by a pizza (as one of the suggestions for using Tabasco[®] on, besides on hashed meat (with an egg yolk, fries and lettuce) and spaghetti bolognese) or a black-andwhite image of a part of an oak barrel. It is unclear who is inspecting the barrels now.

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org Slightly Askew (2)



size 180KB author Arnout De Cleene

type scan date 29.03.2021 filename Document_2021-03-29_111649.jpg

category packaging, food

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.

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org Crash (2)



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

'You see?!'

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[The man points at the waybill¹ on the floor behind the glass door that closes off the abandoned and dismantled hall.]

'It used to be here, I'm sure.'

[He looks around.]

'I'm sure.'

[He turns towards me.]

'Are you also here for the Leen Bakker?² This used to be a Leen Bakker. I just looked it up on their website. They are open from 9 to 6 today.'

[He points at the waybill again.]

'It was here. I remember well. It's been years. But it's here.'

[He walks away.]

'I'll look around.'

Notes

1 The waybill documents the transport of a 30m³ container filled with approximately 5000 kg of waste from this branch of Leen Bakker to a scrap processing company in nearby Ninove. They take care of scrap, both ferrous and non-ferrous metals. They also have a recognized depollution center for end-of-life vehicles.

2 A chain of furniture and interior stores with branches in the Netherlands, Belgium and the Caribbean part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. org Waybill



type photograph date 28.06.2021 filename IMG_7499.HEIC size 1,6 MB author Michiel De Cleene

category decoration, economy, mistake, waste

Halfway March my dad started finding empty clam shells on the banks of the Zuidlede along the pasture where he used to herd sheep. He had never seen this type of clam before. There were easily seventy of them along a hundred metre stretch of riverbank.

He brought two specimens to someone he knows in the neighbouring provincial domain. She would look into it, she said, and that she would probably pass it on to someone at the educational department.

Yesterday he (my dad) received a printout of the Dutch wikipedia-page on the Brakwaterstrandschelp (Rangia Cuneata). On the page Paul (who sends his regards at the bottom of the document) traced around the scallops with a blue ballpoint pen.

My dad added in capitals – also with a blue ballpoint pen – that the Rangia Cuneata is an invasive species, native to the Gulf of Mexico. The first time it was observed in Europe was in Antwerp in August 2005, most probably they reached Europe in the ballast water tanks of large ships.

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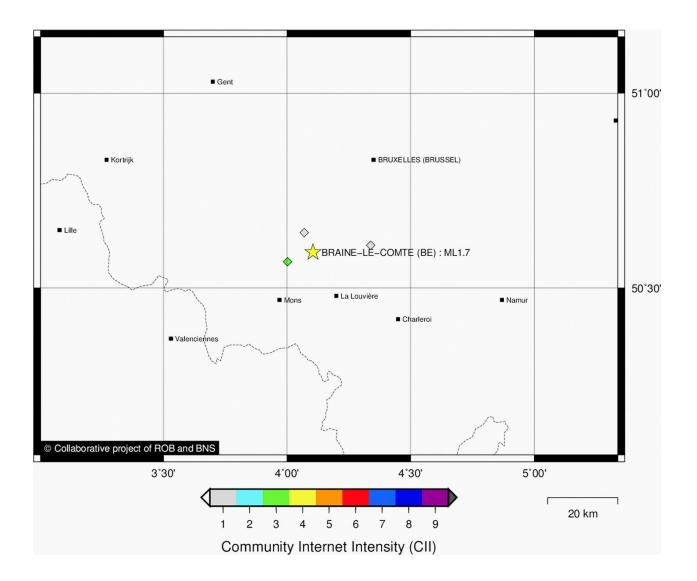
org Schelp

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category animal, economy, encyclopaedia, food, replica/copy, sea, family

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On May 6th 2020, 14h06 and 31 seconds, the Belgian Seismological Institute records an earthquake with a 1,7 magnitude in the region of Braine-Le-Compte. Three reactions from people in the neighbourhood, filed by the Institute, confirm the official seismological recordings. The Institute's website classifies the earthquake as a 'quarry blast'. org Quarry



type	date	filename	size	author
screenshot	16.02.2021	9980.png	45KB	Arnout De Cleene

category data storage, interference, map/plan, scale, seismology, technology

In Boarhunt, close to Winchester (UK), the fort houses the Royal Armouries' artillery collection. It contains parts of the 'Project Babylon' space gun, the two part bronze Dardanelles Gun and a collection of French field guns, captured in Waterloo. On the lawn to the South of the fort two neat piles of fifteen¹ 36" shells flank a Mallet's Mortar. Manufactured in 1857, the mortar remains unfired up to this day.² In 1873, its inventor – the engineer and geophysicist Robert Mallet - publishes his translation of Luigi Palmieri's Incendio Vesuviano. Before giving a lengthy account of his take on the present state of vulcanicity, he briefly introduces the famous Italian vulcanologist's report: 'The following Memoir of Signor Palmieri on the eruption of Vesuvius in April of this year (1872), brief as it is, embraces two distinct subjects, viz., his narrative as an eye-witness of the actual events of the eruption as they occurred upon the cone and slopes of the mountain, and his observations as to pulses emanating from its interior, as indicated by his Seismograph, and as to the electric conditions of the overhanging cloud of smoke (so called) and ashes, as indicated by his bifilar electrometer, both established at the Observatory.'

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Notes

1.

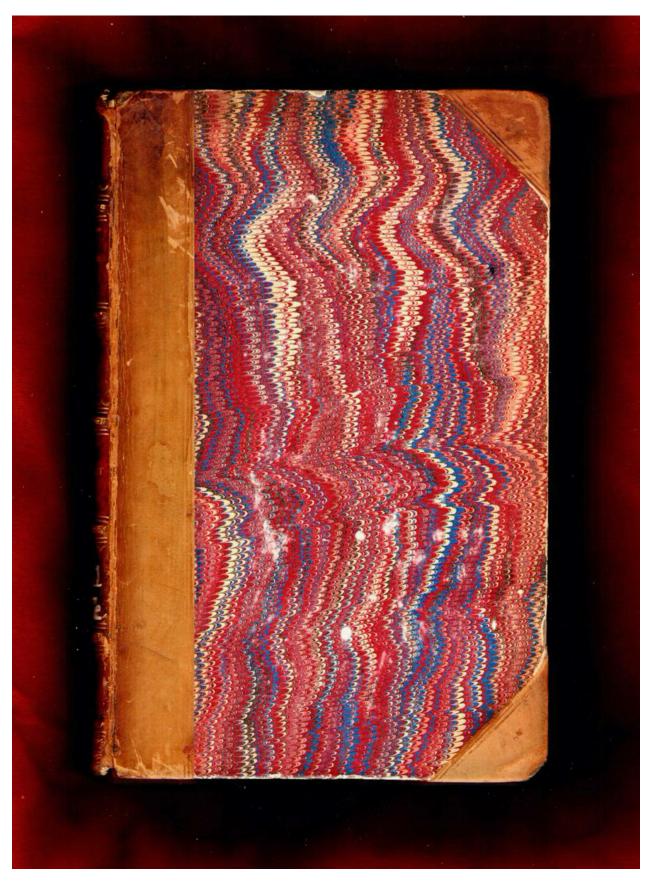
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 In the outskirts of East of London, along Repository road in Woolwich, the only other mortar of this type is installed. This particular one fired nineteen shells on three occasions. Each time resulting in a damaged mortar.

Sources

 Screenshot taken from AbeBooks, where the first edition of *The Eruption* of Vesuvius in 1872 with Notes, and an Introductory Sketch on the Present State of Knowledge of Terrestrial Vulcanicity, the Cosmical Nature and Relations of Volcanoes and Earthquakes is listed for 1895,00 USD. https://www.abebooks.com/first-edition/Eruption-Vesuvius-1872.with-Notes-Introductory-Sketch/439314424/bd

Project Gutenberg's The Eruption of Vesuvius in 1872, by Luigi Palmieri (translated by Mallet) can be found at: https://www.gutenberg.org/files/33483/33483-h/33483-h.htm



type screenshot date 09.05.2021 filename Schermafbeelding 2021-05-09 om 11.39.23.png

size 7,30MB author Michiel De Cleene

category book, encyclopaedia, landscape, physics, seismology, Vesuvius, technology

At the end of the day, riding home after work, I find a text on my hand:

the-documents.c

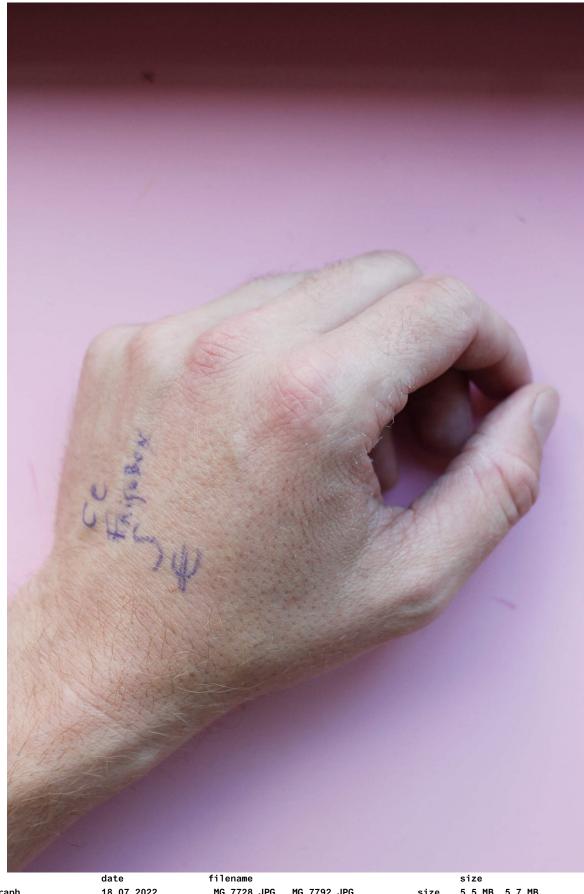
C D[...]ers Desk K Communication book

'Diapers', I recall, and stop at the shop to buy them. Sweat, dust, and manic hand rubbing have rendered parts of the writing illegible. 'C' is for Carl, whose newborn I need to visit as soon as possible. Sometimes, I can't remember what the initial stands for. I don't have any friends with names beginning with a K (who have newborns I need to visit).

The right hand writes, the left hand serves as the canvas. The back of the right hand, folded around the pen, is blank and tells the always already written on back of the left hand, whose palm never holds a pen, what to register. Right: an author. Left: a poem, sunken into the pores.

Back home, I trace 'Desk' again, as not to forget to clean it tomorrow.

What the left hand forgot org



photograph author Arnout De Cleene

type

18.07.2022

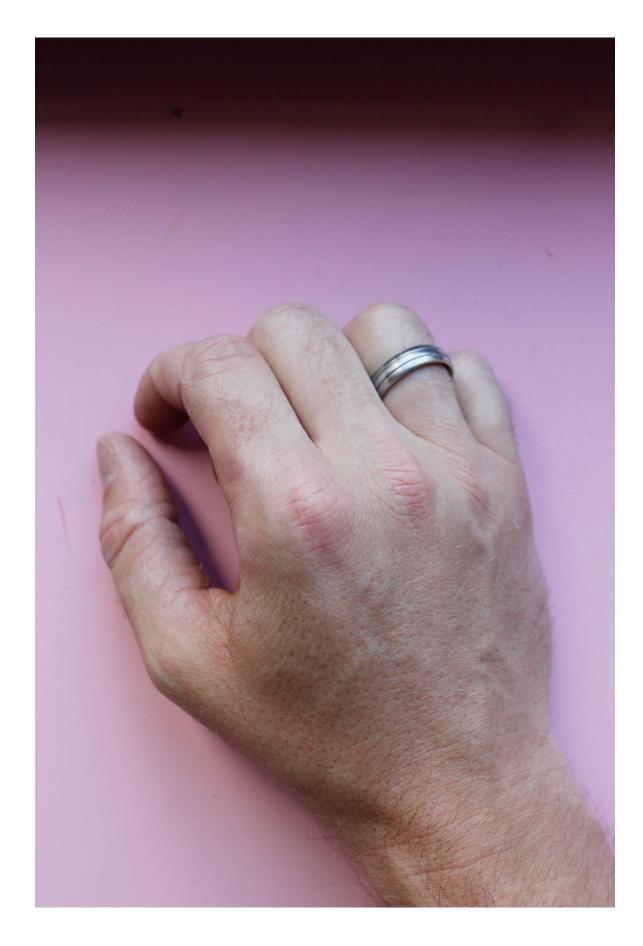
_MG_7728.JPG, _MG_7792.JPG

size 5,5 MB, 5,7 MB

category data storage, literature, hand

the-documents.

What the left hand forgot



Photographing the house and the clearing it stood in proved difficult. During summer, the nettles and brambles slowed down the pace. Some plants stung the elbows. The clearing only became visible when the sun fell through the opening in the canopy. On cloudy days the clearing disappeared.

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Notes

'As the order of institutions follows its course, or as huts give way to villages and then to cities and finally to cosmopolitan academies, the forests move further and further away from the center of the clearing. At the center one eventually forgets that one is dwelling in a clearing. [...] Yet however wide the circle may get through the inertia of civic expansion, it presumably retains an edge of opacity where history meets the earth, where the human abode reaches its limits.'

Sources

Pogue Harrison, R. 'The Ecology of Finitude', in: id., *Forests*. Chicago, 1992, 245.

Negative sheet 17, negative 36, negative 36,5



type scan date 11.10.2023 filename 017c_05.jpg

size

1,48 MB

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author De Cleene De Cleene

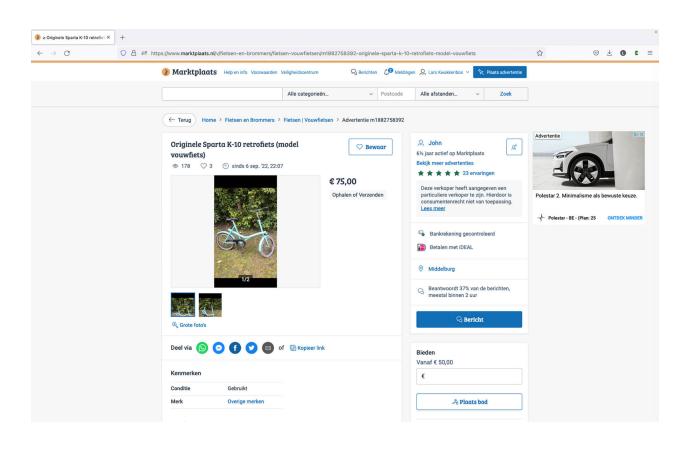
category archive, house, landscape, panorama, tree

John from Middelburg offers a K-10 without a loop at the back on marktplaats.nl. His K-10 does have a front light, which strangely never seems to be mounted in the front of the long tube of the frame. The asking price is 75 euros, bids may start from 50 euros.

the-documents.c

Notes

Lars Kwakkenbos lives and works in Brussels and Ghent (B). He teaches at KASK & Conservatorium in Ghent, where he is currently working on the research project 'On Instructing Photography' (2023-2024), together with Michiel and Arnout De Cleene.



filename

	Originele Sparta K-10 retrofiets			
type	date	(model vouwfiets) — Fietsen	size	
screenshot	16.01.2023	Vouwfietsen – Marktplaats.png	437 KB	

author Lars Kwakkenbos

category bicycle, economy, technology

12:33:04

Screenshot 2022-09-30 at 09-09-26