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

Your path through the collection lead along Residu, Nap, May 7th, 1992, Interviews with residents of Sandersleben, no specific location, 2023 [1], Red Skirt Popular on the Street, Huang Baomei, A String of Pearls, Double Reward, 2024, Selling Public Domain, 2021, In Her View, (Un)Touching Ground, Frame of Accountability, Swarms, Neptune in opposition [13/20] – A foraging fox, Neptune in opposition [9/20] – Rooftops, a windmill and power lines, Neptune in opposition [6/20] – Pier, Neptune in opposition [3/20] – Azure, Oven encounter, Firing tool, 12M m3 [7/8] A Fissure, Crocodile Copy, Neptune in opposition [7/20] – Leather, From Asturias, Into Cantabria, Last night I dreamt of Juan Pedro, Weight Bench, Negative sheet 13, negative 24, negative 24,5, Mould, Nap, 12M m3 [3/8] Swell

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 28.08.2025 17:32, printed on ____ and contains 29 documents on 64 pages. (https://the-documents.org/log/28-08-2025-6647/)

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.

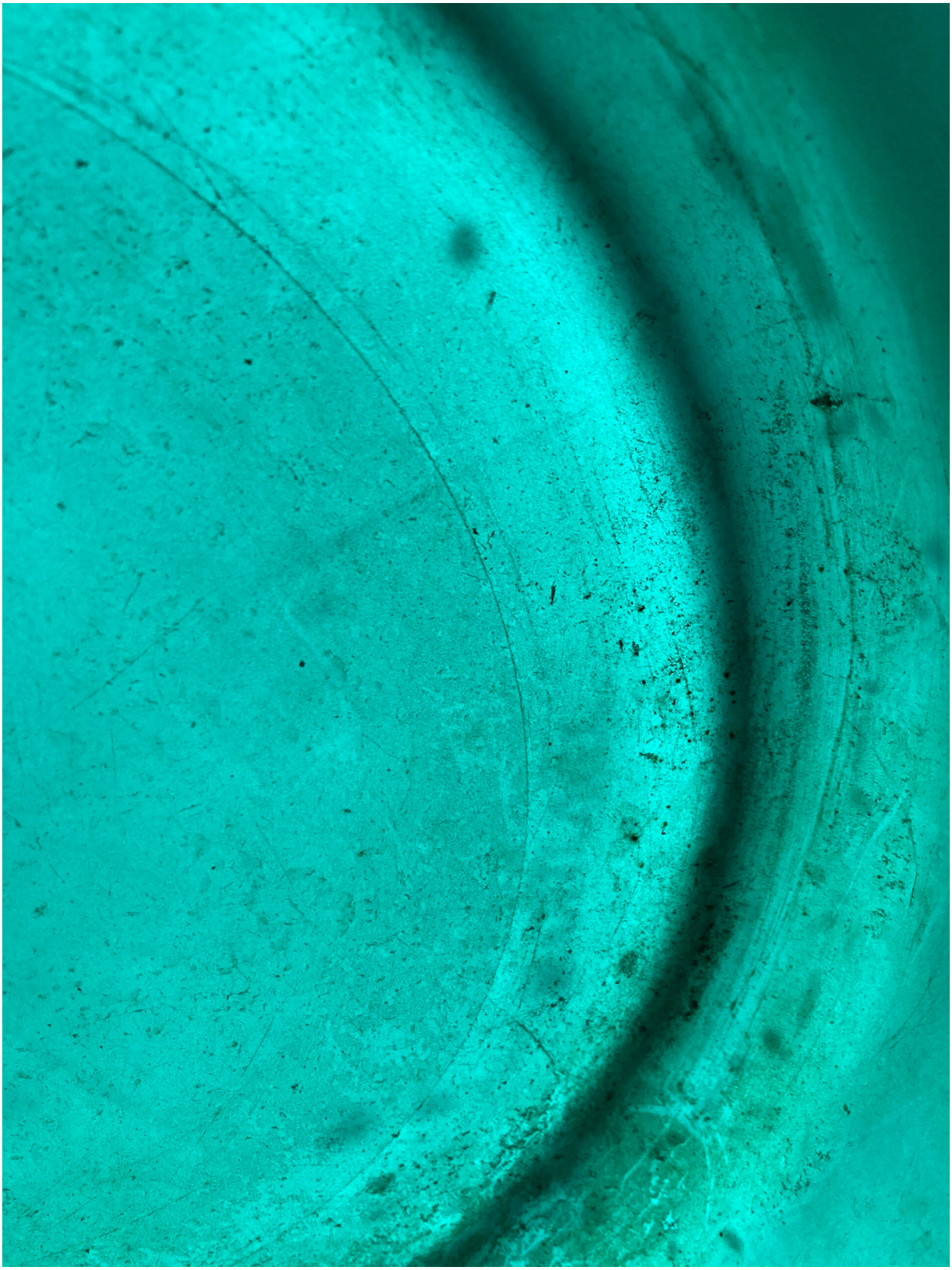
Sources

- 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.



The last couple of days have been dry. Rain is expected for the weekend. The office buckets are in place and are empty, except for some residue. Dirt, sand, a few hairs. Some particles must have come along with the drops when they made their way through the roof.

the-documents.c



type	date	filename	size	author
photograph	07.08.2025	IMG_5108.HEIC	3,3MB	Arnout De Cleene

category
architecture, collecting, data storage, precipitation, leakage

17:32:06

It’s time to have a nap. I tilt the window over its middle axis to let the butterfly out. A breeze ruffles the drapes. Now, it sits on the glass and throws an enormous shadow on the yellow cloth.

the-documents.c

Nap



type	date	filename	size	author
photograph	06.01.2025	_MG_9406.JPG; _MG_9429.JPG	6,1 MB; 10,2 MB	Arnout De Cleene

category
animal, cloth, decoration, encounter, family, scale, wind

17:32:14

the-documents.c



On May 7th, 1992, an anonymous photographer records the ice cellar, a stone’s throw from my parents’ house. It’s a beautiful day in spring. Quite a bit of wind, it seems. A Thursday. Surely, I am at school. Third grade kindergarten. It houses bats.

The photograph is part of an online heritage inventory, maintained by a government department. On the same day, the photographer took a photograph of the orangery, the entrance gate to the allotment, and the castle.

Sources

- https://id.erfgoed.net/afbeeldingen/264680

May 7th, 1992



type	date	filename	size	author
photograph	26.12.2024	Wachtebeke_Puyenbrug_5_ijskelder_full.jpg	565 KB	Arnout De Cleene

category
architecture, archive, family, government, wind

17:32:14

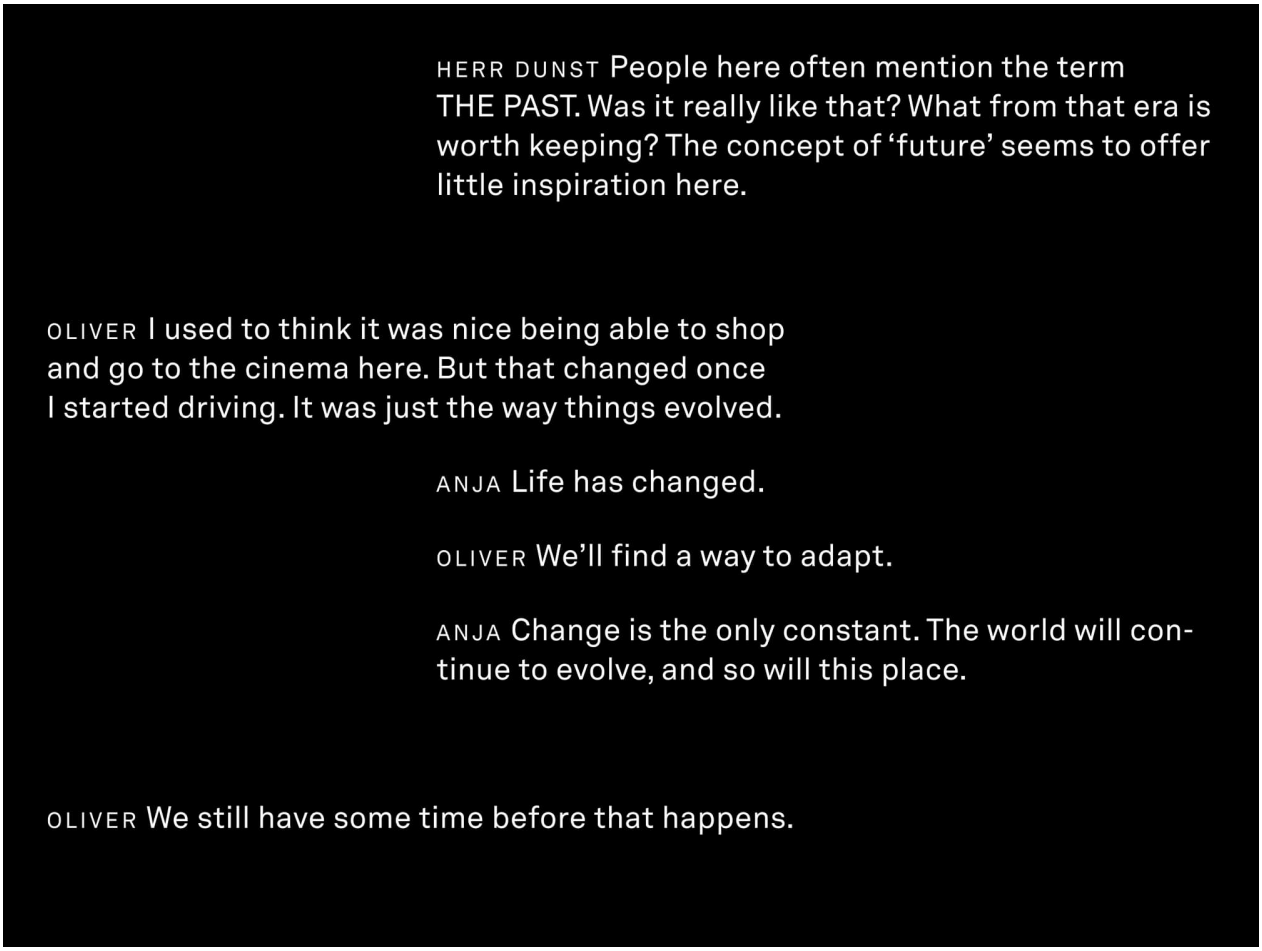
Freely adapted from interviews with residents of Sandersleben (Saxony-Anhalt). Three-act play. The first two acts take place in the present day; the third is set in the future.

From Act 1 ‘The Town of S’, Scene 2 ‘The Past’. Characters: MR DUNST club member I, OLIVER club member II, ANJA young mother

Notes

- Stills from text animation *S. Anders Leben. Eine Handlung in Gesprächen/S. Anders Leben – Living Differently: An Act in Conversations*
- Stephanie Kiwitt (1972) is an artist based in Halle (Saale), Germany. Utilizing a large number of images, various perspectives and also textual elements, she is known for her insightful photography that explores spaces emblematic of contemporary phenomena. Over the past three years, she has focused on evolving habitats in rural areas, photographing traces of transformation and conducting interviews in Saxony-Anhalt, the region she moved to in 2020. From 2018 to 2020, Kiwitt was a guest lecturer at the LUCA School of Arts in Brussels.
- In spring 2024 the-documents.org and Trigger co-publish a series of online articles with a focus on the meeting ground between photography and the document.

Interviews with residents of Sandersleben, no specific location, 2023 [1]



type	date	filename	size	author
collage	13.06.2024	1-The PAST.jpg	301 KB	Stephanie Kiwitt

category
economy, encounter, rural area, Trigger

17:32:15

Set in the fictitious Shanghai-based Dafeng Cotton Mill, *Red Skirt Popular on the Street* (1984) follows the story of an enterprising model worker as she navigates the challenges of young adult life, from workplace conflicts to choosing what clothes to wear on her days off. In the reflection of the emerging consumer consciousness of the Reform era, many of the film's key moments happen not on the factory floor, but in the changing room where the workers seek to express themselves through their choice of dress. To this end, the film can be regarded as a document of the fashion trends being introduced into the country at the time, as best observed in the spellbinding array of colours on display as the workers leave the factory at the end of a day's work.

The textile mill used as the setting for Dafeng Cotton Mill is Shanghai No. 1 Cotton Mill. Originally occupied by the no. 13 and 14 mills of the Japanese-owned Naigaiwata Company, the mill was formally established as the China Textile Construction Company Shanghai No. 1 Cotton Mill after the Second World War. It was located at the T-shaped intersection on Changshou Road, with the gate facing Jiaozhou Road. At that time, the area on the north side of Changshou Road extending from No. 1 Cotton Mill formed a continuous industrial zone encompassing many other factories and warehouses, all of which have since been converted into the private residences and creative parks.

Notes

- Ho Rui An is an artist and writer working in the intersections of contemporary art, cinema, performance and theory. Through lectures, essays and films, his research examines the relations between labour, technology and capital across different systems of governance in a global age.
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Red Skirt Popular on the Street



type	date	filename	size	author
collage	05.06.2024	redskirt.jpg	4,89 MB	Ho Rui An

category
architecture, conflict, economy, factory, fashion, Trigger

17:32:16

Directed by Xie Jin, *Huang Baomei* (1958) is a docudrama based on the real-life experiences of the national model worker of the same name, who also plays herself in the film. Reflecting the economic priorities of the day following the launch of the Great Leap Forward—a far-reaching and ultimately devastating campaign that sought to replace the prevailing Soviet-style expert-managerial system with workers' self-organisation and mass mobilisation—the film focuses on the challenges faced by machine operators as they strive for a technical breakthrough while working with their aging machines.

Located at No. 2866, Yangshupu Road, Shanghai No. 17 Cotton Mill, which had its origins in the Japanese-owned Yuho Spinning Company, was one of Shanghai's best known cotton mills. The launch of China's economic reforms opened a new era for the mill, as reflected cinematically in *No. 17 Cotton Mill Shanghai Blues* (1984), a British documentary that attests to the vibrant workers' music scene blossoming within the factory walls. In 1992, the state-owned enterprise was restructured as one of the first batch of joint-stock companies in the Reform era and renamed as Longtou Company after the brand name of a fabric manufactured by the mill. Following the relocation of the mill's original machinery to Jiangsu in 2007, work commenced to redesign the entire complex and relaunch it as the Shanghai International Fashion Center. In Jia Zhangke's *I Wish I Knew* (2010), an elderly Huang Baomei is seen walking amidst the ruins that are all that remain of the cotton mill as it awaits refurbishment.

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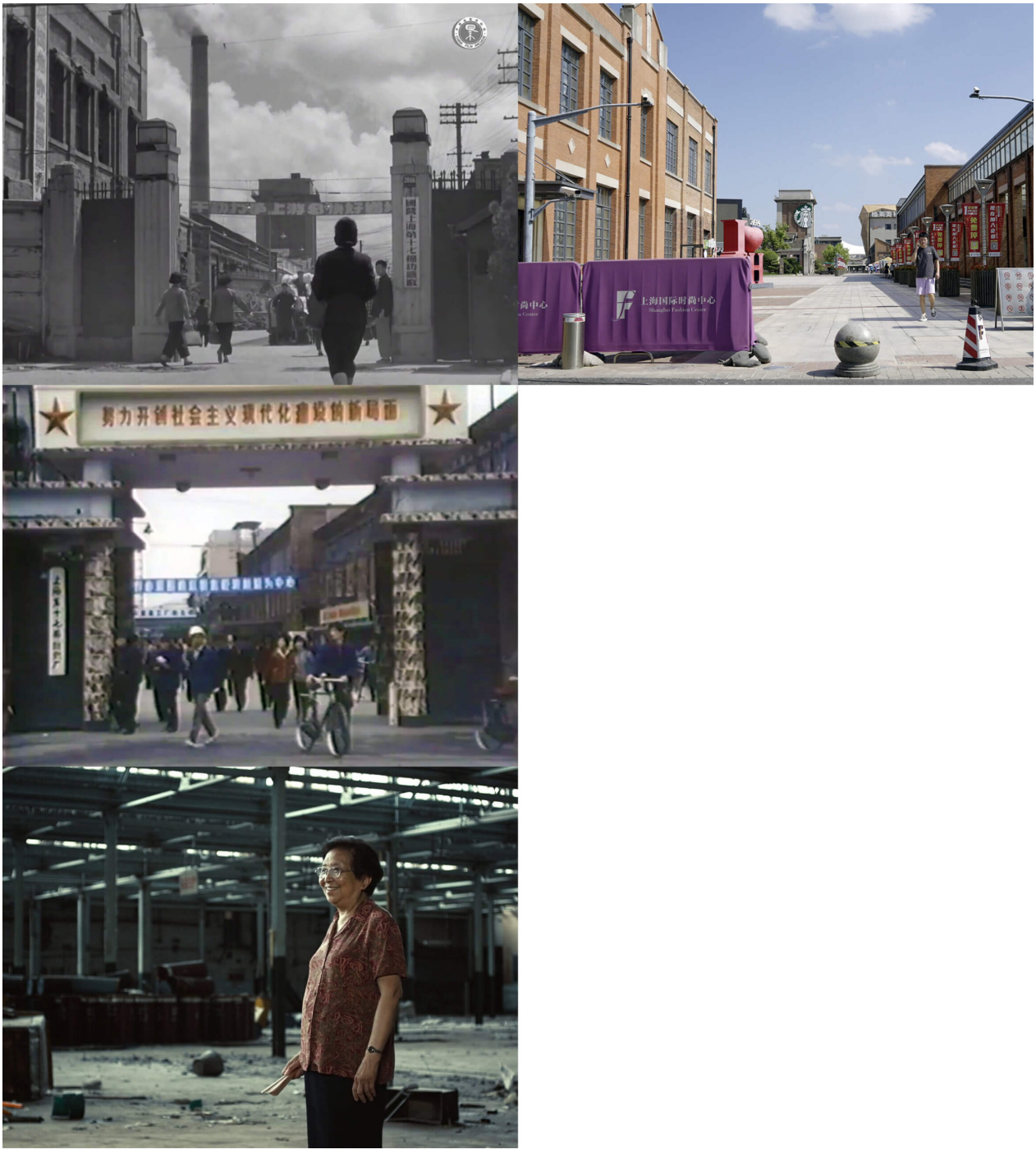
Huang Baomei



type	date	filename	size	author
collage	05.06.2024	huangbaomei.jpg	2,44 MB	Ho Rui An

category
architecture, economy, factory, government, Trigger

17:32:16

A classic of Republican-era cinema, the 1926 silent film *A String of Pearls* follows the trials and tribulations of a middle-class Shanghai couple after a pearl necklace borrowed by the husband to please his materialistic wife is stolen. In order to pay for a replacement, the protagonist resorts to embezzling public funds and consequently ends up in prison. After working as a weaver during his sentence, he becomes a worker at Zhenhua Cotton Mill following his release. In an obvious homage to the Lumières' seminal film, a scene in the film shows workers, including children, entering the factory to begin a day's work.

Even though the precise location of the factory gate in the film cannot be determined, it happens that the first enterprise that attracted the investment of Rong Ruixin—a relative of cotton magnates Rong Zongjing and Rong Desheng—was called Zhenhua Cotton Mill. Established in 1905, Zhenhua Cotton Mill was not fully mechanised, which would correspond with the appearance of a hand-operated loom in the film. Today, a residential community sits on the original site of the cotton mill.

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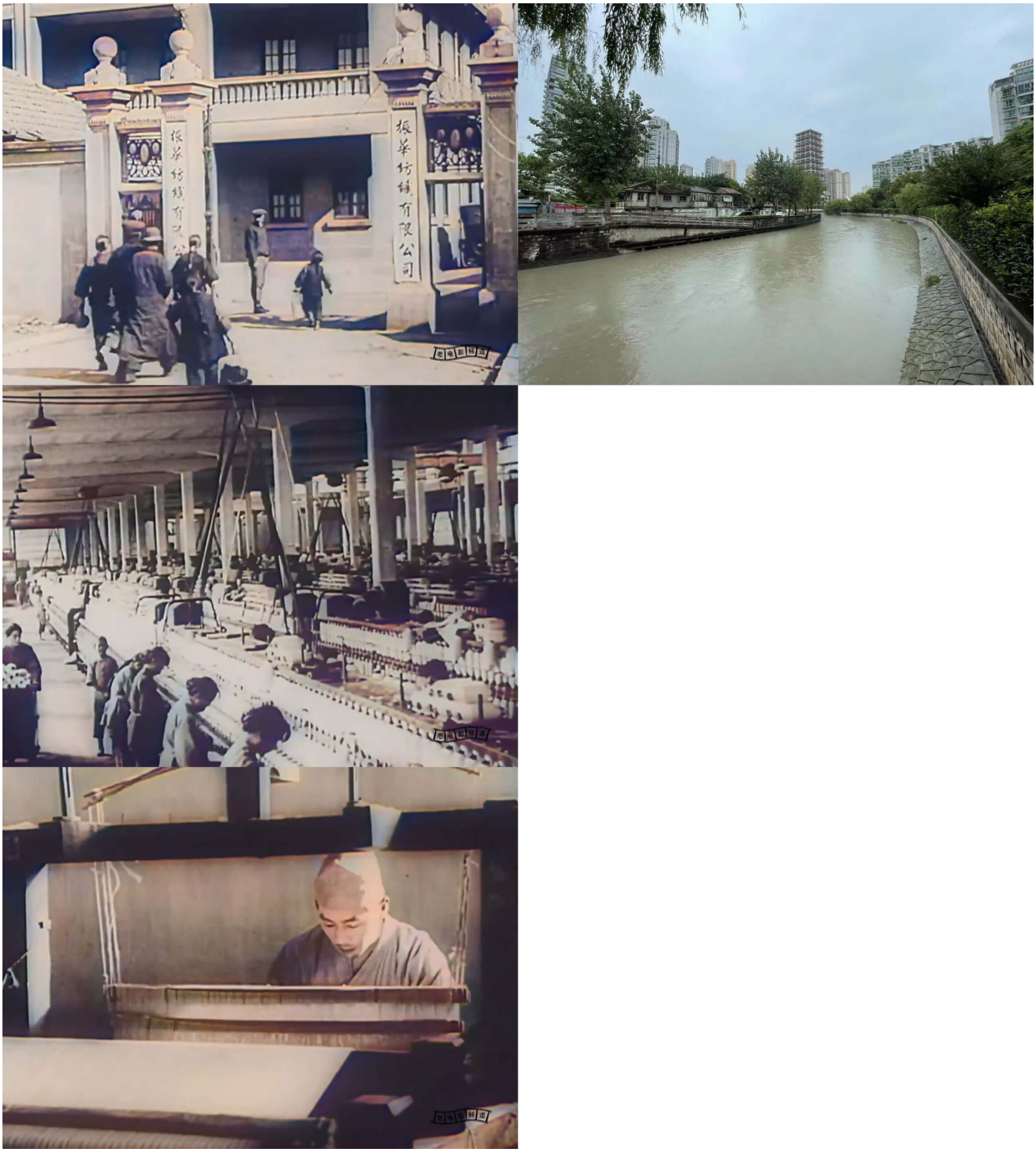
A String of Pearls



type	date	filename	size	author
collage	05.06.2024	astringofpearls.jpg	2,59 MB	Ho Rui An

category
architecture, economy, factory, hand, Trigger

17:32:16

In the world of *National Geographic*, white people overlooking a landscape are not uncommon. “The Red Shirt School of Photography” was a label used to describe National Geographic photographers who allegedly brought red clothing and props with them on assignment to put on their subjects in order to make better photographs when working with Kodachrome film, which is famous for its capability of rendering rich colors. Overlooking a landscape wearing red, the observer asserts dominance over the land. They glorify it, seeing a country that is beautiful, rich in resources, and therefore “worth taking”.

Notes

- Max Pinckers (°1988, BE) and Victoria Gonzalez-Figueras (°1988, CA) are based in Brussels, Belgium. They have been working together for the past ten years on documentary photography projects. Victoria works in the cultural field as a researcher and producer. Max is a speculative documentarian, teacher and occasional writer on photography. They are married, in love, and have a son. Victoria has consistently assisted Max in his projects as a production manager, but they have recently been making new work together as co-authors. “Double Reward” is the first such project.
- In spring 2024 the-documents.org and Trigger co-publish a series of online articles with a focus on the meeting ground between photography and the document.

Double Reward, 2024



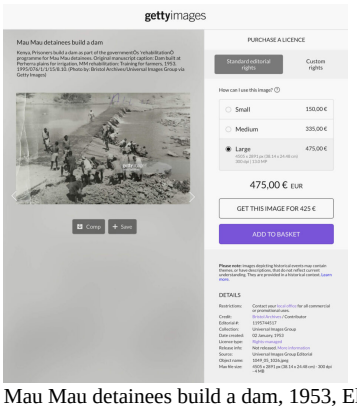
type	date	filename	size	author
scan	29.05.2024	Double Reward (with Victoria Gonzalez-Figueras).jpg	13,9 MB	Max Pinckers & Victoria Gonzalez-Figueras

category
archive, landscape, Trigger

17:32:17

Getty Images charges a fee for the use of a 1953 image depicting Mau Mau detainees building a wall. Working together with the Bristol Archives in the case of this collection, Getty claims to sell services such as “image search tools” and “research support”. These images are public domain and in fact available for free but as long as Getty does not charge the fee as a copyright claim, there is no legal obstacle to charging money for images to which they hold no copyright.

Notes

- 

- Mau Mau detainees build a dam, 1953, Elspeth Huxley (1995/076/1/1/15/8.10). British Empire & Commonwealth Collection, Bristol Archives, UK Public domain
- Max Pinckers (°1988, BE) and Victoria Gonzalez-Figueras (°1988, CA) are based in Brussels, Belgium. They have been working together for the past ten years on documentary photography projects. Victoria works in the cultural field as a researcher and producer. Max is a speculative documentarian, teacher and occasional writer on photography. They are married, in love, and have a son. Victoria has consistently assisted Max in his projects as a production manager, but they have recently been making new work together as co-authors. “Double Reward” is the first such project.
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Selling Public Domain, 2021



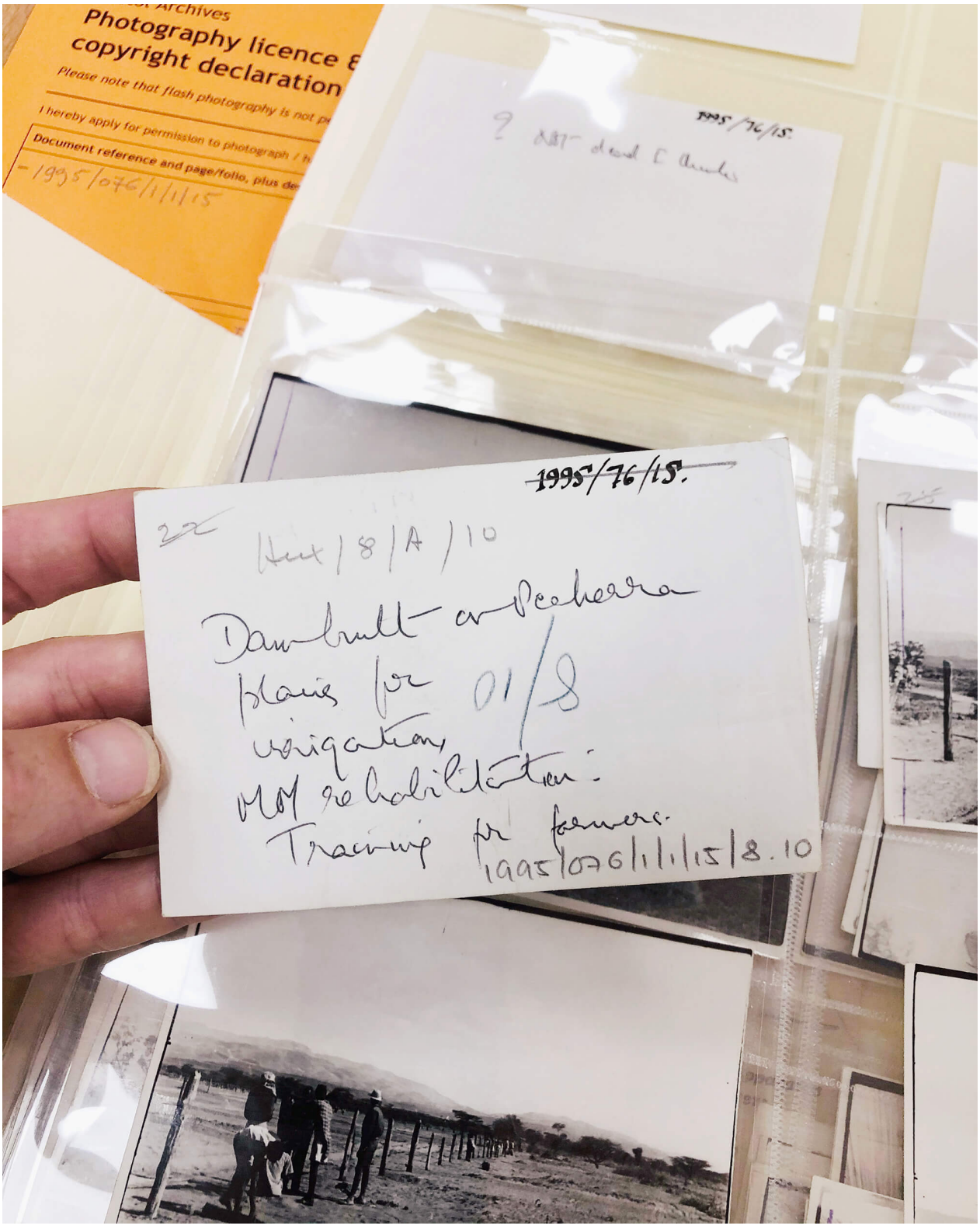
type	date	filename	size	author
photograph	27.05.2024	getty_Bristol Archives_1.jpg, getty_Bristol Archives_1.jpg	4,9 MB, 4,8 MB	Max Pinckers

category
archive, collecting, copyright, data storage, economy, Trigger

17:32:17

the-documents.c

org Selling Public Domain, 2021



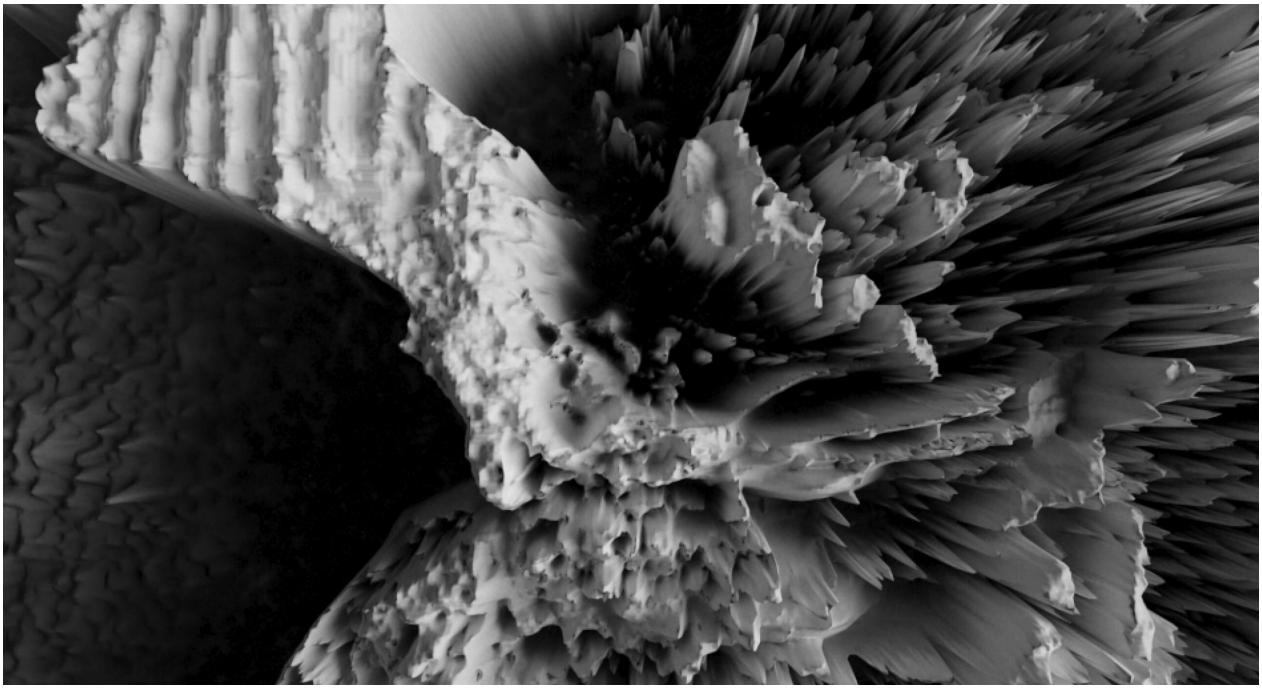
17:32:17

‘No consent was given for the photograph to be taken. The capture of my body in this way is a form of torture.
The photograph is evidence of the entitled authority and fundamental corruptions of the male soldiers and the occupying military forces.’

Screenshot from film chapter *In Her View* which engages an archival document revealing the sexual exploitation of an anonymous woman by occupying Australian soldiers fighting for the Allied forces in Lebanon in 1941. The film moves through the archival evidence to sense, trace and position her encounter as a formation of poetic testimony. The image shows extracted noise, levels, focal length and balance from the archive image to generate a 3D model of its violent points of interaction, this is without showing the image itself. A technique developed with Anabel Garcia-Kurland on human/non-human modelling in the making of the film.
Frame of Accountability, 01:00:00, Helene Kazan, 2024.

Notes

- Helene Kazan is an artist, writer and educator. Her work investigates ‘risk’ as a lived condition produced through the conjoined violent effects of capitalism and conflict. This is observed in the colonial roots of international law and its material formation of the lived-built environment. In response, she uses decolonial, feminist, poetic and critical-legal approaches in her work, which explores ways of dismantling the ongoing effects of neo-colonial violence towards wider frameworks of accountability and justice.
- In spring 2024 the-documents.org and Trigger co-publish a series of online articles with a focus on the meeting ground between photography and the document.



type	date	filename	size	author
screenshot	27.05.2024	HKazan_Img8.jpg	2,28 MB	Helene Kazan

category
archive, conflict, scale, technology, Trigger

17:32:17

‘These attempts to dismantle occur amidst timeless acts of protest and resistance.’

Screenshot from film chapter *(Un)Touching Ground* where archival images that document a history of protest and resistance movements in Lebanon are put through a process of data-moshing. The disruption of the image in this pixelated moment in the film, forms to highlight the mass of people that make up these movements for intersectional revolution.
Frame of Accountability, 01:00:00, Helene Kazan, 2024.

Notes

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type	date	filename	size	author
screenshot	25.05.2024	FrameofAccountability_HKazan_2023_002.jpf	517 KB	Helene Kazan

category
archive, government, technology, Trigger

17:32:18

‘Dust particles flew off the box, disturbed by my opening. Adding to the sense that this archival material was vibrating under the weight of its unknown importance. Amidst the boxes of ‘Top Secret’ British governments documents, I find a map labelled ‘Syria’ 3.6.41.’

Screenshot from film chapter *(Un)Touching Ground* . A decolonial audio visual translation of an archival map reveals the effects of the Allied military campaign into Lebanon and Syria in 1941. *Frame of Accountability*, 01:00:00, Helene Kazan, 2024.

Through film, installation, writing and public engagement *Frame of Accountability* investigates ‘risk’ as a lived condition, produced through the co-evolution of capitalist systems and violent conflict. The project focuses on the effects across Lebanon and Syria, with a view to understanding the wider regional and global consequences. Using poetic and critical-legal methods, the work explores ways of dismantling violence perpetrated through colonial mechanisms of governance, towards wider frameworks of accountability and justice. The work is produced in multi-part, non-linear formation.

Notes

- Helene Kazan is an artist, writer and educator. Her work investigates ‘risk’ as a lived condition produced through the conjoined violent effects of capitalism and conflict. This is observed in the colonial roots of international law and its material formation of the lived-built environment. In response, she uses decolonial, feminist, poetic and critical-legal approaches in her work, which explores ways of dismantling the ongoing effects of neo-colonial violence towards wider frameworks of accountability and justice.
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type	date	filename	size	author
screenshot	24.05.2024	HKazanFoA_001.jpg	952 KB	Helene Kazan

category
archive, government, Trigger

17:32:18

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	date	filename	size	author
photograph	23.01.2024	IMG_6467.jpeg	1,66 MB	Michiel De Cleene

category
collecting, family, hand, sticker

17:32:20

A first try at using the instrument for making a recording: excitement as we succeed in pointing the telescope at the brownish dot afar we just noticed on the other side of the valley. As it continues scavenging, we wait for night to set in.

the-documents.c

Neptune in opposition [13/20] – A foraging fox



type	date	filename	size	author
video	27.09.2022	2020-05-30-1755_8-CapObj	105,04 MB	De Cleene De Cleene

category
animal, astronomy, encounter, food, landscape, Neptune, technology

17:32:20

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]

Sources

1 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. https://monoskop.org/images/4/49/Kluge_Alexander_Die_Patriotin.pdf

3 Lerner, B. & Kluge, A. *The Snows of Venice. The Lerner-Kluge-container*. Leipzig: Spector Books, 2018, 66.

- Excerpt from Towards Civil Dusk (De Cleene De Cleene, 2020)

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



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

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

17:32:21

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.

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.

Neptune in opposition [6/20] – Pier



type	date	filename	size	author
photograph	21.09.2022	_44A7375.dng, _44A7394.dng	55,61 MB, 56,96 MB	De Cleene De Cleene

category
architecture, astronomy, encounter, Neptune, technology

17:32:21

the-documents.c



17:32:21

the-documents.c

The planet Uranus should have followed a course as predicted by Newton's laws. It didn't. There were 'residuals', the 19th-century observers said: irregular data, which had to be interpreted as Uranus deviating from the projected trajectory. They could think of three possibilities. A) The planet Uranus was too far away from the Sun, which might render the Law of Gravitation invalid. B) The observations were incorrect. C) There was another planet, still further and yet unknown, with its own gravitational field and pull, causing Uranus to deviate from its course.

Following hypothesis C, astronomers predicted the position of a planet with a gravitational field, influencing Uranus, by means of mathematical calculations. Telescopes were directed to that calculated spot. There was a luminous point, with a touch of bright azure blue.

Neptune in opposition [3/20] – Azure



type	date	filename	size	author
photograph	18.09.2022	_44A5708.dng	43,48 MB	De Cleene De Cleene

category
astronomy, automobile, encounter, interference, landscape, map/plan, mathematics, Neptune, physics, technology, mistake

17:32:21

Here, on his kitchen table, Marcel Poulet, an expert on the stoneware tradition in the center of France, is explaining his archeological work on ‘whale ovens’.

I started collecting images and plans of ovens, for the beauty of those abstract technical lines and for what we can learn from them. In gathering the material that makes up this Atlas, and in sharing interests and knowledge, I learned that many people know about ovens, either in their homes, gardens, ateliers, factories, streets… Everyone transforms things through heat. Even bodies need warmth and produce some themselves.

Notes

- Clementine Vaultier’s interests, although trained as a ceramist, are in the warm surroundings of the fire rather than the production it engenders.

Oven encounter



type	date	filename	size	author
photograph	15.09.2022	clementine_oven_encounter.JPEG	1,3 MB	Clémentine Vaultier

category
archive, book, collecting, encounter, hand

17:32:21

Jolimont, December 2021. The place is in ruins. We occupy the domain with students of La Cambre in an attempt to practice ceramics with what is there. In the former ceramic atelier, we gather everything that was purposelessly there: a weird collection of things from the past, waiting to be organized, displayed, used or thrown away.

The firing tool was made to take out the accumulating ashes from the firebox, to keep the air flowing in the oven, raising the temperature, reaching our ceramic-making goal of 1150°C. Not very efficient, time or heat resistant, this savage, yet poetic composition barely survived the firing.

The wooden handle was borrowed from a broom.
The scraper is a fragment of a chandelier previously hanging in one of the salons.
The connecting element is an old electrical resistor we found in one of the dismantled ovens.

Notes

- Clementine Vaultier’s interests, although trained as a ceramist, are in the warm surroundings of the fire rather than the production it engenders.

Firing tool



type	date	filename	size	author
photograph	01.09.2022	clementine_firing_tool.JPEG	991 KB	Clémentine Vaultier

category
alchemy, archaeology, architecture, brick, collecting, decoration, waste

17:32:22

What they took for ice that slid down the dam’s slope, appears to be the reason for draining the reservoir: a fissure in the watertight layer. The dam became unreliable.

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12M m3 [7/8] A Fissure



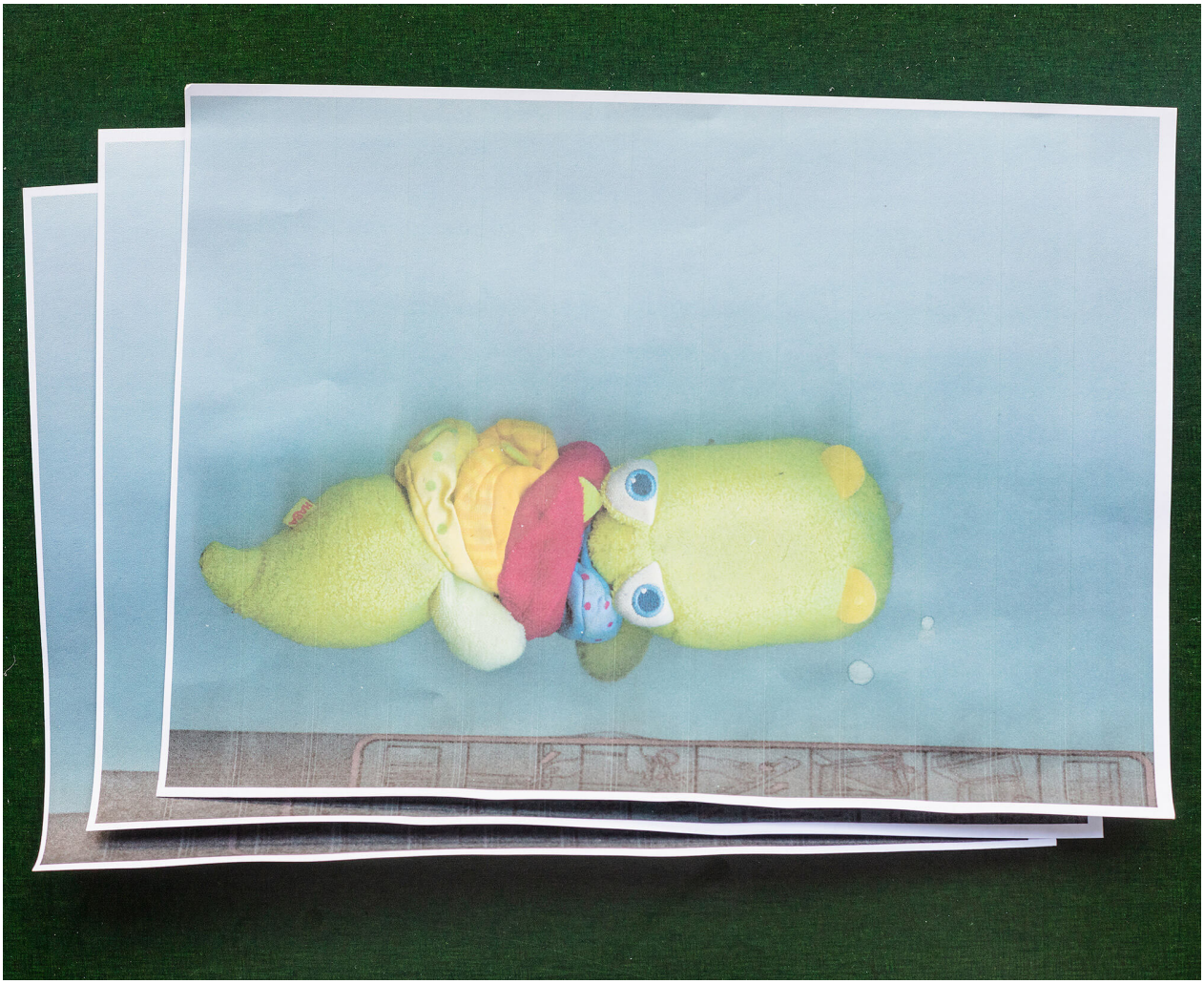
type	date	filename	size	author
photograph	06.12.2021	IMG_0515b	5,42 MB	Michiel De Cleene

category
fissure, landscape, mistake, repair

17:32:23

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.

org Crocodile Copy



type	date	filename	size	author
photograph	16.02.2021	_44A8728.dng	50,04MB	Michiel De Cleene

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

17:32:23

A seminar on spectroscopy: how, by splitting light into different, separate rays, it becomes possible to deduct the chemical composition of stars and planets far beyond our reach, as those elements have an effect on the light that reaches the spectroscope. Beautiful graphs presenting colour in schemes of black and white. From the moment the course gets into the physics of light, my mind wanders off. What approaches the observer turns blue, what elongates itself becomes red. The teacher's leather shoes squeak as he goes back and forth between his self-made spectroscope and the desk. Redshift. Blueshift.

We meet him a couple of weeks later on the rooftop of a university building. He opens one of the half-domes. The sound of the mechanics is as obtuse as the shape it alters. A command on the computer based on coordinates: above our heads, the telescope slews slowly, only to halt at an apparently indistinct black region. From within the dome, we send ourselves an email with the photographs that we took of Neptune.

University classes will start in a couple of weeks. The city air is crisp. The roundabout below is strangely calm. On the horizon, the canopy of a southern forest delineates the sodium-lit sky.

Neptune in opposition [7/20] – Leather



type	date	filename	size	author
photograph	22.09.2022	_44A5904.dng	57,76 MB	De Cleene De Cleene

category
architecture, astronomy, data storage, dusk, encounter, landscape, Neptune, physics, roofing, technology

17:32:23

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 lusher 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.

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From Asturias, Into Cantabria



type	date	filename	size	author
photograph	15.05.2021	_MG_9795.jpg	4,6MB	Arnout De Cleene

category
animal, landscape, government

17:32:23

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.

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?*.

Last night I dreamt of Juan Pedro



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

category
music

17:32:23

Today I brought an old bedspring, the styrofoam the air-humidifier came in, a few bags of sawdust and some scrap pieces of plywood to the municipal recycling center. As I was waiting to mount the stairs to the scrap metal container, a gray-haired man wearing blue leather shoes, dark jeans and a checkered shirt was tipping – with relative ease – a weight bench over the edge of the container.

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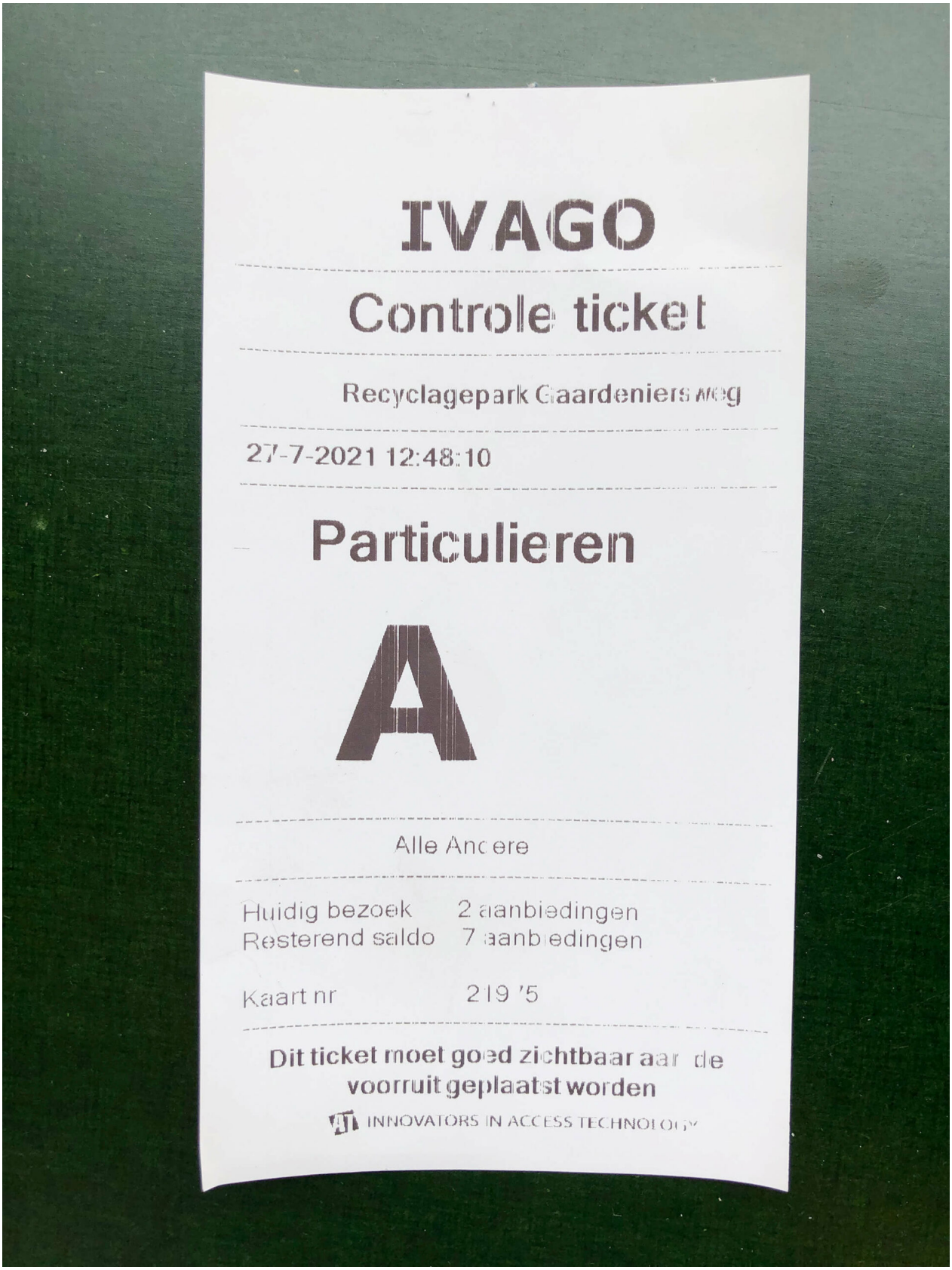
Weight Bench



type	date	filename	size	author
photograph	26.07.2021	IMG_7874.HEIC	1,2MB	Michiel De Cleene

category
crash, impact, waste

17:32:24

In Walter Benjamin's *The Arcades Project*, Convolute Q is dedicated to the panorama. Benjamin writes: 'Setup of the panoramas: View from a raised platform, surrounded by a balustrade, of surfaces lying round about and beneath. The painting runs along a cylindrical wall approximately a hundred meters long and twenty meters high. The principal panoramas of the great panorama painter Prévost: Paris, Toulon, Rome, Naples, Amsterdam, Tilsit, Wagram, Calais, Antwerp, London, Florence, Jerusalem, Athens. Among his pupils: Daguerre' (Q1a, 1).

Sources

- Benjamin, W. *The Arcades Project* (H. Eiland & K. McLaughlin, trans.). Cambridge/London: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2002, p. 528.

Negative sheet 13, negative 24, negative 24,5



type	date	filename	size	author
scan	31.05.2023	013b_16.jpg	1,18 MB	De Cleene De Cleene

category
architecture, archive, decoration, fissure, panorama

17:32:28

At a dental practice, the white Alligat®-powder is mixed with the right amount of water to get a mouldable dough that is pressed upon a patient's teeth. After thirty seconds, the Alligat®-dough stiffens and takes on a rubber-like quality. At that point, still white, it must be removed from the patient's mouth. Over the next few hours, the mould turns increasingly pink as the substance becomes less humid. Now, it can be used as a mould to create a positive master cast of the patient's teeth.

Outside the dental practice, the powder's possibilities remain to be fully explored.

Notes

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Sources

- First published as part of De Cleene De Cleene. 'Amidst the Fire, I Was Not Burnt', *Trigger (Special issue: Uncertainty)*, 2. FOMU/Fw:Books, 25-30

org

Mould



type	date	filename	size	author
photograph	27.01.2022	_44A3429.tif	36,81 MB	De Cleene De Cleene

category
manual, medicine, packaging, repair, replica/copy

17:32:28

It’s time to have a nap. I tilt the window over its middle axis to let the butterfly out. A breeze ruffles the drapes. Now, it sits on the glass and throws an enormous shadow on the yellow cloth.

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Nap



type	date	filename	size	author
photograph	06.01.2025	_MG_9406.JPG; _MG_9429.JPG	6,1 MB; 10,2 MB	Arnout De Cleene

category
animal, cloth, decoration, encounter, family, scale, wind

17:32:28

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The river swells and eventually overflows, causing the death of six people and extensive damage: washed away bridges, damaged homes, submerged factories, destroyed food stocks, heavily eroded roads and paths.

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12M m3 [3/8] Swell



type	date	filename	size	author
photograph	01.12.2021	IMG_0507b.jpg	6,12 MB	Michiel De Cleene

category
impact, landscape, precipitation

17:32:28