

Kexin Hao

about

autonomous projects

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commissioned works



external link:

[portfolio website](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Email](#)

Kexin Hao (CN, 1993) is a visual artist and designer born in Beijing and based in The Netherlands. Her practice is a marriage of graphic design and performance art. Having initiated and being involved in various creative projects across China and Europe, Kexin challenges not only the geometrical borders, but also the boundaries between art and non-art space. She thinks beyond the disciplines of design, film, performance, game, and music, which results in rich hybridity in her art-making. Using a daring visual language, Kexin's works is a constant swing between intimate close-up on personal stories and zoom-out to collective narratives; between a past of political heaviness and a flashy modernity rendered in humour and sarcasm. In her recent practice, Kexin investigates in the themes of body, rituals, health, archive, and collective memory.

Kexin received granted residencies at iii (instrument inventors initiative) and V2_. She has shown her works at Rewire festival, TEC ART, GOGBOT Festival, L.E.V. Festival(ES), and places such as MAMA, V2_, Worm, W139, PIP, Luxelakes·A4 Art Museum(CN). She has participated in various programs in educational institutes such as Sandberg Institute, ArtEZ, Städelschule Architecture Class Frankfurt, and Klasse Digitale Grafik (HFBK) Hamburg.

-----EDUCATION-----

2012 - 2016 B.A Business | B.A German
University of International Bussiness and Economics

2017 - 2021 B.A Graphic Design
Royal Academy of Art, The Hague

-----AWARDS-----

2021.6 Graduated with Distinction | Graphic Design,
Royal Academy of Art
2021.7 Department Award | Graphic Design,
Royal Academy of Art
2021.7 Nomination | iii Research Residency Award
2021.9 Young Blood Award | GOGBOT Festival
2021.10 Gold Award, Multidisciplinary Design,
Young Blood Award | Lu Junyi Design Live

-----PRESS-----

Dd Yearbook '21
TodaysArt Visits KABK, TodaysArt, The Hague
It's Nice That | The Next Generation 2021 continued
SPREAD MAG issue 5: Movement
REWIRe 2022 IN TIEN HOOGTEPUNTEN

-----AGENDA-----

2020.2 Moonmoon Calendar X Taoist Meditation Trip, Space 101, Rotterdam (NL)
2020.8 "What Do We Talk About When We Don't Talk About Food..." Verhalenhuis, Rotterdam (NL)
2020.10 Trance Zine Pavilion Launch, Gerrit Rietveld Academie (NL)
2020.12 Katakombe, event#2, Städelschule Architecture Class, Frankfurt (online/DE)

2021.4 *Body Building*, Stroboskop, Warsaw (online/PL)
2021.6 Non Native Native Fair, Worm Rotterdam (NL)
2021.7 Discussion and exercises in cultivation, Stroboskop, Warsaw (online/PL)
2021.9 *Morning Routines*, PIP Expo, The Hague (NL)
2021.9 GOGBOT Festival, Enschede (NL)
2021.10 BARTALK#25: *Control*, The Hague (NL)
2021.11 *In Transmission*, STIFF Student International Film Festival, Rijeka (HR)
2021.11 *Recipes for A Technological Undoing*, Extra-Curricular program GRA & Sandberg Instituut (NL)
2021.11 *Embodied lives, Embodied tales*, Honors Program at Artez Arnhem (NL)
2021.12 用“身体”和“情境”貫穿的作品集, 最畢設 線上直播分享会 (online/CN)

2022.1 yà运会, Luxelakes•A4 Art Museum, Chengdu (online/CN)
2022.2 *Have A Seat! Moving away from consuming tales* Participatory presentation, MAMA Rotterdam (NL)
2022.2 Typographic Night at Page Not Found, The Hague (NL)
2022.2 *Midnight Wellness Retreat*, Performance Bar, Rotterdam (NL)
2022.2 *Transcending Labor to Dance*, iii, The Hague (NL)
2022.3 *2 Body Practice*, W139, Amsterdam (NL)
2022.3 Sinema Transtopia, bi'bak, Berlin (DE)
2022.3 *Unscripted Tour*, SPREAD MAGAZINE Launch Event, Rotterdam (NL)
2022.4 Proximity Music, Rewire Festival, The Hague (NL)
2022.4 *We Are Ocean* program at Venice Biennale (IT)
2022.5 TEC ART 2022, Rotterdam (NL)
2022.6 *Never Ready*, University of Fine Arts Hamburg (DE)
2022.6 *Body Matters*, Solo Show of Kexin Hao, CHAXART Gallery, Amsterdam (NL)
2022.7 “身体力行的宣傳委員”, 陸俊毅Design Live (online/CN)
2022.8 Traumburg Festival, Gommern (DE)
2022.9 Stimueringsfonds 10 year anniversary, Rotterdam (NL)
2022.9 Test_Lab: Summer Session, V2_ Rotterdam (NL)
2022.9 L.E.V Festival MATADERO, Madrid (ES)
2022.10 Open_Lab, V2_ Rotterdam (NL)

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Total Body Workout

2021

performance art × digital art × public art
× fitness × body politics × body memory

A workout routine that reconfigures the history of body politics in a head-to-toe sequence, and brings the past to the present by a modern, collective, and bodily experience.

external link:
[Total Body Workout](#)

Total Body Workout leads you through a 'total body' experience in which history unfolds not in chronological order but in a head-to-toe sequence.

How is our body scripted and shaped by the times it lives in? How are national agendas and political ideologies woven into bodily semiotics? How does one's body memory become an integral part of hegemonic historical narratives? And how do we inhabit a historical and totalised body?

Based on nationwide physical exercise routines and mass gymnastic performances in Asia, the Eastern Bloc and the United States, *Total Body Workout* proposes a recomposition of the existing corporal movements and a reconfiguration of the past in the present. Here and now, we work out the total body.

Graduation work

Royal Academy of Art, The Hague | 2021

-----credits-----

Music:

Dima Ibrahim

Make up:

Mijs Goosen

Fitness supervisor:

Leon Lapa Pereira

Performers:

Leon Lapa Pereira × Ella Wang

Olsson × Tom Šebestík ×

Tingyi Jiang × Pelle Schilling

Ruben Pater × Thomas Buxo

-----presentations-----

2021.7 KABK Graduation Show 2021, The Hague (NL)

2021.9 *Morning Routines*, PIP Expo, The Hague (NL)

2021.9 GOGBOT Festival, Enschede (NL)

2021.11 *Recipes for A Technological Undoing*.

Extra-Curricular program Gerrit Rietveld
Academie & Sandberg Instituut (NL)

2021.11 *Embodied lives, Embodied tales*,

Honors Program at Artez Arnhem (NL)

2022.1 yà运会, Luxelakes•A4 Art Museum, Chengdu (CN)

2022.3 *2 Body Practice*, W139, Amsterdam (NL)

2022.3 Sinema Transtopia, bī'bak, Berlin (DE)

2022.3 *Unscripted Tour*, SPREAD MAGAZINE

Launch Event, Rotterdam (NL)

2022.4 *We Are Ocean* program at Venice Biennale

2022.6 *Body Matters*, Solo Show of Kexin Hao,

CHAXART Gallery, Amsterdam (NL)

-----featured-----

Dutch Designer Yearbook 2021

SPREAD MAG issue 5: Movement

-----Awards-----

2021.7 Department Award | Graphic Design,

Royal Academy of Art

2021.7 Nomination | iii Research Residency Award

2021.9 Young Blood Award | GOGBOT Festival

2021.10 Gold Award, Multidisciplinary Design,

Young Blood Award | Lu Junyi Design Live



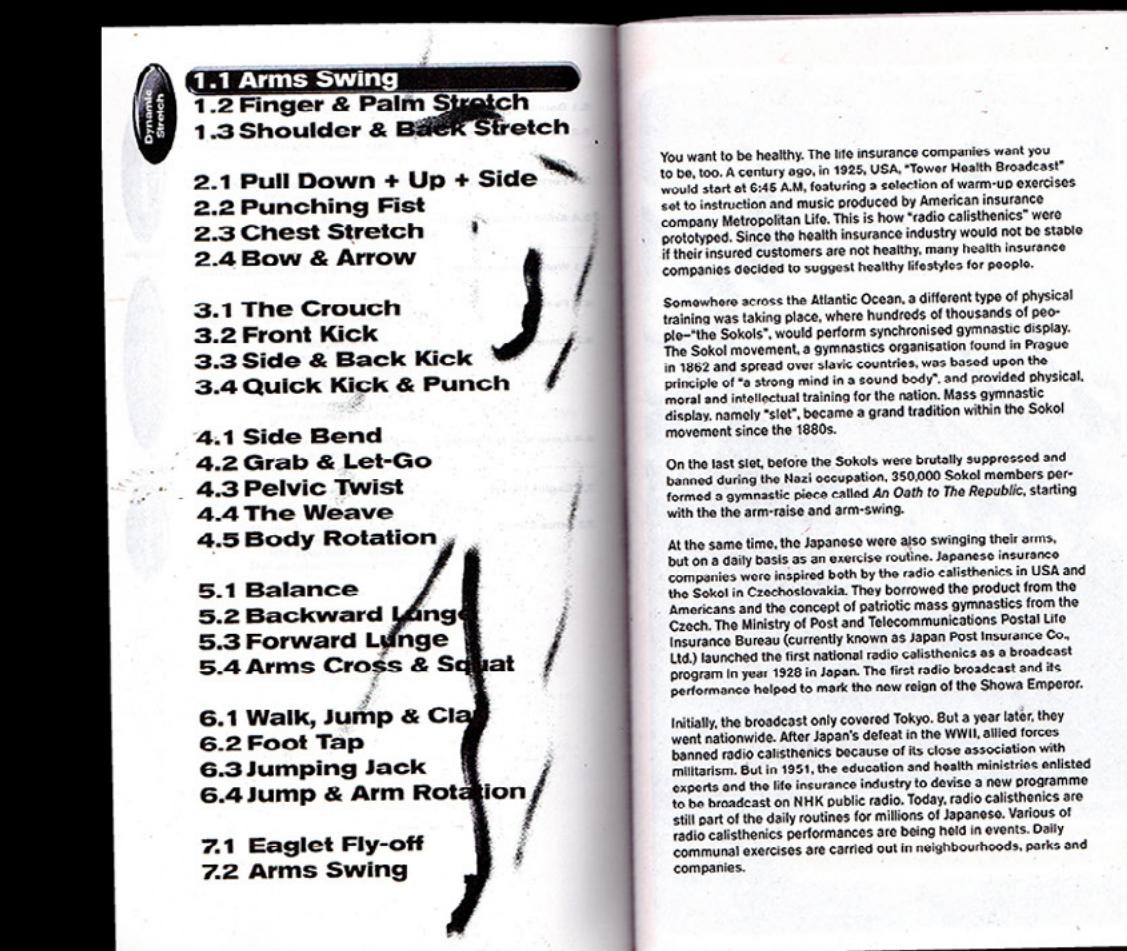
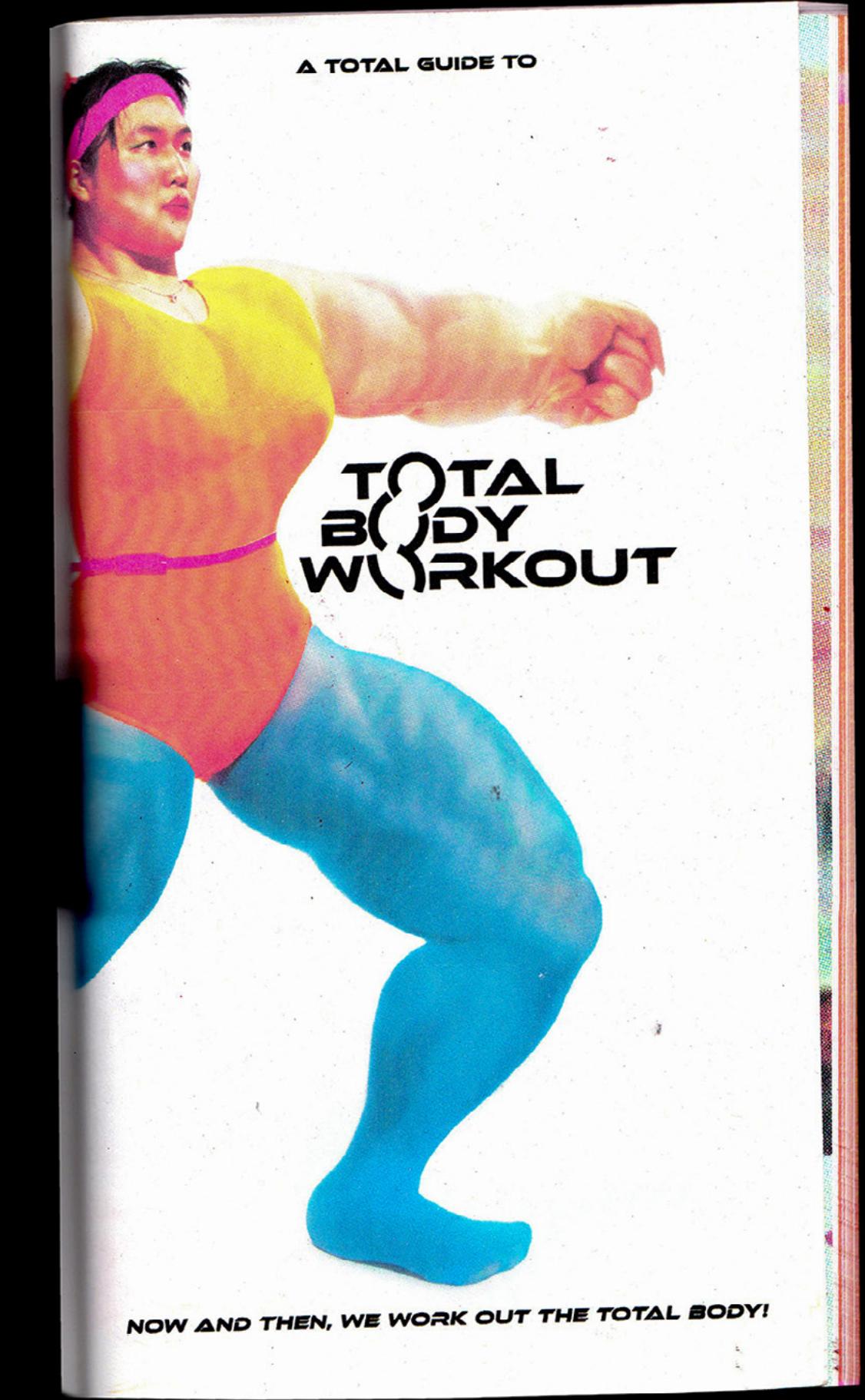
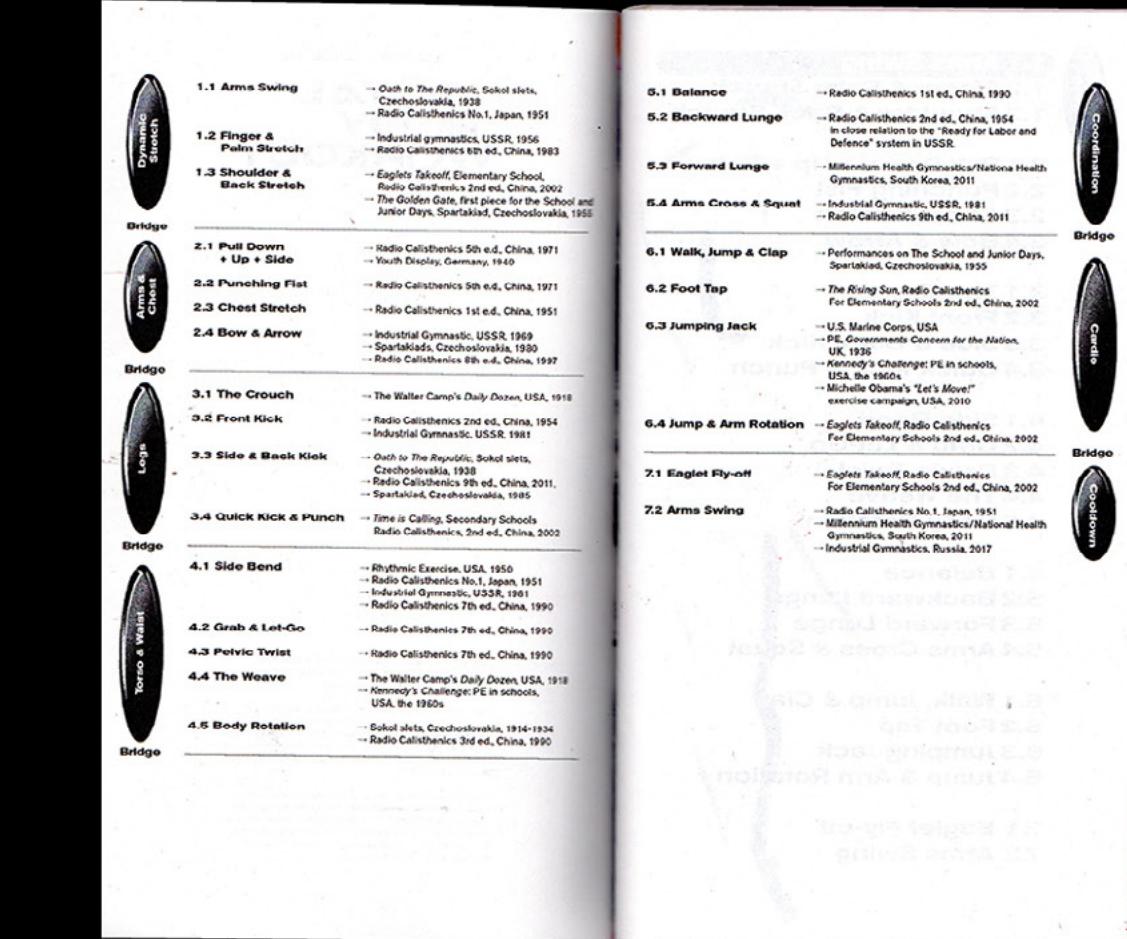
NOW AND THEN, WE WORK OUT THE TOTAL BODY!

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Total Body Workout, exhibition at KABK graduation show 2021



Total Body Workout, solo exhibition at CHAxART Amsterdam, 2022

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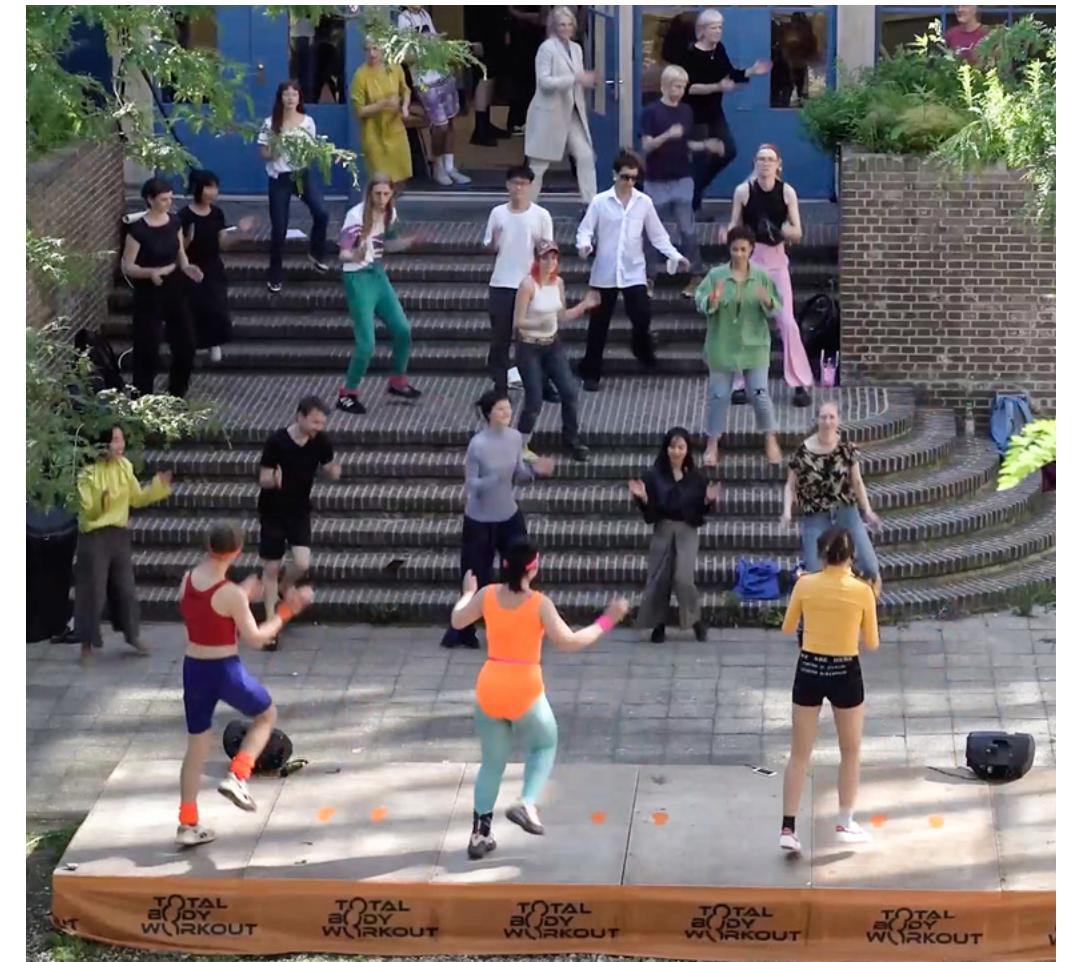
Luxelakes•A4 Art Museum, Chengdu



Body Matters at Vondelpark, Amsterdam



GOGBOT Festival, Enschede



KABK Graduation Show 2021, The Hague



PIP Expo, The Hague



SPREAD MAG, Rotterdam



Venice Biennale



W139, Amsterdam

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Future Dance of Nostalgia

2022

public performance × digital art ×
interactive media × choreography × game art

*An interactive dancing game and public performance
that activates our moving bodies as alternative
archives of the age of pre-industrial hard labor.*

external links:

[Future Dance of Nostalgia](#)

[Kexin Hao, resident artists at iii](#)

[Rewire 2022 in tien hoogtepunten](#)

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Through the research on work songs in which singing/chanting helps choreograph the repetitive manual labour, the artist tries to trace out how our moving bodies used to cooperate in the extinct activities of production. From here she questions: how do we preserve the body movements and restore our moving bodies as the living archives? Can we restore it on this body of you and me, now and here?

Future Dance of Nostalgia is a dancing game which invites audience to perform the choreography that extracts and abstracts the movements found in the pre-industrial, heavy physical labour, and work songs. Motion tracking technology allows the body movements to be quantified, measured, and evaluated. Historical archives of work songs provide the inspiration for the music that renders the old tales and melodies into clubbing beats that lead the dance.

Through ethnographic research into work songs and the moving body, the project draws much needed attention to alternative historical archives of our times. The gaming technology, visual, and music, bring people closer to the past through a tangible and modern experience. The work also brings fun and togetherness to audience through public participatory dance sessions and interactive gameplay.

-----credits-----

Game development: Leonardo Scarin
Choreography: Ludmila Rodrigues
Music: Rachwill Breidel
videography, 3D: Pedro Gossler
Sound mixing: Dima Ibrahim

-----supported by-----

Creative Industries Fund NL
the Creative Europe program of the European Union
Stroom Den Haag
Rewire Festival 2022

Work commissioned by iii (instrumentinventors.org)
conducted during the production residency at iii

-----presentations-----

Rewire Festival, Proximity Music (NL)
TEC ART Festival (NL)
Never Ready Congress, HFBK (DE)
Stimuleringsfonds 10 year anniversary (NL)
L.E.V Festival MATADERO (ES)
(upcoming) STIFF Festival (CR)

-----featured-----

REWIRES 2022 IN TIEN HOOGTEPUNTEN



about

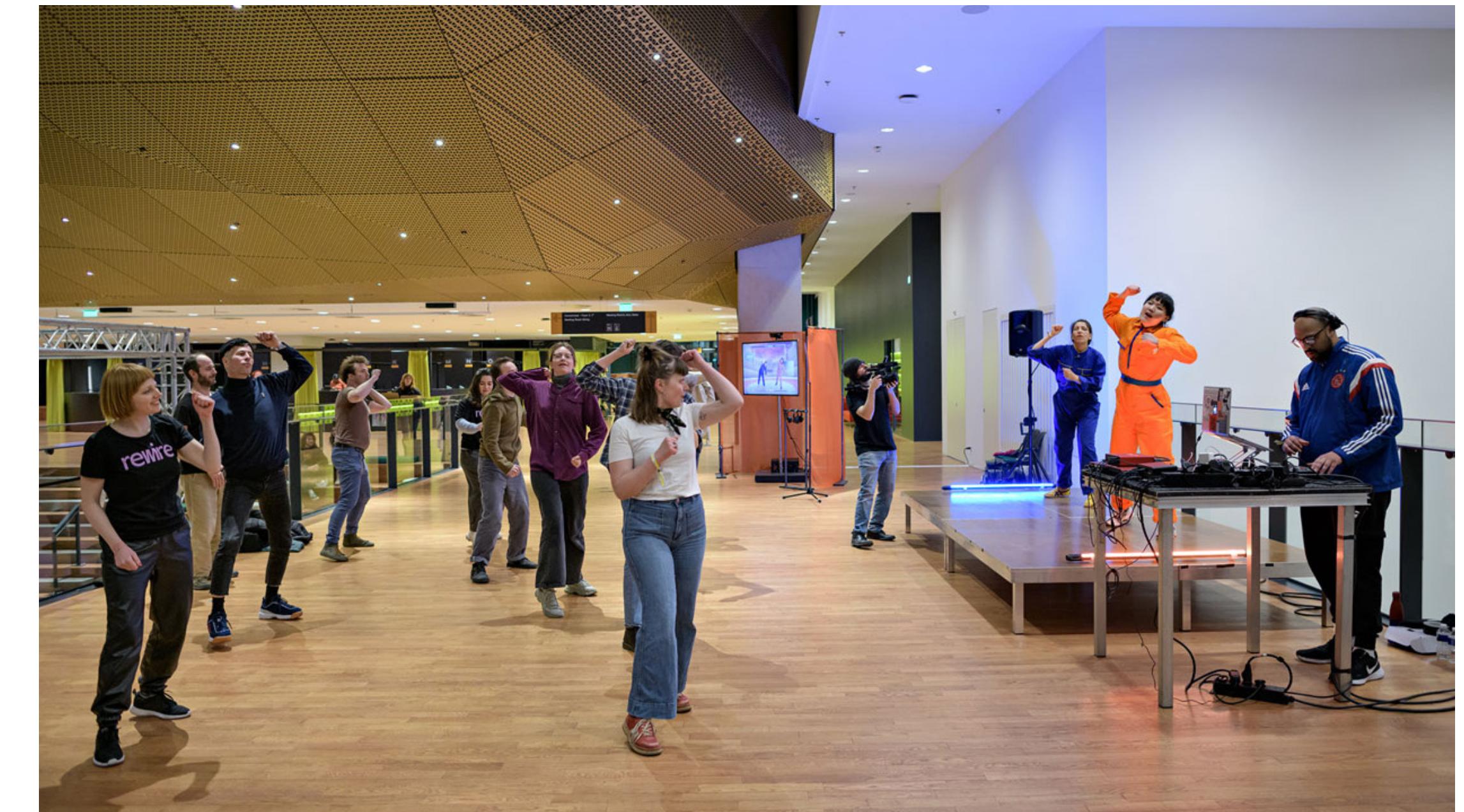
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Future Dance of Nostalgia, dancing game



Future Dance of Nostalgia, performance at Rewire

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Future Dance of Nostalgia Test Lab, workshop at iii



Transcending Labour to Dance, workshop at iii



Future Dance of Nostalgia Stimuleringsfonds 10 year anniversary



Pound it!

Kexin Hao, Rachwill Breidel, Tingyi Jiang
2022

performance × trans-disciplinary × multi-sensory

The pounding movements in the traditional production of sticky rice cake becomes an experimental percussion instrument. The performance brings out a catering service and a clubbing experience.

external links:

[Pound it! Test_Lab: Summer Session, V2_](#)

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Sticky rice cake, known as “mochi” in Japan, “nian gao” in China, “chapssal-tteok” in Korea and “tikoy” in the Philippines, is an East and Southeast Asian cuisine traditionally consumed during the Lunar New Year. Glutinous rice is processed into sticky paste, then moulded into shapes, folded with stuffings, or cooked again with other ingredients.

Despite numerous variations, its traditional preparation always includes pounding: cooked glutinous rice is placed in a knee-high mortar, ground, pounded, and kneaded by hands. The modern household appliance provides a high-speed, automated solution to the making of sticky rice cake. But the laborious and cooperative manual pounding session of the old days can't be replaced. Hit after hit, the rice becomes grainless and transforms into a solid, cohesive, and viscous entity. The chewiness and clinginess is a mouthful of luxury to be enjoyed only once a year.

The rice-pounding utensils are self made and adapted into motion sensitive percussion instruments. Through whipping the mallet and dropping the pestle in designed rhythmic patterns, we produce alternating bass beats to electronic Caribbean music which is live composed on site. With the increasing viscosity and elasticity of the rice, the pounding movement develops along and shapes the choreography on stage. In the end, we serve the sticky rice cake to the crowd and eat together.

With this work, we challenge the conventions of electronic music by bringing organic and manual elements into the live composition. Rice is the central force that mutually influences all the other elements—the movement, the rhythms, the music, and the crowd. All is about cooperating, conversing, and synchronising. We also want to introduce a new way of clubbing by diminishing the necessity of the binary set up: a DJ booth in front of a dance floor. Clubbing can grow out of an activity, a type of labour, a food preparation process, a catering service.

A spoonful of unusual intimacy is to be experienced within the mouth and within the crowd. But before the rice is served, we pound it!

-----credits-----

work is developed during Summer Session residency 2022, supported by V2_Lab for the Unstable Media

-----presentations-----

Traumburg Festival (DE)
Test_Lab: Summer Session, V2_ (NL)



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Pound it! Test_Lab: Summer Session, V2_
photo by Davids Danoss



Tramburg Festival
photo by Louis Jaccoud

World Fusion Food Foundry

2019 ~ 2020

performance art × public art × food × cultural identity



an invented playground where the artist experiments how food can be an overloaded signifier, a carrier of politics, and cultural identities.

external link:
[World Fusion Food Foundry](#)
[Nostalgic Table](#)

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World Fusion Food Foundry is an invented playground where the artist experiments how food can be an overloaded signifier, a carrier of politics and cultural identities.

In the series of performances, the artist tries to combine provocative politician's language with the act of giving cooking shows, thus to examine the possibility of extracting and isolating rhetorics from action.

Growing up in the capital city of China, she has studied the common language of political speeches in schools and the media. There is a mixture of both rejection and fascination to this grandiosity, revolutionist passion and the early communist mania. This work is not merely a satire of such a type of language, but is also about the artist's attempt to resolve her relationship with this cultural specific rhetorics.

-----presentation-----
Live in between vol. 2: *Trans-dialogue*, CinemAsia

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about



Royal Nail Salon

2019

public art × happening × graphic design

an on-going project on giving manicure service as an artistic expression and practice.

external link:
[Royal Nail Salon](#)

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Royal Nail Salon is an on-going project about giving manicure service as an artistic expression and practice.

It was initiated on 1st April, 2019, when the artist hosted a half-day manicure workshop in the art academy. All materials are free to use. The only rule is to only paint nails and choose colours for the other person. Being neither a self-service nor a staff-client service, the nail salon workshop aimed to explore the possibilities of interactions happening in a get-together spot.

The idea of *Royal Nail Salon* is to bring the "non-art", the "mundane" and "service" to art spaces or the academic context. It is an attempt to break boundaries, to build immediate communities, and to provide a platform for queerness, bodily intimacy, and alternative storytelling.

-----presentation-----

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 2019.4 | Royal Nail Salon, KABK, The Hague |
| 2019.5 | Rietveld Flea Market, Amsterdam |
| 2019.9 | <i>It's Time to Let it Go,</i>
Little Big Doll House, The Hague |
| 2019.10 | Pisswife #3 Launch Party, Amsterdam |
| 2019.12 | <i>Cinema Underexposed</i> Film Festival,
The Hague |
| 2019.12 | Roller Disco / Basement Beach Club
X Note To Self After Party, The Hague |
| 2020.3 | CinemAsia presents: Live in between vol. 2:
<i>Trans-dialogue</i> , Amsterdam |
| 2020.3 | <i>MOONMOON Trip</i> , Rotterdam |

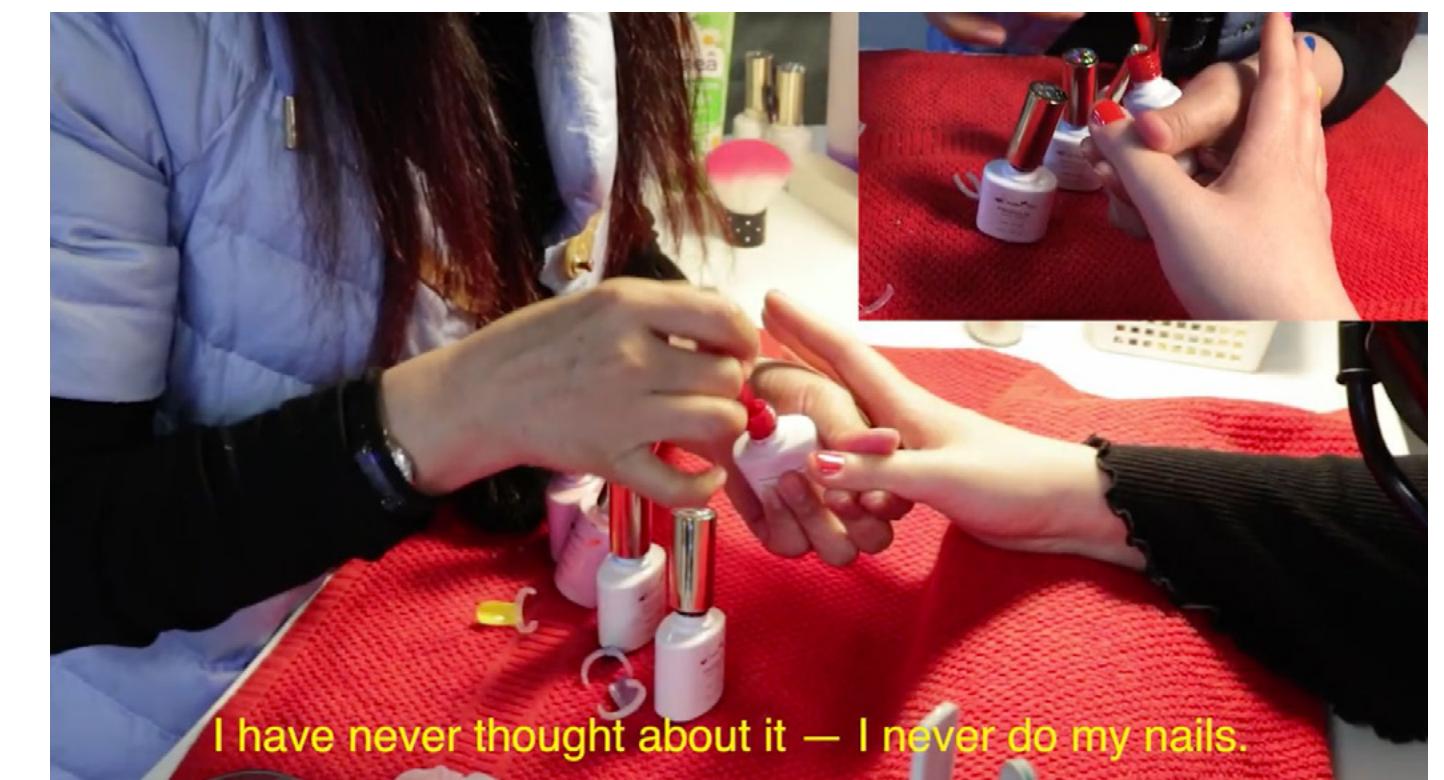


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I have never thought about it — I never do my nails.



Artist talk & workshops

Next to the exhibitions that showcase her works and performances, Kexin has participated and initiated workshops and artist talks where she shares her thoughts and research which centres around the theme of body. These events happen at different locations, varying from art academies to night clubs. Through her unconventional and performative approach to education program, as well as the hybridity of the spaces, such events could fertilise exchanges within and across the communities.

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2020.8	ARTIST TALK	"What Do We Talk About When We Don't Talk About Food..." Verhalenhuis, Rotterdam (NL)
2020.10	PUBLISHING	Trance Zine Pavilion Launch, Gerrit Rietveld Academie (NL)
2020.12	ARTIST TALK	Katakombe, event#2, Städelschule Architecture Class, Frankfurt (DE)
2021.4	ARTIST TALK	<i>Body Building</i> : On the Formation of the Individual, Political, and Empowered Self, Stroboskop, Warsaw (PL)
2021.7	ARTIST TALK	Discussion and exercises in cultivation, Stroboskop, Warsaw (PL)
2021.10	ARTIST TALK	BARTALK#25: <i>Control</i> (NL)
2021.11	WORKSHOP	<i>Recipes for A Technological Undoing</i> , Extra-Curricular program Gerrit Rietveld Academie & Sandberg Instituut (NL)
2021.11	WORKSHOP	<i>Embodied lives, Embodied tales</i> , Honors Program at Artez Arnhem (NL)
2021.12	ARTIST TALK	用“身体”和“情境”貫穿的作品集, 最畢設 線上直播分享会 (CN)
2022.2	PRESENTATION	<i>Have A Seat! Moving away from consuming tales</i> Participatory presentation, MAMA Rotterdam (NL)
2022.2	WORKSHOP	Typographic Night at Page Not Found, The Hague (NL)
2022.2	PERFORMANCE	<i>Midnight Wellness Retreat</i> , Performance Bar, Rotterdam (NL)
2022.2	WORKSHOP	<i>Transcending Labor to Dance</i> , iii (NL)
2022.3	PRESENTATION	<i>2 Body Practice</i> , W139, Amsterdam (NL)
2022.3	SCREENING	Sinema Transtopia, bi'bak, Berlin (DE)
2022.6	ARTIST TALK	<i>Never Ready</i> , University of Fine Arts Hamburg (DE)

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"What Do We Talk About When We Don't Talk About Food..." Verhalenhuis, Rotterdam



Trance Zine Pavilion Launch



Participatory presentation, MAMA



BARTALK#25: *Control*



Typographic Night at Page Not Found



Midnight Wellness Retreat, The Grey Space in The Middle

Commissioned works

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Graduated from B.A Royal Academy of Art, Kexin is trained as a graphic designer. Next to her art projects, she has been active also in the field of design. She has been conducting visual identity design, website design & development, publication design for various clients, which include artist initiatives, art academies, cultural spaces and individual artists.

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2020

VISUAL IDENTITY
VISUAL IDENTITY
VISUAL IDENTITY

B for Bisexuality, Daphne Oude Geerdink, JIP Haaglanden
It is very difficult to be an island of perfection in a sea of misery, but please do not doubt our sincerity, W139
MOONMOON Trip, UBIK, Worm Pirate Bay

2021

PACKAGE
WEBSITE
PUBLICATION
PUBLICATION
VISUAL IDENTITY
PUBLICATION

Nr.39 met Rijst, Benjamin Li
Hgtomi Rosa, Hgtomi Rosa
FAKE CHINESE 假中国, Isabel Pontoppidan, Thesis Gerrit Rietveld Academy
Het Spaarzame Schilderen, Robbin Hyker
MOVE!, Spectrum.space
Symposium 2019 + 2020, Musuem2050

2022

IDENTITY & WEB
VISUAL IDENTITY

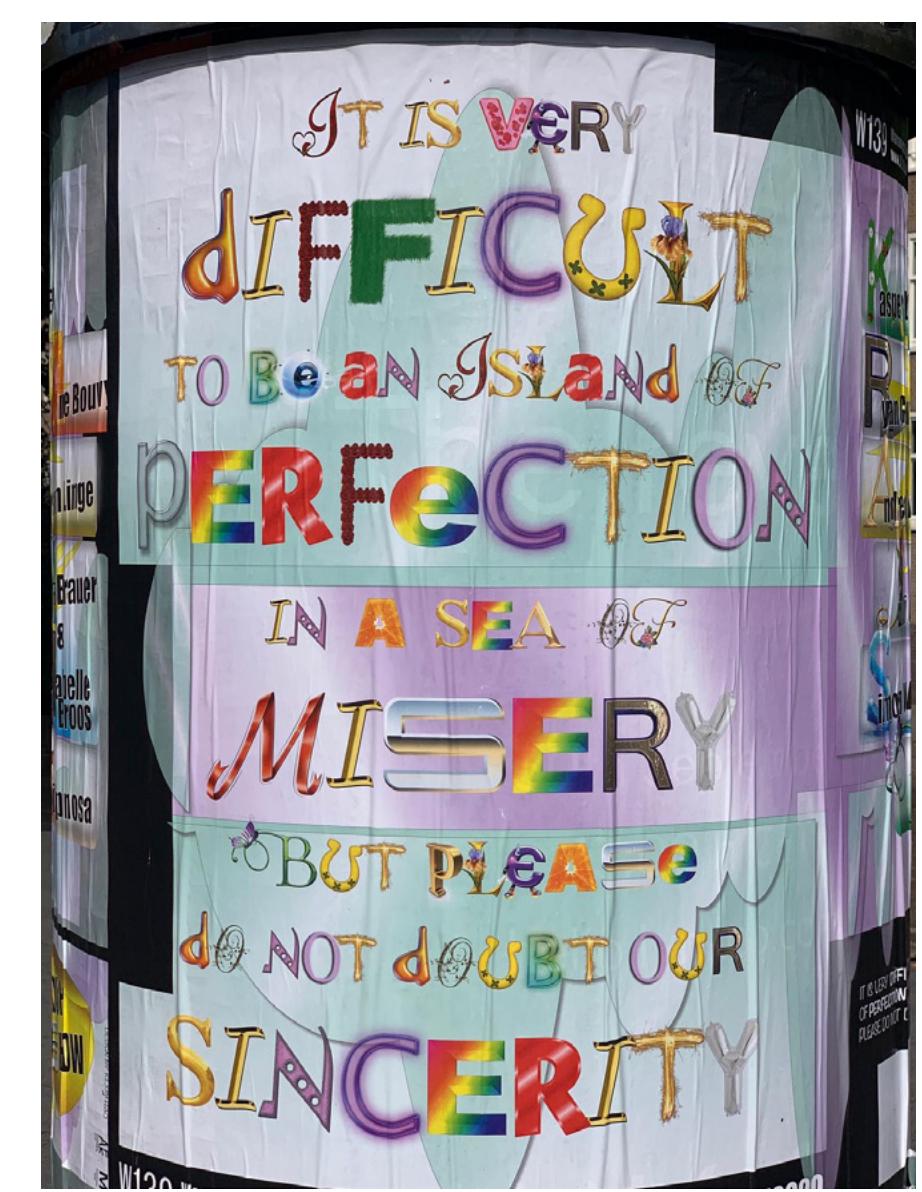
Cockroach Collective, 3rd year photography collective and exhibition
Back to Normal, group exhibitions, Alternative Art Guide + The Naked Foundation

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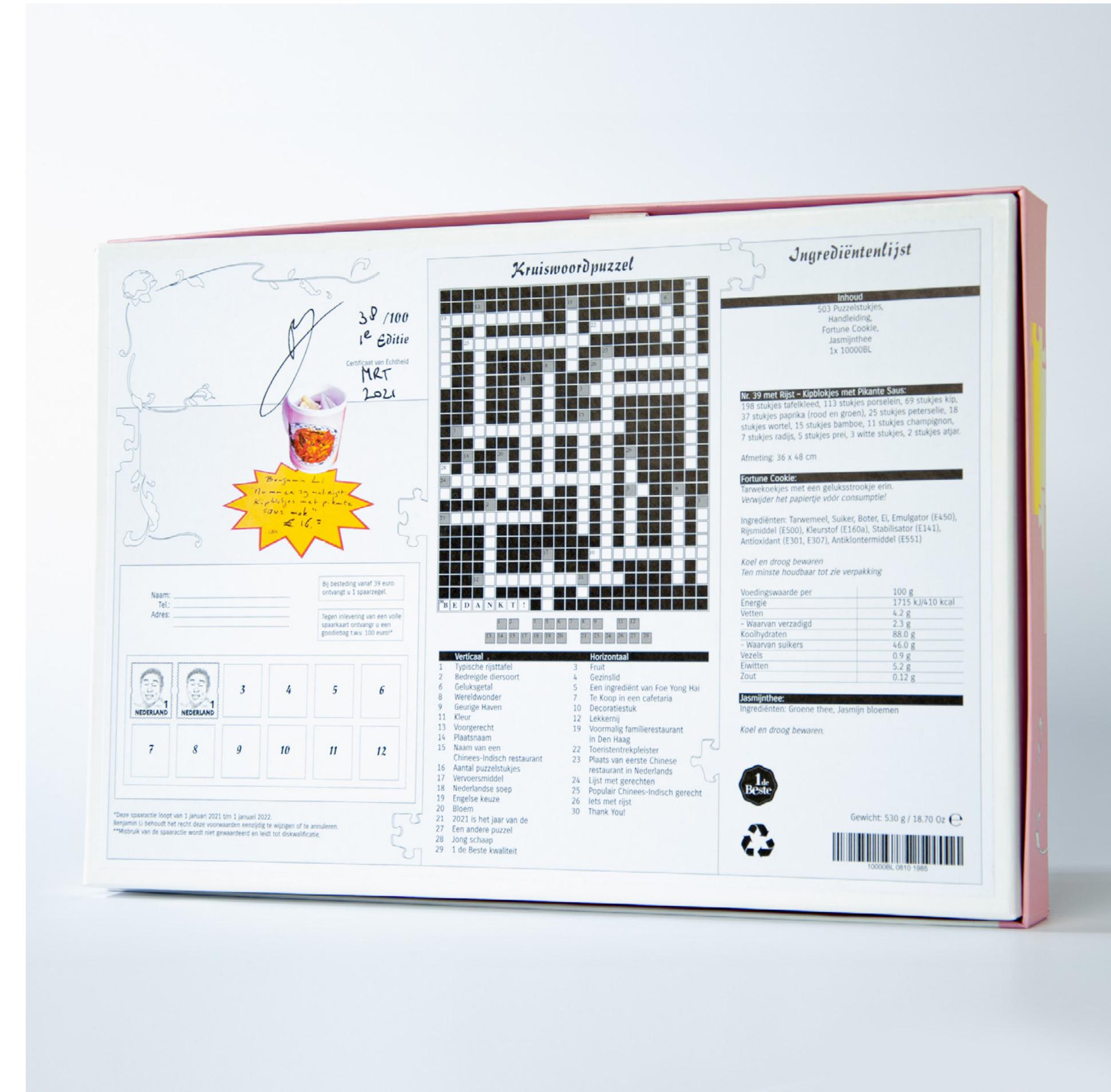


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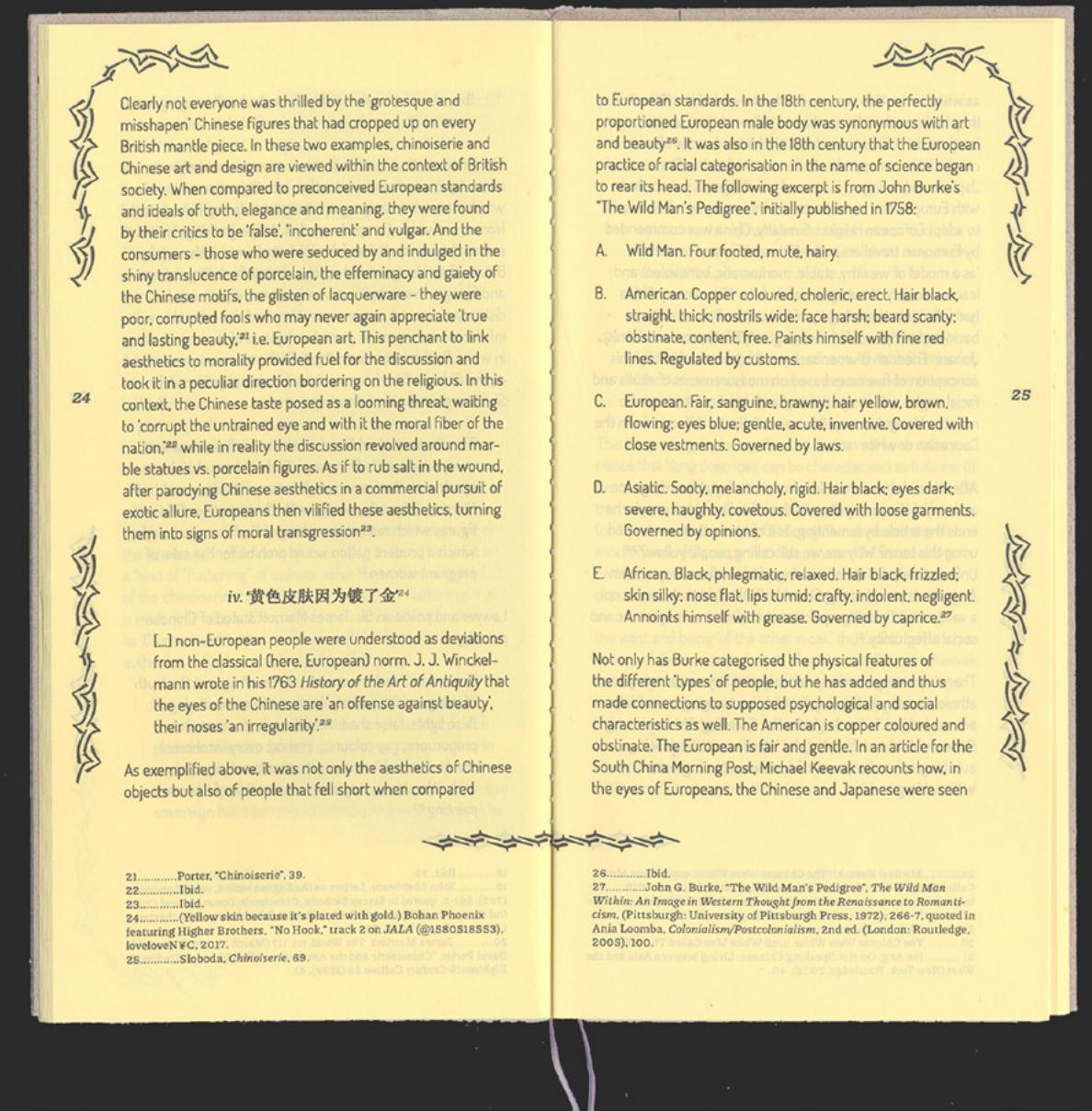
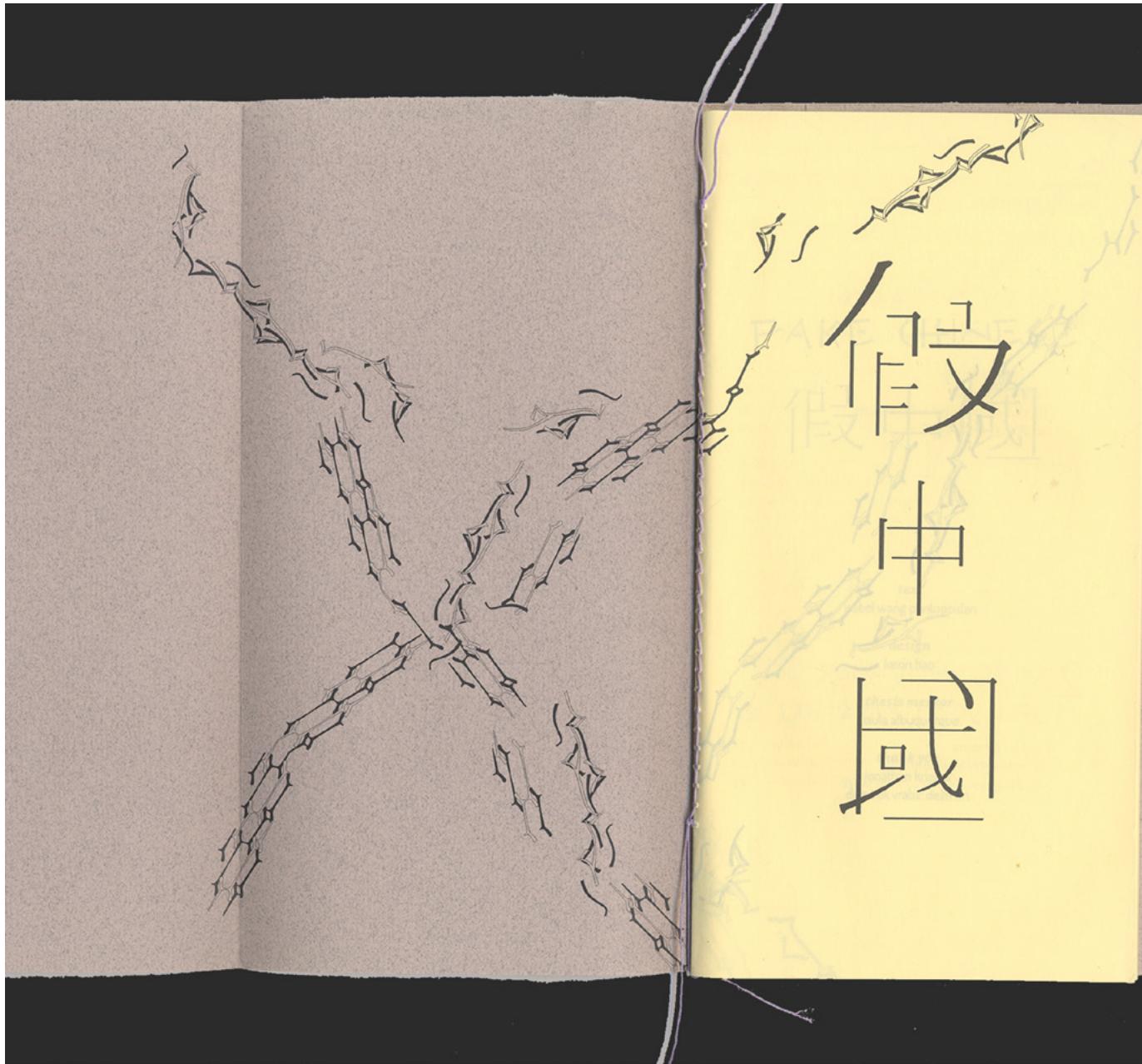


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reading session & designer's talk at CHAxART gallery

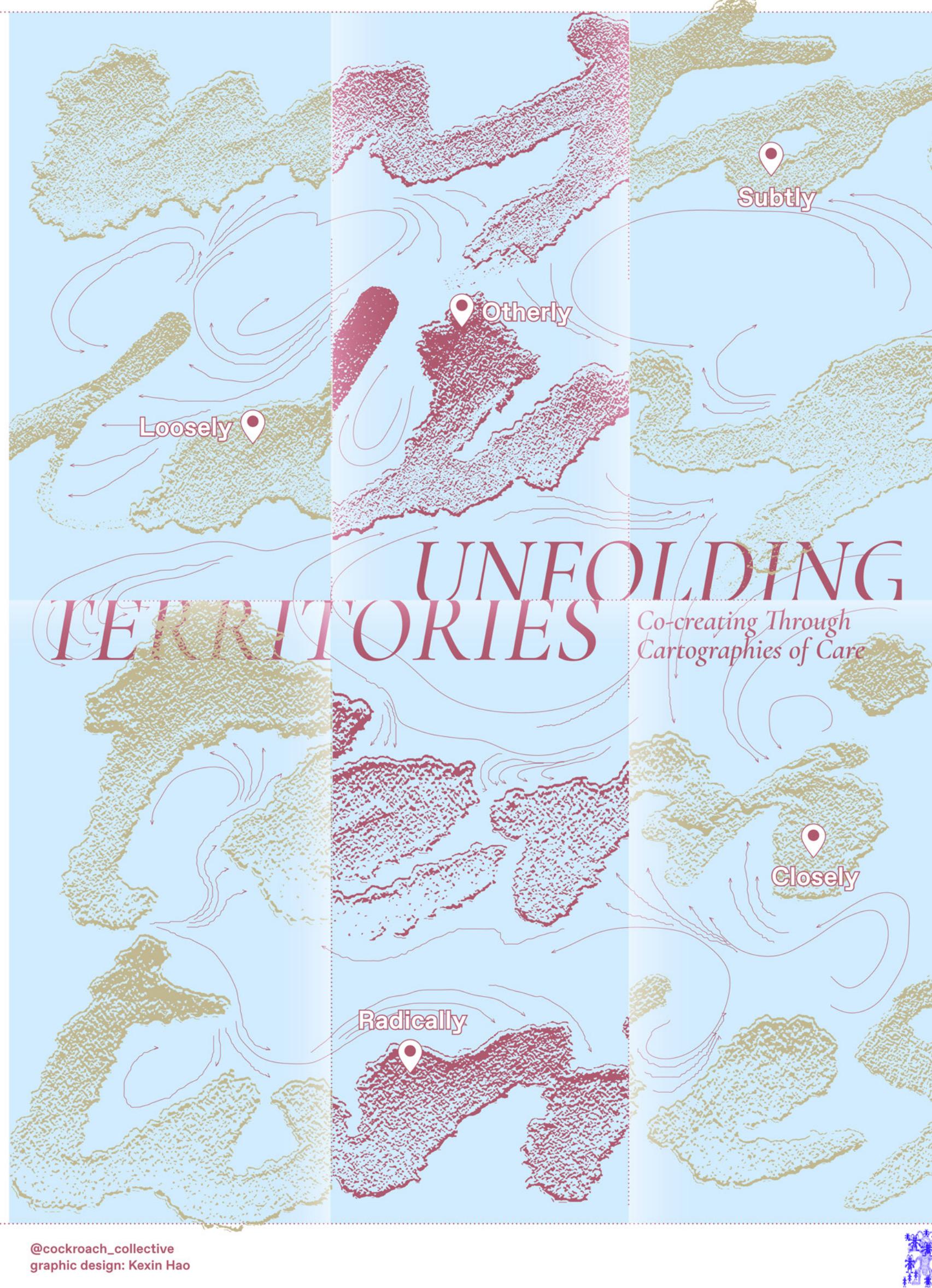
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20-23 January | The Grey Space in the Middle
 Online program on cockroach-collective.com



You are invited to start a dialogue about what care could mean in society, betting on the idea that art can be truly transformative if it comes from a place of love, respect, and curiosity for the other.

[ABOUT](#) [LIVE](#) [TV](#) [PUBLICATION](#)

UNFOLDING TERRITORIES: Co-creating Through Cartographies of Care

The Cockroach collective is a group of 46 students infesting the landscape of photography and exploring the possibilities of the medium to go beyond traditional definitions.

UNFOLDING TERRITORIES:
Co-creating Through Cartographies of Care is a collective effort to expand the definition of care aiming at the broader understanding of what care means in the contemporary world and how art can be seen as a manifestation and tool of care.

The act of creation is an act of care, creating work is a movement towards expression of one's honest desire to connect with others. In our exhibition we would like to share what we care about, in the ever changing world that surrounds us.

We have been driven to create an opportunity for everyone, the audience and the artists, felt seen and listened to. At our core we are guided by equality, inclusivity and respect. The willingness to take care of one another is a representative trait of our time when we all need additional support. These turbulent years are reflected in the ways we create work and the themes we explore. Furthermore, we want to challenge photography and explore it as a means of care to reflect our world today.

With Unfolding Territories: Co-existing Through Cartographies of Care, we create a space which carries a proposition. What if creation is an act of care?

You are invited to start a dialogue about what care could mean in society, betting on the idea that art can be truly transformative if it comes from a place of love, respect, and curiosity for the other.

ISLANDS OF CARE

The projects are organised in five islands. You can imagine an archipelago of care, fluidly divided by water, where each island is in conversation with another. To navigate these waters and explore the islands, we provide you with a map but be aware, map is not a territory, a map is an artificial structure, territory is what lies beneath, the real connection we experience through care.

Loosely

Works that serve as a tool to question what is now too ephemeral to grasp. This island is a place for

[ABOUT](#) [LIVE](#) [TV](#) [PUBLICATION](#)

Closely enter→

These projects zoom in exploring the topics with precision, direction and analytically investigating the world. Works on this island explore intimacy through different dimensions. Either it is an engagement with a subject of an investigation or a personal story, the definition of closeness is expanding on this island.

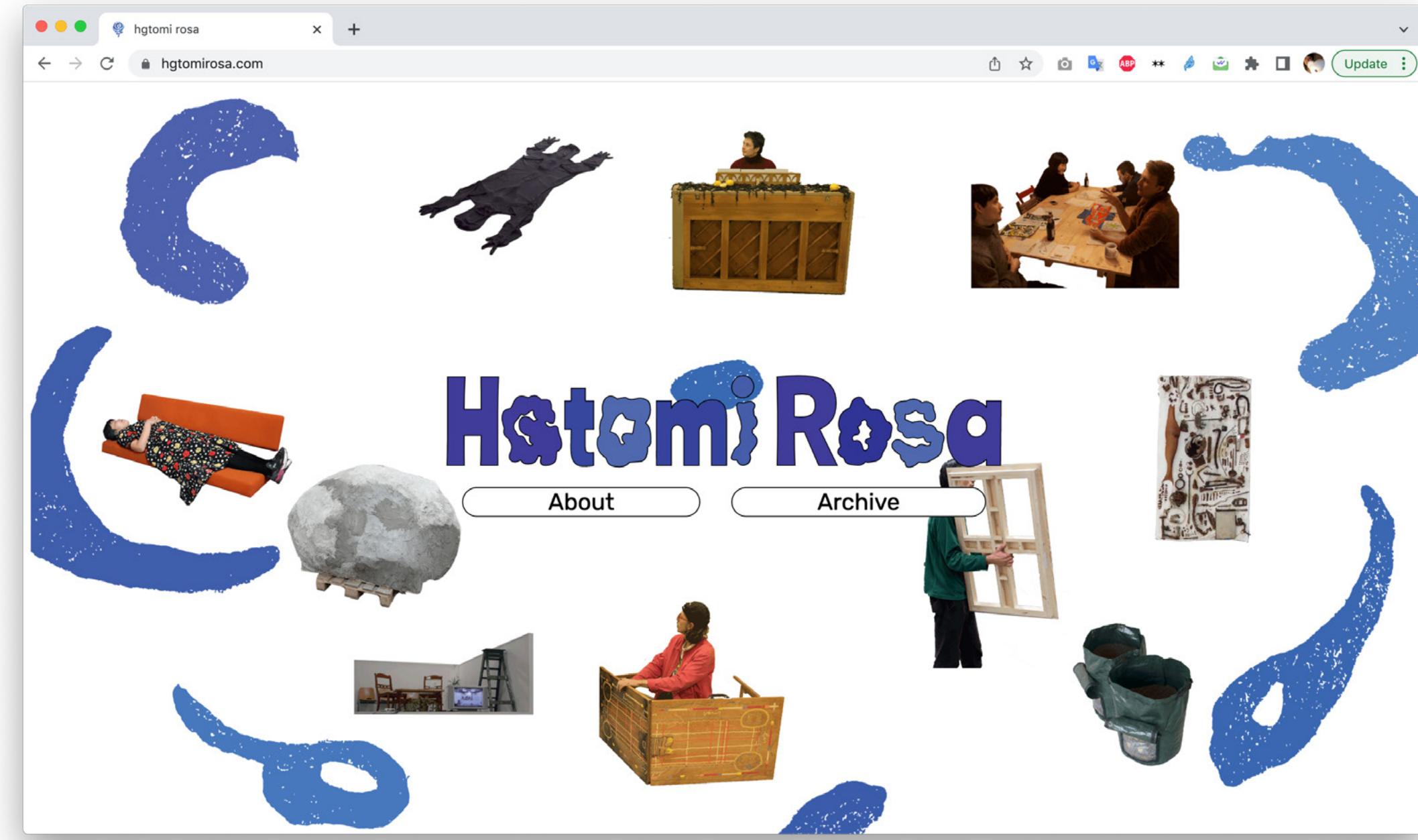
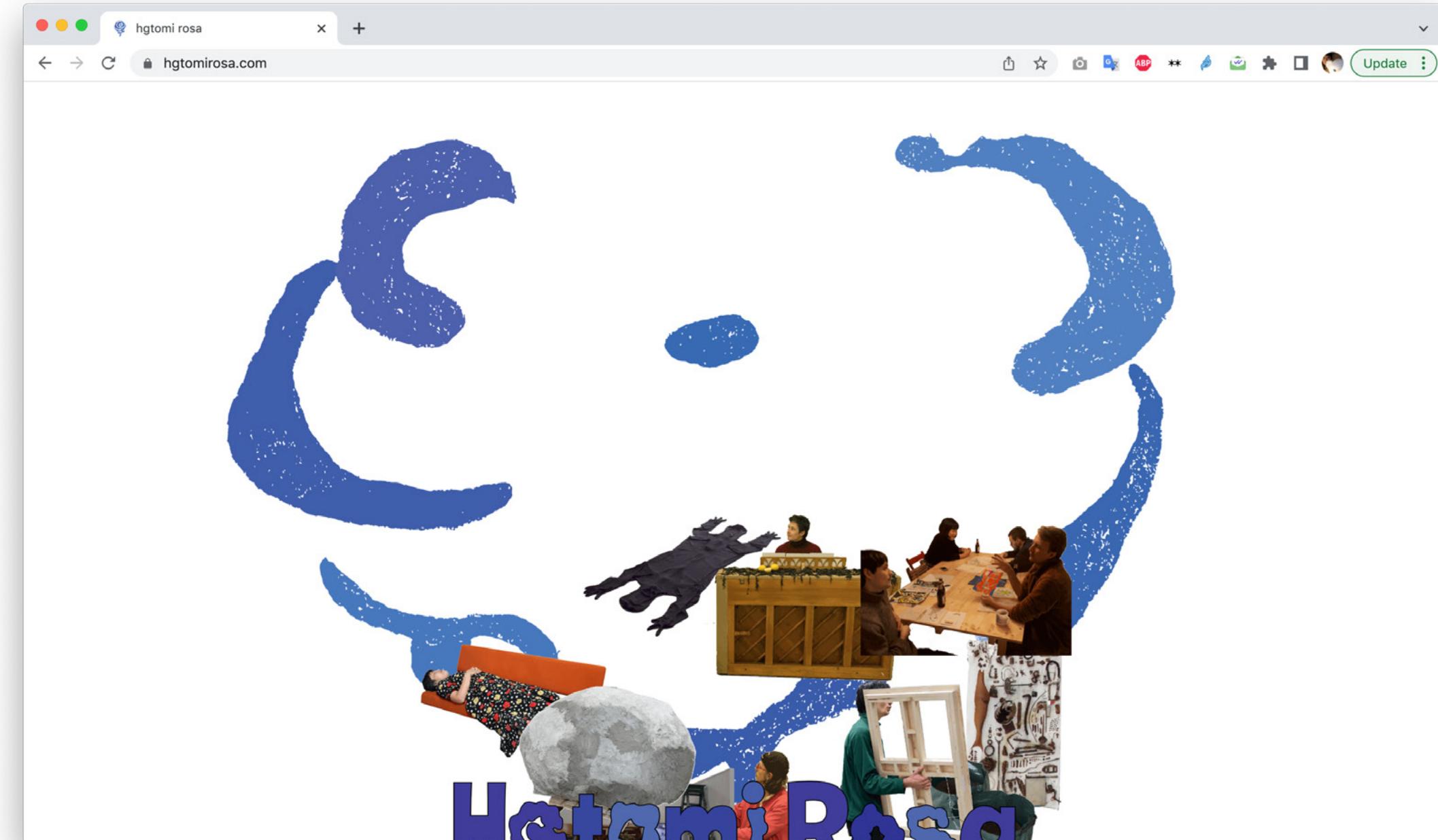
UNFOLDING TERRITORIES 20-23 January The Grey Space in the Middle @cockroach_collective web: Kixin

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Laura Snijders

I question current norms and values and observe behaviour, ways of dressing, systems, and logic. The communication but also the miscommunication that results from this fascinates me. In my work I use these elements of communication to confuse. I play with them to give shape to a new reality. For example, why do some people dress exclusively in red? Are they aware that they are stealing the show? Is this their normal? I don't want real answers. I want to ask these questions and dream my own logic onto them.

www.laurasnijders.com

[About](#) [Archive](#)

Hgtomi Rosa

2021 ~
Koninginnedag Tentoostelling

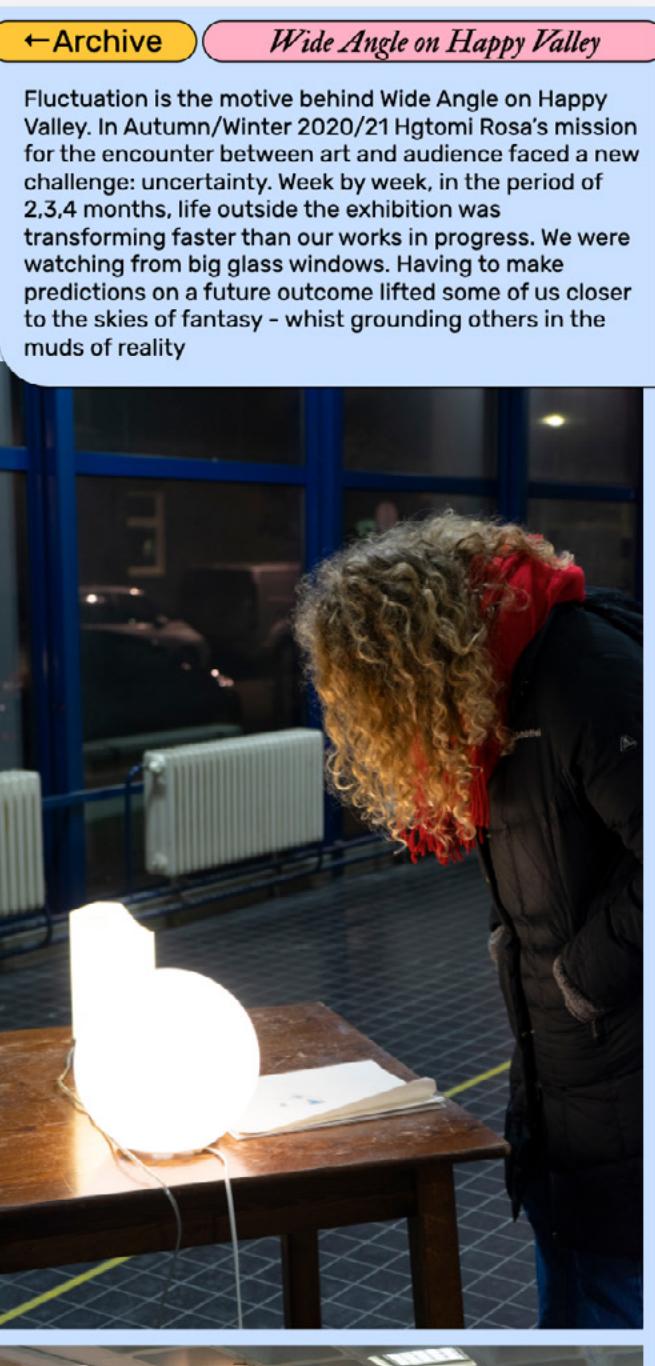
2021 ~
Acts of Opening

2021 Jan.18 ~ 2021 Feb.18
Ryan Lim - Works for a space in transition

2020 Oct.31 ~ 2021 Feb.28

2020 Sep.18 ~ 25

2020 Jun.5 ~ 2021 Jun.21



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