

Matthew Stuart

Matthew Stuart's preoccupations are writing and reading, typography and language, and his practice deals with their thresholds. He co-runs / edits the independent publishing imprint Bricks from the Kiln and is based between the South coast of England and London. He is an Associate Lecturer at Central Saint Martins and Senior Lecturer at Kingston School of Art, where he runs the explorative elective Lazy Machine.

Matthew Stuart 长期专注于写作与阅读、字体排印与语言领域的研究，其艺术实践持续探索这些领域的边界。他共同运营并编辑独立出版刊物《Bricks from the Kiln》，现居英格兰南海岸与伦敦两地。现任中央圣马丁学院讲师及金斯顿艺术学院高级讲师，在该学院开设名为 "Lazy Machine" 的探索性选修课程。







Communication is extractive, a sentence is a pressed flower, words are knotted and unpredictable. 'Ears poise before decision' circles three sites of production: lead mining, typesetting and knowledge. At its centre is the scarce, laxly tufted perennial *Sabulina Verna*. Found in the North of England away from its native alpine habitat, this loosely-carpeting plant grows on lead spoil heaps, large mounds of barren, metal-heavy rubble and rock discarded after lead-rich veins were mined into the earth, conditions poisonous to most species. Known by several botanical nomenclatures, it was first recorded in print — set in lead type — as the Latin named genus *Arenaria verna* in two simultaneously published volumes by Carl Linnaeus in 1767 — 'Systema Naturae' and 'Mantissa Plantarum' — yet colloquially is simply Leadwort. White petals no larger than a pica, this enduring flowering plant takes root in the industrial by-product that produced the basis for the metal letters which sought to imprint scientific order and a language upon it.

'Ears poise before decision' is set in three parts. Enlarged, flipped, and inverted, a scanned type specimen of a Leadwort from Kew Gardens' herbarium collection is presented on the exterior facade of the building. Inside, phonetic vocal vibrations rendered in lead reverberate at intervals throughout the space, sounds captured by a geophone, a device used to register land movements. Finally, the dispersal of books and material leaving the bookshop during the lunar cycle are stamped in black ink and impressed: *wyrt rot wort root*.

沟通具有萃取性，句子是压平的花朵，词语如缠结的枝蔓难以捉摸。"Ears poise before decision" 围绕三个生产场域展开：铅矿开采、活字排版与知识构建。其核心聚焦于稀有的、簇状疏朗的多年生植物——春米努草 (*Sabulina Verna*)。这种稀疏的毯状植物生长在英格兰北部，远离其原生的高山栖息地，生长在铅废料堆上。铅废料堆是大片贫瘠、金属含量高的碎石和岩石，是铅矿脉被开采后留下的，这些环境对大多数物种都有害。它拥有多个植物学命名，它最初以铅字印刷形态出现在林奈《植物种志》 (*Species plantarum*) 中，被归为无心菜属 (*Arenaria*)，而俗名直白地称作 "铅草" (*Leadwort*)。其花瓣洁白，大小不及一个派卡 (印刷单位 *pica*)，这种顽强的开花植物扎根于工业副产品之中，而正是这些副产品铸造了试图对其施加科学秩序与语言规范的金属活字。

"Ears poise before decision" 以三重形式呈现：邱园植物标本馆收藏的扫描模式标本经放大、翻转、倒置后，呈现于建筑外立面广告牌之上；室内空间中间歇回响着以铅铸就的语音振动记录——这些通过地声记录仪 (用于监测地表运动的装置) 捕捉的声波在空间中回荡；最后，在这个月相周期内 (*lunar practices#9*) 离开书店的书藉与物料均被盖上黑色墨章，印记刻有：wyrt rot wort root (古英语 "草 / 腐 / 词 / 根") 的字样。

*wyrt*

*rot*

*wort*

*root*