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In an attempt to better understand the world and the unknown, An Onghena explores the boundaries between art and science. With a subtle sense of humour and flirting with the fictitious, she integrates her experience in the applied arts into an autonomous artistic practice. In line with this she focuses in some works on the status of the artist book and analogue technologies, as seen against the backdrop of increasing digitization. In all her works, Onghena endeavors to activate the viewer of her work.

An Onghena (b.1992, B) received her MA Graphic Design and thereafter her MA of Research into Art & Design at Sint Lucas Antwerp. She was artist-in-residence at the Jan Van Eyck Academy, Maastricht and laureate of Toegepast20 in Z33. Recently her work was seen in "Paraphrase" at einBuch.Haus in Berlin, Germany; "Remodeling Graphic Habits, nr 86" at The Art Center Sarasota in Florida, USA; "Figures and Routines" at Sea Foundation in Tilburg, The Netherlands; "Bring Out Into The Open" at Goldberg Galerie in Munich, Germany. In November 2021 the work "A 2020 Olympic Poststamp" was installed permanently as part of the official Art Collection of the City of Antwerp. The work "Performance for the book" has been performed in various fairs and exhibitions from Europe to the United states.



## Paraphrase

Starting from 'Performance for the book' the exhibition shows new sketches, drawings and works by the artist dating from 2018 until 2021. Following this, Onghena launches her new artist book 'werkboek' in collaboration with Jivan van der Ende. This publication can be seen as a reading tool with a performative and collaborative element, between the two artists as well as the two readers.

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Paraphrase, 2021 at einBuch.haus in Berlin.



see more on the next page



## Bring out into the open

This exhibition shows 2 main directions from my practice: research into the colour black and materials such as paper and the performative characteristics of the work.

In a performance, the exhibited works are constantly covered and revealed. It's a provocation of excitement and curiosity. The visitor discovers the impossibility to see the complete exhibition.

All individual works exist on their own but in the exhibition they come together as one narrative.

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Bring out into the open,  
2019 at Goldberg Galerie  
in Munich.



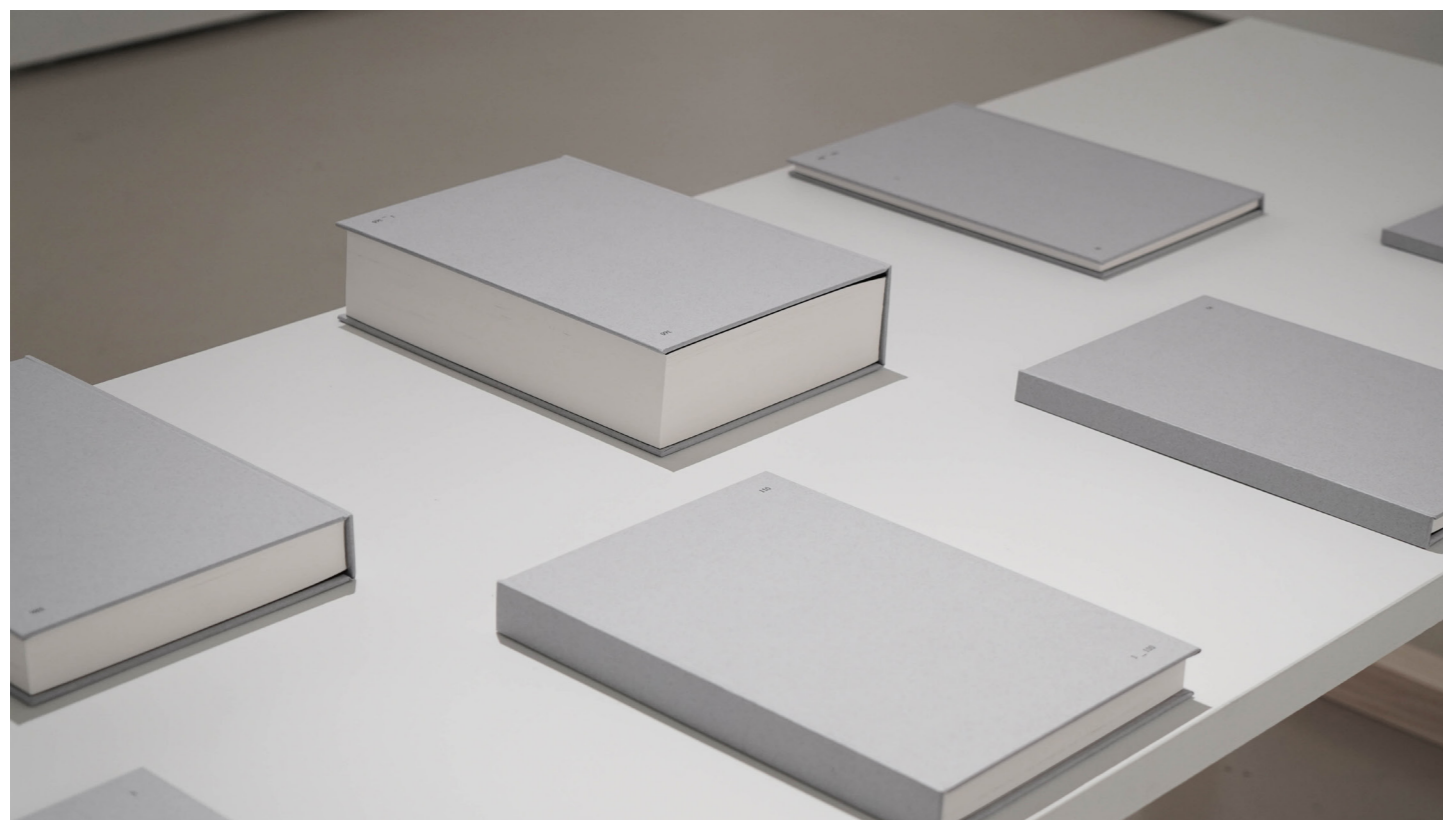
## NR 86.34

Since 2017, I'm printing a series of Mimeograph prints about daily encounters.

In a chronologic system I make selections for wall installations or publication purpose in the form of a book. The work plays with the concept of series and editions. The title of the work is based on the dimensions of the room. Every new work becomes a unique installation.

In October 2018, a large selection of the series was showed in The Art Center in Sarasota, Florida.

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NR 86.34, 2018 at the Art Center Sarasota in Florida, USA



## Performance for the Book

A performance as a visual experiment to give a new role to the material 'paper'. The work tells the story of the ability of a large piece of paper to evolve into an dance and a sculpture.

The work is focussing on the role of books and print in a digital world.

The performance is documented and published in the form of a book. It creates a new perspective for the project.

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performance for the book, 2018

[Watch the teaser of the performance on my website](#)

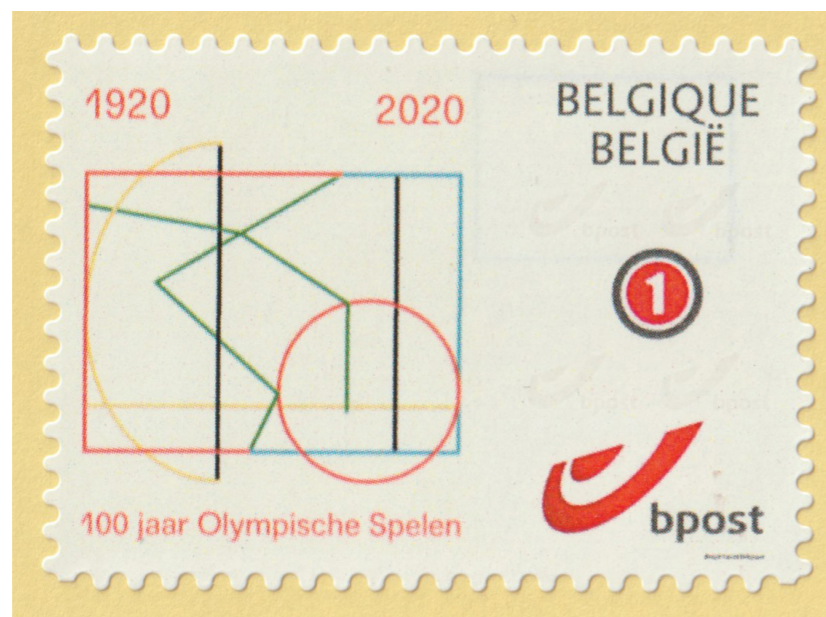




## A 2020 Olympic Poststamp

A metal sculpture based on the Olympic stamps of the Discobolus from 1920 is permanently installed in the pond of the library at Kielpark.

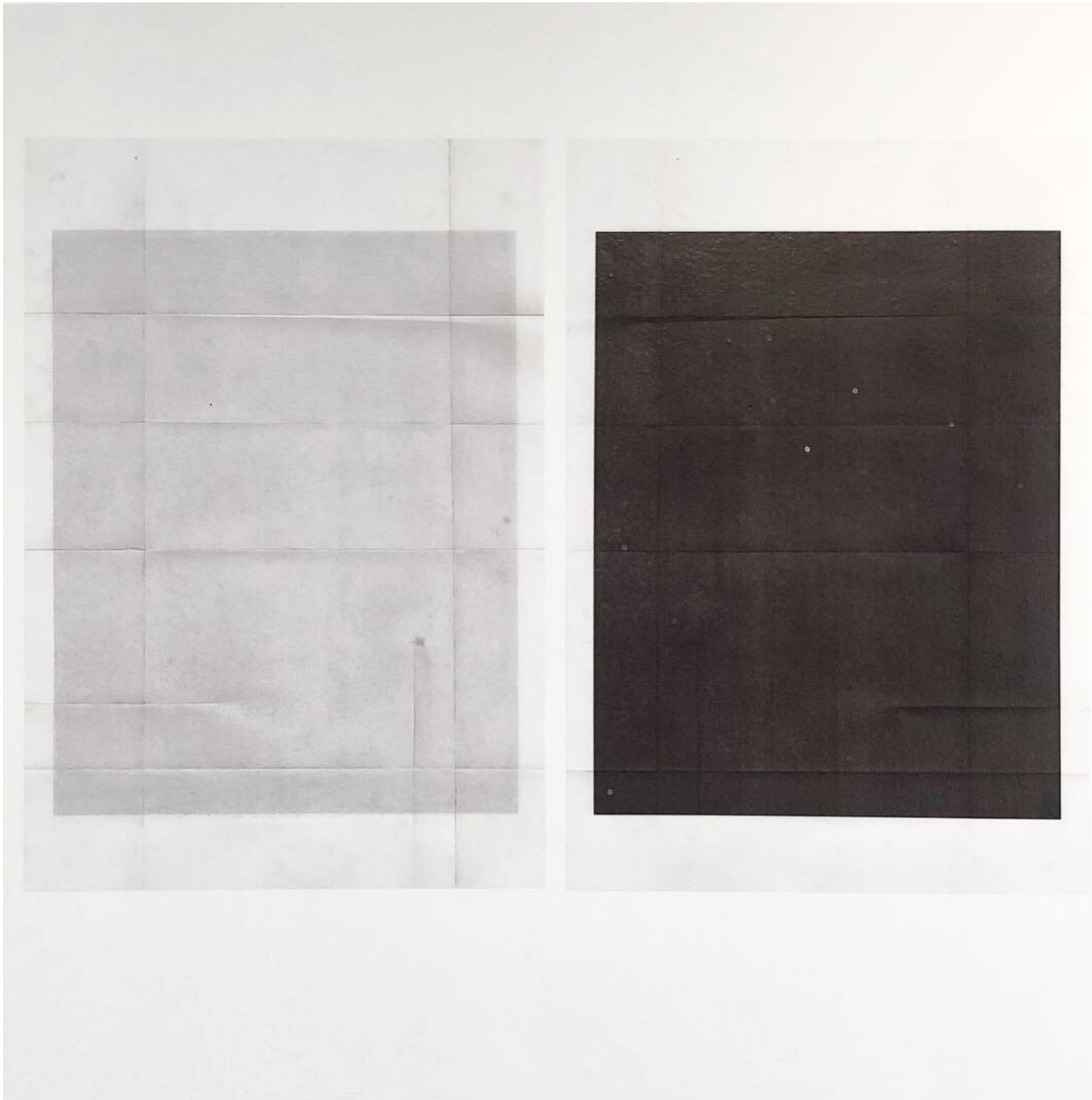
—  
A 2020 Olympic Poststamp, 2021 at Kielpark, Antwerp



The stamps are produced and used for a mail art project.



Fold in paper, front  
Fold in paper, back



The poster diptych shows an image of the night sky printed in Risograph on a single sheet of paper, which the artist folded repeatedly before scanning each side and re-printing these separately. In the resulting amplified and abstract two-fold image, the frontal view and also backside of the night sky are pictured.

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Fold in paper, front  
Fold in paper, back, 2019



## The other side of the Moon

This installation was shown during the Open Studio's at the entrance of the Jan van Eyck Academie.

It presents a silkscreen made with thermochromic ink which becomes transparent when it heats up. So when the sun shines, the other side of the Moon appears.

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The other side of the Moon, 2018



## Analysis on the other side of the Moon

An encyclopedia which describes the surface of the Othe side of the Moon.

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Analysis on the other side of the Moon, 2016

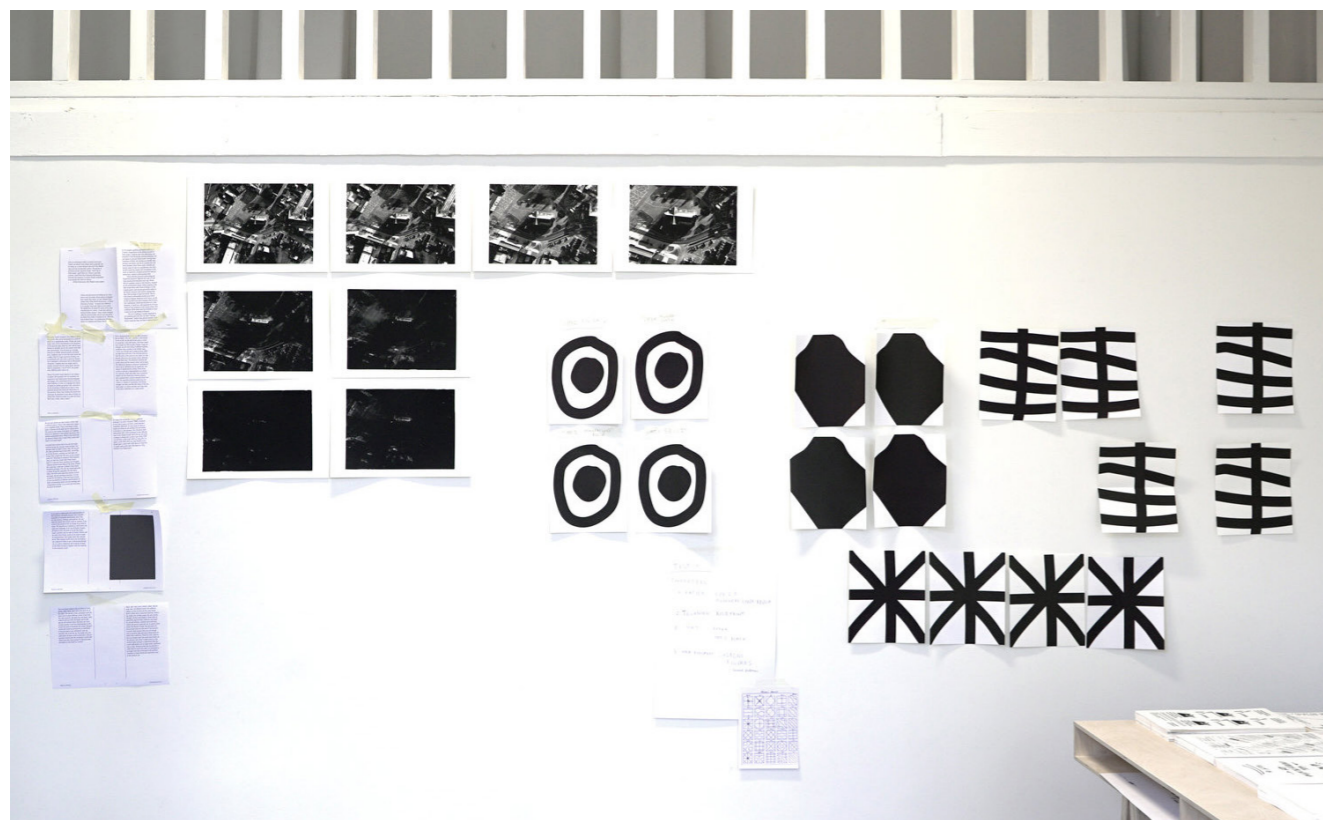
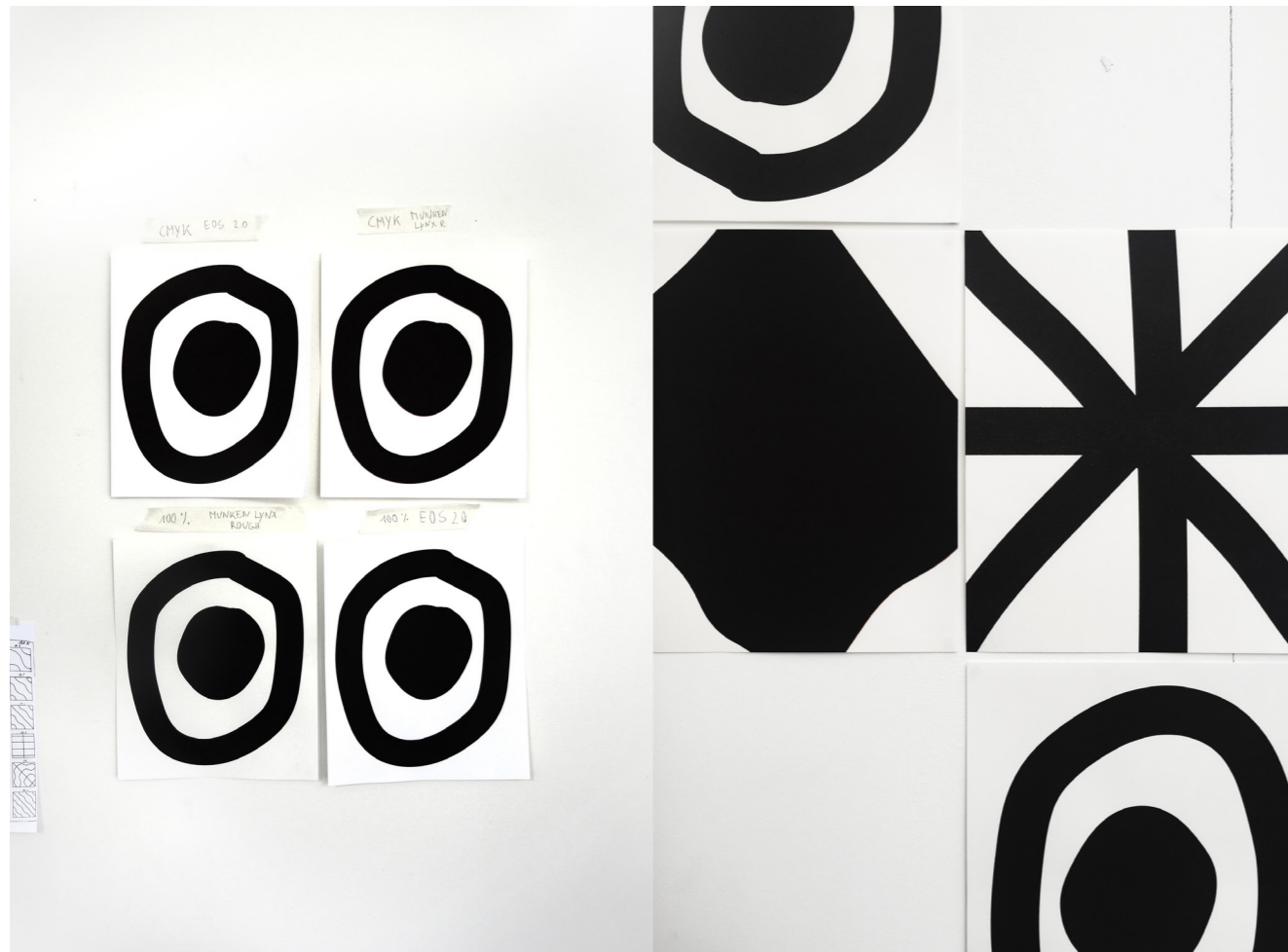


## researching black

A continuous research into printing techniques and paper with the meaning to create as many blacks as possible. These pictures are the result of the first test with the following parameters:

- CMYK - 100g EOS 2.0 paper
- CMYK - 120g Munken Lynx Rough paper
- 100% black - 100g EOS 2.0 paper
- 100% black - 120g Munken Lynx Rough paper.

The produces will evolve into a large spectrum of the colour black.



## Googolplexian

An installation with silkscreen scratch off ink on paper. Visitors could, with matching coins, scratch on the large gray sheets in order to reveal a starry sky which was hidden underneath. The image is based on the real positions of the stars of our Universe.

This was a project for Toegepast20 under the direction of Jan Boelen, Z33.

For this research I developed two books, showed on the next pages.

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Googolplexian, 2015, z33  
Hasselt Belgium

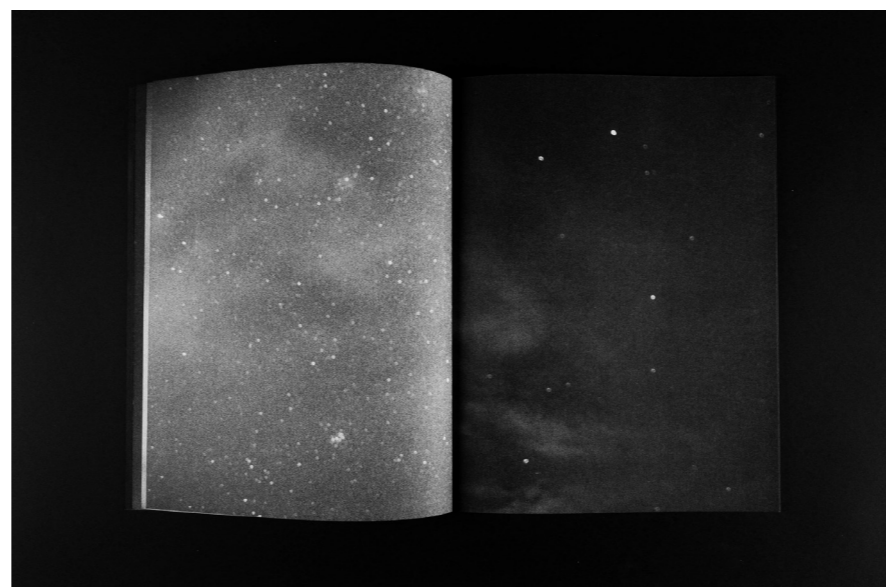
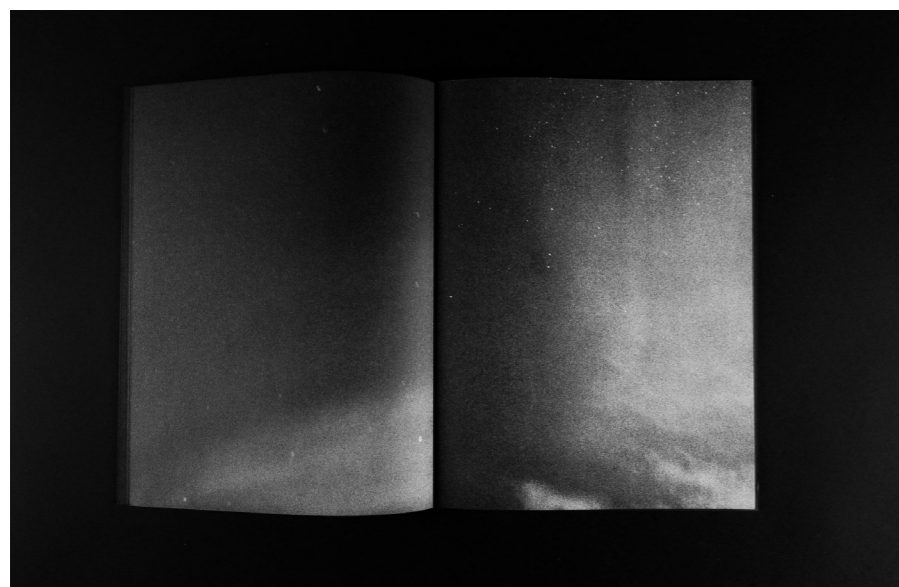
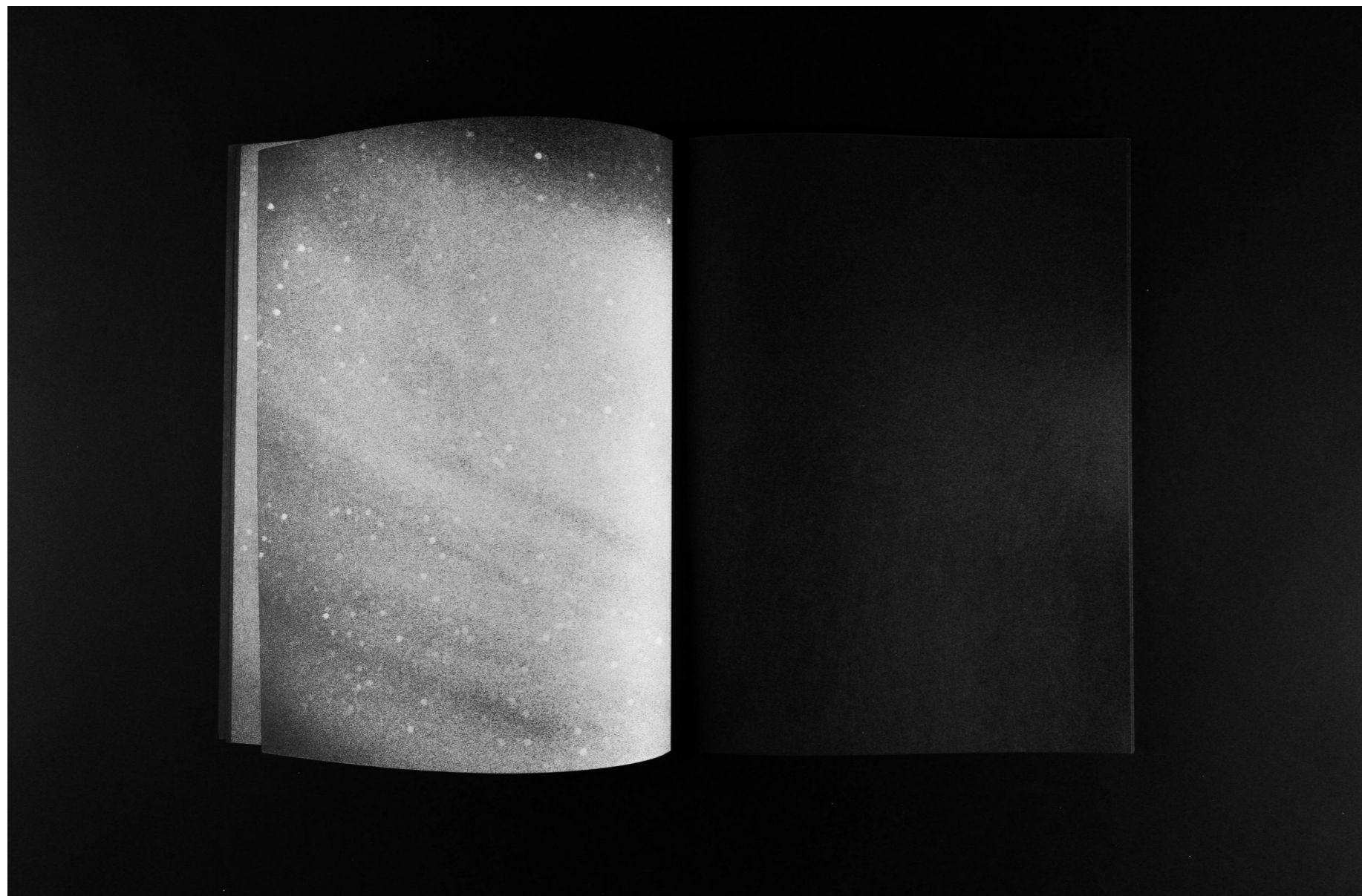


## Questions regarding the Universe

A 25 page book with star photography printed in RISO.

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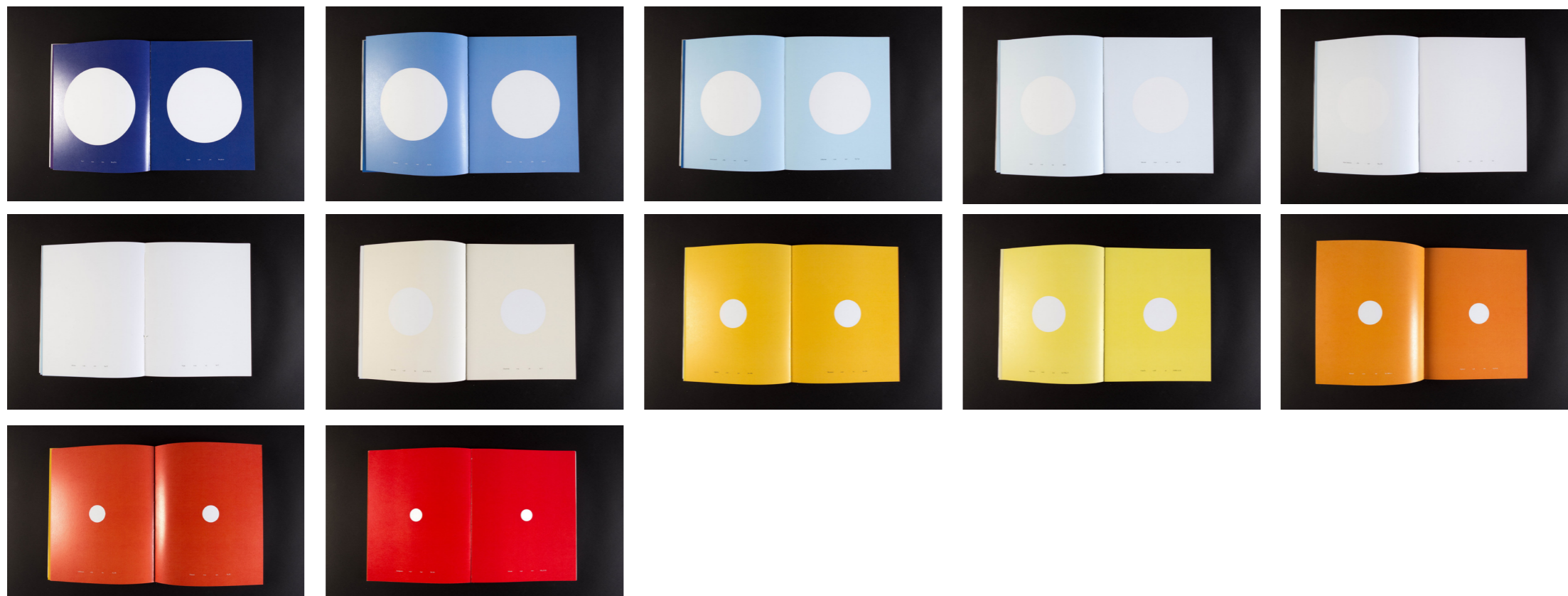
Questions regarding the Universe, 2015



# The brightest stars seen from the Earth

This book shows the 83 brightest stars seen from Earth's perspective.

The brightest stars seen from the Earth, 2015



Portfolio 2021

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