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The Shelf—Festival for Artistic Publishing enters its first edition

In less than two weeks, the first edition of *The Shelf—Festival for Artistic Publishing* will take place. It is a platform that gives small publishers, artists, and initiatives a space for exchange and a broader audience. In 2022 the first edition of the festival will be held as a temporary event in the Front Hall (Einblickshalle) and the education area (Forum) of the Sprengel Museum in Hanover. In addition to the tables—host to around 20 small publishers from the region and throughout Germany, the Netherlands and the US, amongst others—one section of the festival will be curated by three initiatives who take their specific approaches to the emancipatory potentials of publishing.

Here, the Feminist Health Care Research Group, Fehras Publishing Practices as well as FrauHerr Meko (with the *SichtBar2018* project) will each show a selection of publications such as zines, books, posters and other media selected for the festival that deal with specific themes such as vulnerability, Ableism in the Culture Industry and Community (FGRG), Black, Queer and Feminist Perspectives (*SichtBar*), as well as the history and present of publishing and its connections with socio-political and cultural developments in the Eastern Mediterranean, North Africa and the Arab Diaspora (Fehras Publishing Practices).

The festival will also consist of lectures, book presentations by individual publishers and a workshop programme (Werker Collective, among others) in which experimental and DIY publishing practices can be tried out on site.

An artistic contribution by GenderFail (Be Oakley) shows emancipatory messages that can be linked to the claim “Radical Softness is a boundless form of Resistance”, which is central to GenderFail’s work. The text-based works spread over the room and consist of fonts generated from the lettering of various protest banners.

Confirmed publishers, artists and initiatives:

Annette Gilbert/Library of Artistic Print on Demand (Berlin); Archive Books (Berlin); b_books (Berlin); Back Bone Books (Berlin); Bella Triste (Hildesheim); Building Fictions (Amsterdam/NL); Chata ščo Palaje (Hannover); DIABP—Dutch independent Art Book Publishers (Amsterdam/NL); Edizione Multicolore (Berlin, Leipzig); Fehras Publishing Practices (Berlin); Feminist Health Care Research Group (Berlin); GenderFail (NYC/USA); Gloria Glitzer (Berlin); Half Letter Press (Chicago/USA); Humorless Books (Hannover); Kodoji Press (Baden/CH); malenki.net (Bielefeld); Meta Copy (Hanover); MonoRhetorik (Den Haag/NL); Montez Press (London/UK); Muss

Sterben (Munich, Hanover, Vienna/AT); Other Forms (Chicago, Berlin); Palm Press (Hanover); FrauHerr – SichtBar2018 (Berlin) Verlag Marian Arnd (Leipzig); Vexer (Berlin); Well Gedacht Publishing (Vienna/AT, Berlin); Werker Collective (Amsterdam/NL); Wirklichkeit Books (Berlin)

When? 28 to 30 October 2022: Fri 15–18, Sat 11–18, Sun 11–16, admission free

Where? “Einblickshalle” of the Sprengel Museum Hannover www.sprengel-museum.de/besuch
Newsletter <mailto:contact@theshelf.de>
Instagram @theshelf_platform

Initiated by: ad/ad—Project Space

www.instagram.com/adadprojectspace

The Shelf has been conceived and is organized by cultural workers who engage with independent publishing from various perspectives, be they artistic, curatorial, or design-related. The team consists of Nora Brünger (curator), Jasper Otto Eisenecker (graphic designer), Samuel Henne (artist and director of ad/ad—Project Space) and Nina Diel (cultural manager and curator) as well as Lea Steinkampf (cultural scientist, involved in the conception phase) and Maximilian Neumann (artist, spatial design).

Funded by: Ministry of Science and Culture of Lower Saxony (funding programme “Niedersachsen dreht auf”), Kulturbüro Hannover and Stiftung Horizonte.

Accessibility on-site: Barrier-free access is partially provided. A cobblestone ramp leads from the street to the side entrance of the event space on ground level (Front Hall). The other floors (Forum) are accessible by taking the ramp to the main entrance and then the elevator. There are two public wheelchair-accessible parking spaces in front of the museum on Gneiststrasse. There are three wheelchair-accessible toilets in the museum.

Further information about the site and the museum can be found on the Sprengel Museum website: www.sprengel-museum.de/besuch.

Sprengel Museum Hanover
Kurt-Schwitters-Platz 1
30169 Hanover