

# Wabi Sabi Letterpress: Memories of Lost Impressions selected by Nathalie Cohen

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Campus Bijloke  
Bibliotheek

1M<sup>3</sup> is een kubieke meter  
gewijd aan de kunstenaars-  
boekencollectie van KASK  
1M<sup>3</sup> is one cubic meter  
dedicated to the artists'  
book collection of the KASK

# 1M<sup>3</sup>

Letterpress printing creates manifold impressions, through woodcuts, zinc, resin, blind embossing, linoleum or even photopolymer blocks.

These techniques of relief printing trigger one to imagine the process, the craft of carving, the imprint of the machine, the smell of ink...

In the empty shelves, the eye attempts to picture the tools and accessories used in the publishing trade, in the studio of the artist-engraver, the common thread that unifies the pages. The empty shelves could be an allusion to the invisible distance – which can be as small as a few millimeters – that creates an effect of three-dimensionality on the paper's surface.

Letterpress printing undercuts its own appearance by playing on the impressions it produces on the eye, making the latter doubt whether it is looking at letterpress or not.

The traces left are monochrome lines and dots, abstract marks that present the book on its own terms, as sheer material presence.

#### FROM TOP RIGHT TO LEFT

- Ruckhäberle, Christoph, and Thomas Siemon, eds., *Lubok 3* (Leipzig: Lubok Verlag, 2007) [KB-7/2]
- Dobbelaere, Danny, *Een vijlder aan het leven* (self-published, undated) [VG-1/6]
- Masereel, Frans, *La ville* (Paris: Albert Morancé, 1925) [Archives 11-899]
- Ruckhäberle, Christoph, and Thomas Siemon, eds., *Lubok 7* (Leipzig: Lubok Verlag, 2008) [KB-17/3]
- Martens, Karel, and David Senior, *Karel Martens – Full Color* (Amsterdam: Roma Publications, 2013) [KB-16/2]
- Dotremont, Christian, *Logbook* (Paris: Y. Rivière, 1974) [HC-1/8]
- Balthazar, André and Pol Bury, *Qui êtes vous?* (La Louvière: le Daily-Bul, 1968) [KB-16/8]
- Ruckhäberle, Christoph and Thomas Siemon, eds., *Lubok 8* (Leipzig: Lubok Verlag, 2009) [KB-17/4]
- Nagtzaam, Marc, *Not available* (Amsterdam: Roma Publications, 2014) [KB-22/1]