JAROSŁAW TKOZŁOWS 

## **BOOKS, WORDS, IDEAS (2018)**

'Books, Words, Ideas' is a presentation of works by 47 artists from across the globe, united by their passion for the artist's book as a form of creative expression and by their involvement with Jarosław Kozłowski and Andrzei Kostołowski's NET/Sieć initiative of 1971–72.

Responding to the post-war aftermath of the Iron Curtain, which had created not only an East-West geographical divide but also systemic ideological and cultural borders, Kozłowski and Kostołowski devised the NET Manifesto and mailed it to more than 300 artists and art theorists worldwide. The manifesto called for the abolition of those carefully guarded borders by a free exchange of ideas, projects, artworks, publications and other forms of expression that would also be made accessible outside of the official art circuit. Kozłowski and Kostołowski's invitation to partake in this open dialogue met with an enthusiastic response. Before long, the list of participants had expanded to such an extent that it eluded any official efforts to curtail it.

The works and artists' books on display here at MUZEUM SUSCH represent only a fraction of the NET Archive collection, which focuses on the role of text in contemporary art. During the 1970s, artists' book became recognized not only as a distinct artistic genre but as a powerful tool with which to contest the modernist canon and the institutionalized framework of its dissemination. Typically self-funded and published on a limited print run, then sold at low cost in specialist bookstores or handed out to friends, these books freed artists from the constraints of the commercial art market and undermined the gallery's pivotal status in facilitating the artist-audience dialogue. Instead, artists could communicate directly with their audience. In Eastern Europe, in particular, artists' books were often the only means by which to distribute dissenting artistic ideas.

Written using a hybrid language that frequently mocks the genre's constraints and aggregating events from visual arts as well as literature, artists' books require close reading and imagination. Text here is not merely a description that supplements the images; nor do the images serve purely as illustration. The fluid identity of these books is the perfect response to the call for freedom – for both author and reader alike.



Richard Long, 21 Places, 1977

Douglas Huebler, Duration Piece #8
 Lawrence Weiner, A Work In A Context, 1980

<sup>4</sup> On Kawara, I Am Still Alive, 1973

<sup>5</sup> Hanne Darboven, Brief Paper, 1975



- Dick Higgins, Foewgombwhnw, 1969
- Richard Long, River Avon Book, 1977
- Richard Long, Twelve Works, 1981

- 9 Richard Long, South America, 1972
  10 Douglas Huebler, Duration Piece #8. Global, 1973 Clemente Padin, Esquema: Grado 13, 1972
- 12 Clemente Padin, Gastou, Gastou, 1976
- 13 David Troostwyk, Imitation, 1977
- 14 David Troostwyk, National Day, 1981
- Włodzimierz Borowski, Est-Etyka.
- Autoportrety, 1977
- 16 Angelo De Aquino, Illusion, 1972
- 17 Angelo De Aquino, Illusion. Book Two, 1972

- 18 Birgir Andrésson, Nálægō. Annars Vegar Fólk / Nearness. Different People
- 19 Birgir Andrésson, Nálægð, 1990
- 20 Lawrence Weiner, Green As Well As Blue As Well
- As Red, 1972
- Lawrence Weiner, On The Rocks, 1976 22 Lawrence Weiner, With A Touch of Pink, 1978
- 23 Lawrence Weiner, The Level of Water, 1978
- 24 Lawrence Weiner, Statements, 1968
- 25 Lawrence Weiner, Various Manners With
- Various Things, 1976
- 26 Jiří Valoch, Day-And-Night Book, 1971

- 27 Jiří Valoch, Study Of Identification, 1972
- 28 George Brecht and Robert Filliou, Games At The Cedilla, Or The Cedilla Takes Off, 1967
- 29 Eric Andersen, Opus 1966, 1966
- 30 Eric Andersen, The Proof, 1975
- 31 Lawrence Weiner, Having From Time To Time A Relation To:/, 1973
- 32 Cezary Staniszewski, The Principles of The
- Economy of Painting, 1982
- 33 Sol Lewitt, The Location of Lines, 1974
- 34 Sol Lewitt, Four Basic Kinds of Lines & Colour, 1971
- 35 Jiří Valoch, Word Works, 1974-82



- On Kawara, I Am Still Alive, 1978
   Helmut Nickels, Barbados, 1978

- 37 Henrit Chopin, Cosmographical Lobster, 1976 39 Cartfriedrich Claus, Sprachblätter, 1979 40 Jarosław Szelest, Zasady Tresury / The Principes Of Training, 2018
- 41 Henri Chopin, Le Dernier Roman Du Monde, 1961 42 Stanley Brouwn, 1 Step 100000 Steps, 1972
- 43 Paul-Armand Gette, Jardins Botaniques, 1974
- 44 Maciej Haufa, Kwadrat, Cukier, Społem Czyli Perspektywa Czystego, Jasnego, Kryształowego, Niebieskiego Koloru, 2000

- 45 Hanne Darboven, Gedenkenund Einfälle, 1975
- 46 Hanne Darboven, *Tango*, 1975 47 Hanne Darboven, *1–60 Variante*, 1975
- 48 Mieko Shiomi, Spatial Poem, 1976
- 49 Mieko Shiomi, Fluxus Balance, 1993
- 50 Tom Krøjer, Incidental and Accidental Art, 1975 51 Endre Tót, Zero-Texts (1971–72), 1974
- 52 Endre Tót, Rainproof Idea, 1971-74



58 Jarosław Kozłowski, *Library*, 1995 59 Jarosław Kozłowski, *Language*, 1972 60 Carlfriedrich Claus, *Handreflexion*, 1974 61 Emmett Williams, *Alphabet*, 1965/83

George Maciunas, Spell Your Name, 1976
 Mieko Shiomi, Spatial Poems, 1974–76
 Angelo De Aquino, Untitled, 1971

Reiner Ruthenbeck, *Untitled*, 1970
Włodzimierz Borowski, *Nine Times If...*, 1992
David Troostwyk, *Private Act*, 1977

67 THE THE MALE MALE PARTY





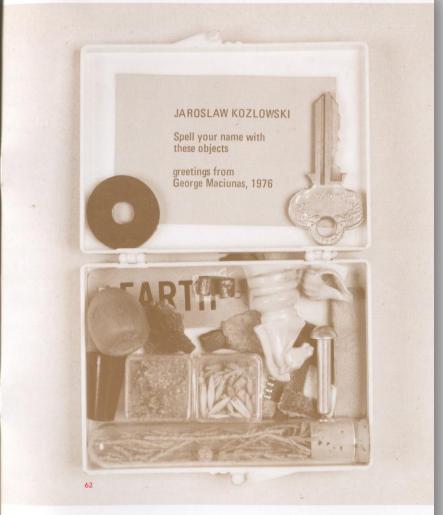


- 68 Mike Nelsson, An Invocation. Five Hundred And
  Thirty Books From Southend Central Library, 2013
  69 John Baldessari, Ingres and Other Parables, 1971
  70 Geoffrey Hendricks, Ring Piece, 1973
  71 Geoffrey Hendricks, 100 Skles, 1986
  72 Barbara Schmidt-Heins, Untitled, 1977
  73 Gabriele Schmidt-Heins, Untitled, 1976
  74 Gabriele Schmidt-Heins, Untitled, 1976
  75 Gabriele Schmidt-Heins, Untitled, 1976

- 76 Jarosław Kozłowski, The Academy, 1986
- 77 Jarosław Kozłowski, Grammar, 1973
- 78 Jarosław Kozłowski, Language, 1972

- Jarosław Kozłowski, Language, 1972
  Jarosław Kozłowski, Grey Thoughts, 1990
  Jarosław Kozłowski, Reality, 1972
  Jarosław Kozłowski, Drei Punkte, 1975
  Emmett Williams, Chicken Feet, Duck Limbs and Dada Handshakes, 1984
- 83 Emmett Williams, *The Boy and The Bird*, 1979
  84 Emmett Williams, *Soldier*, 1973
  85 Robert Barry, *Untitled*, 1974
  86 Emmett Williams, *The Voyage*, 1975
  87 Robert Barry, *It Is.*... *It Isn't.*..., 1972





88 Endre Tót, I Am Glad If I Type Zeros, 1975

62 George Maciunas, Spell Your Name, 1976