

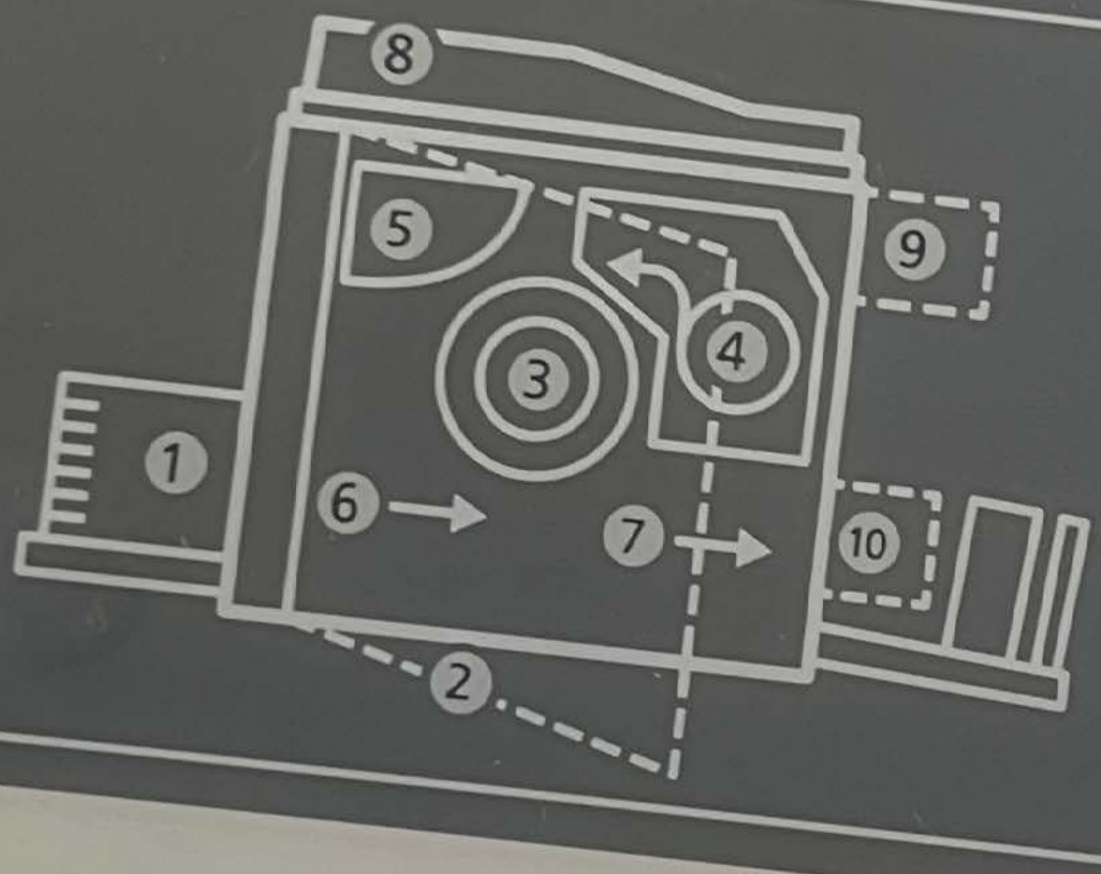
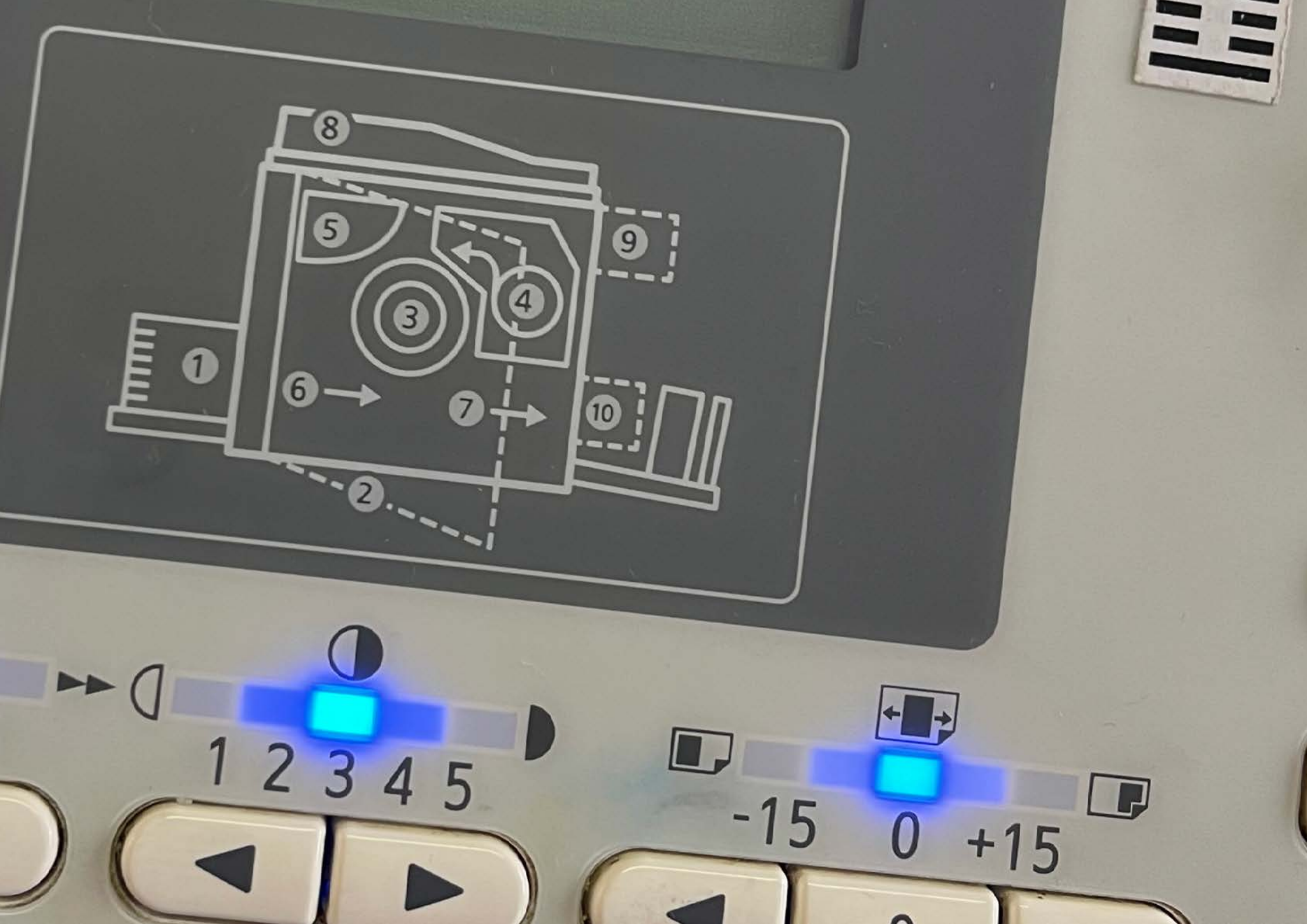
Pulses, Songs, Silences:

What Are We

Hearing?

What Are We







What Are We
Hearing?

What A
Hearing

What Are We
Hearing?

What A
Hearing

What Are We
Hearing?

What Are We
Hearing?

Pulses, Songs, Silences: What Are We Hearing?

JOHANNESBURG/LONDON

This publication and project emerged from an interdisciplinary exchange between the Wits School of Arts (Department of Fine Arts and School of Architecture and Planning) in Johannesburg and the Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL, London.

Working through the concept of the edit—both as metaphor and methodology—the initiative challenges dominant binaries such as north/south, centre/periphery, and natural/urban. Attendant to the city's elusive and fragmentary ontologies, the sonic became a way to 'listen the city into being' through sound drives, cave recordings, river sound walks, and elevator journeys with binaural microphones.

Anchored in the elemental materials of water, rock, brick (soil), and air (sky), the collaboration brought together alumni, academics and artists to reflect on the ecologies of space, sound, and writing.

The reader is invited to journey with us from the Bothongo Wonder Cave, to Ponte City, to the daylight point of the Jukskei River in Bez Valley and its re-emergence in Alexandra township, to a noise concert at Smoking Kills bar, to a chance discovery of a water storage tank hidden within a natural ridge—and further migrations beyond the city to Limpopo province.

Each site offered pulses, songs, silences—moments through which to reframe the city and the politics of listening.

Pulses, Songs, Silences: What Are We Hearing?

Johannesburg/London

Publication Contributors

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Publication Facilitation, Anarchiving & Printing

francis burger

April Sound Workshop

Facilitation Bettina Malcomess

Special thanks to Romy Stander (Water for the Future), Diale Nje (Ponte Tour), Muhammad Dawjee (Wonder Cave), Dunja Herzog (Victoria Yards)

Project Leads &

Coordination Polly Gould, Zen Marie, Jhono Bennett, Brigitta Stone-Johnson, Bettina Malcomess

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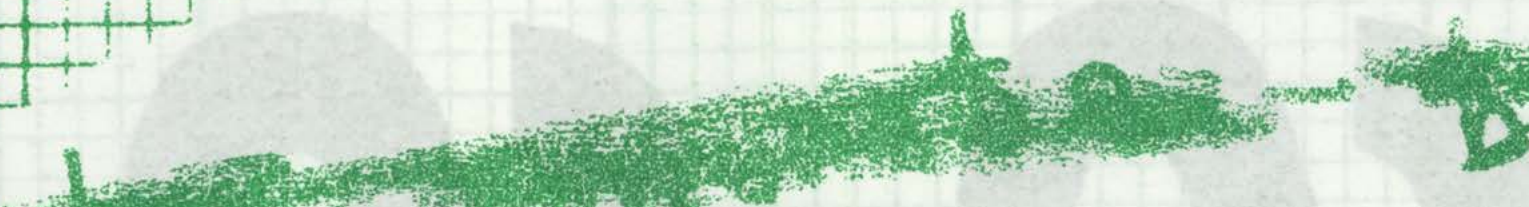
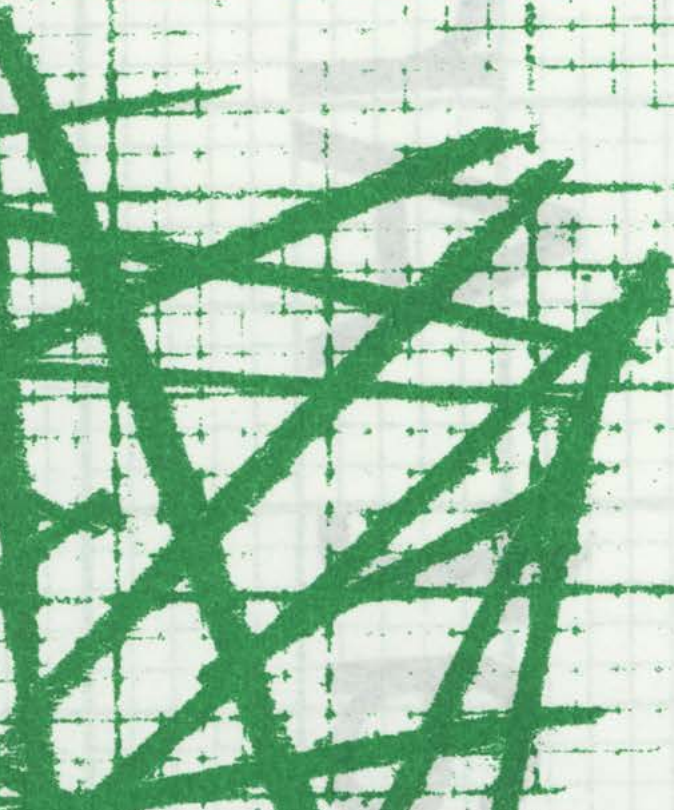
2025

LONDON

JOHANNESBURG



that people should just have



springs

south of the

to not enter

refuses to

inside

north of the

vibrates

thinking this as an improvisation, live, fast
decisions and compositions made on the move.
Out of hand, many missing things, flights –
learning each other, anticipating, responding
(also to the machine/s); what does it sound like;
what else comes with?



opping
at
se
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og
e
opping drop
alter stalagmite
lactite
beat the ler
ic sculpt
making a way for the
the river is complex
ns
overs p
ourg
t book
orm book
father's house
d fall wood the
er as archive
ster egg hunt

concurrency of nature
with the human
archive
subme
hiding
represent
reclaim
what are
telling us
what are people
telling us?
a thing people just
have
frogs
tape assembly water
cave
mining
acid mind drain
it chowed my
m
li
b
n
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field

6op refuses to
hearing your
north of the
Metsi
not enter
south of the
springs
west of the
streaming
east of the

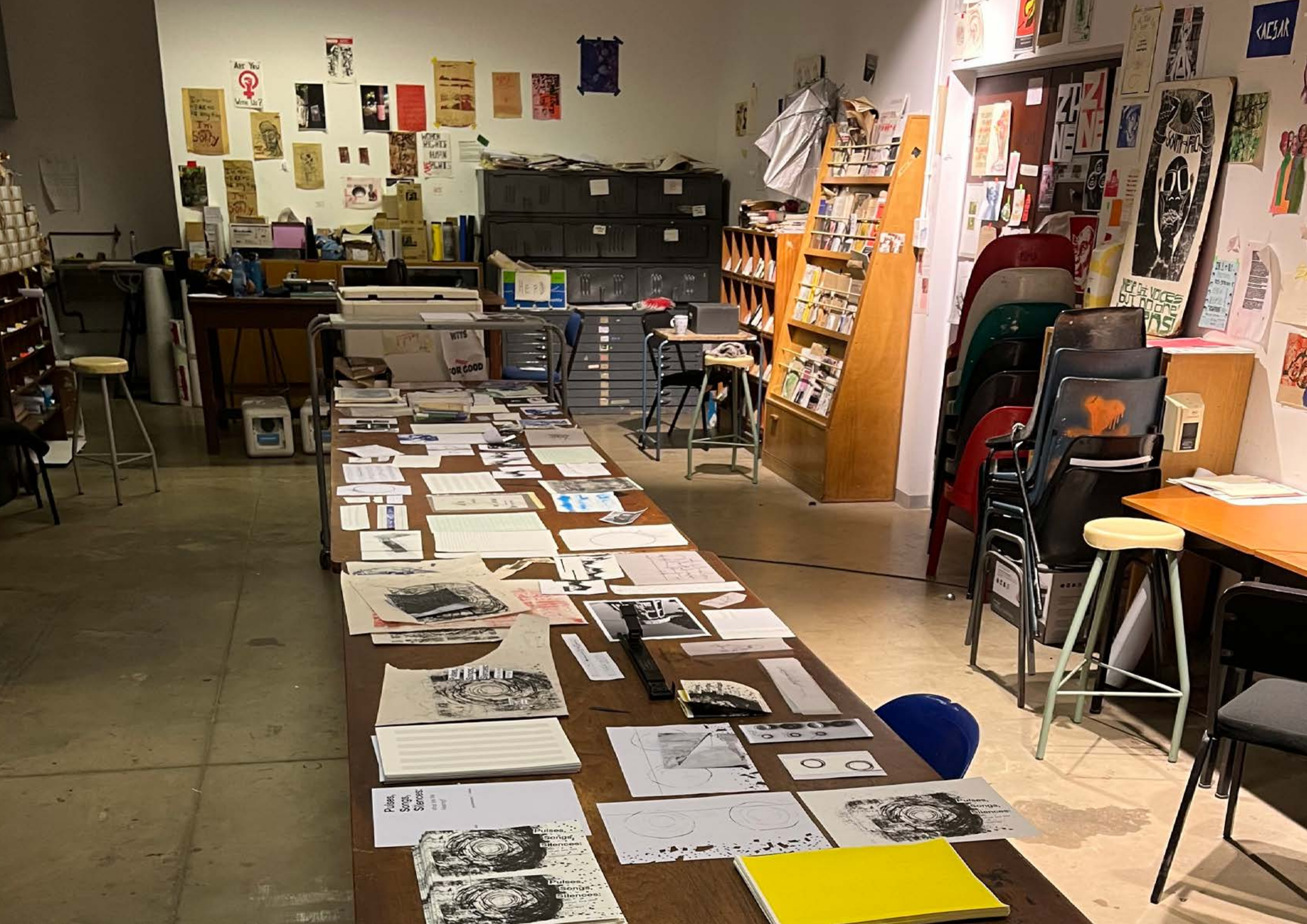
metronome
clock
pin pricks
adjusting your eyes
knowledge
maps of Joburg
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journey inward
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bird
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tunnel
electricity
eed
sound
attention
snapshot
boring
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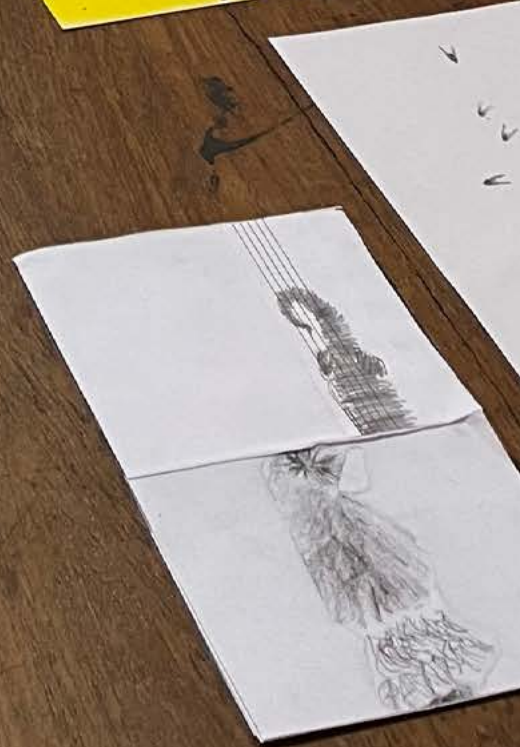
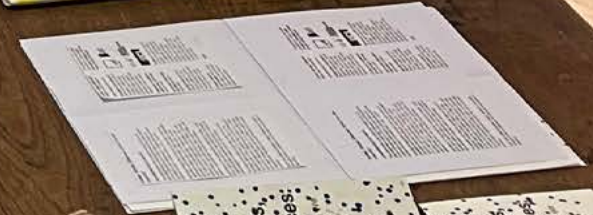
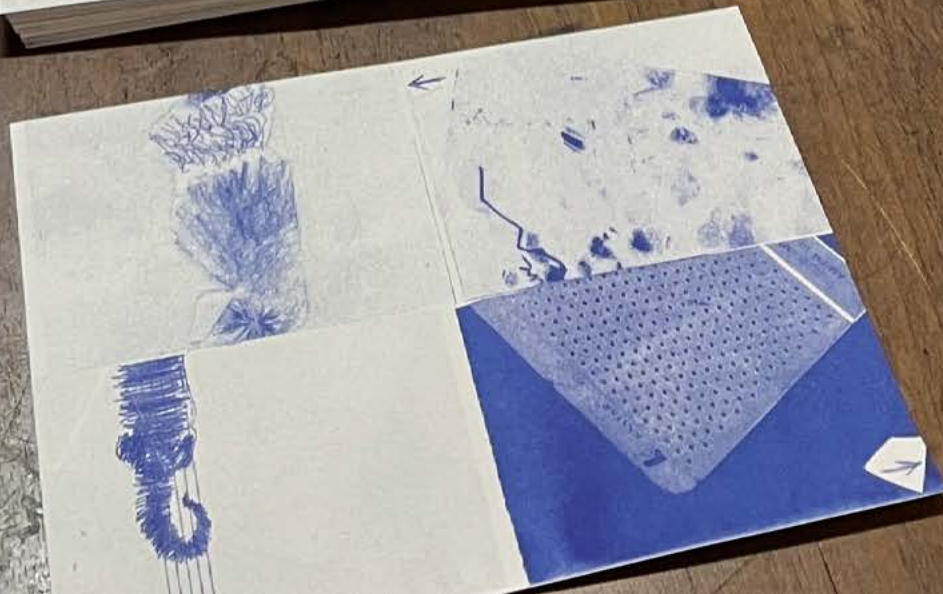
sun
resevoir
throwing rocks
the tail of the sound
rainmakers
ruminators
rena hlafunang gabedi
the river
slimy
cold
smell
the alleged gold
nuggets
the bricks th
rumination
journey
vading
nowledge
Alexandra
you can hear when the
water is dirty
baptisms

out of sync
body
sickness
change
dramatic
equilibrium
a thing that p
should just h
ground
what are we
pulse
silence
song
bat
absorb
shut down
ground
echo
crocodile

have please Note that the
security of all persons
is the first and foremost
concern of the
Government

in a
but
un







What Are We
Hearing?

JOHN

This publication
interdisciplinary
of Arts (Design)
Architecture
Bartlett School

Working through
metaphor and material
dominant binaries of
periphery, and nature,
city's elusive and fragile
became a way to 'listen'
sound drives, cave recordings
elevator journeys with binoculars

Anchored in the elemental materials
brick (soil), and air (sky), the book
together alumni, academics and
the ecologies of space, sound, and

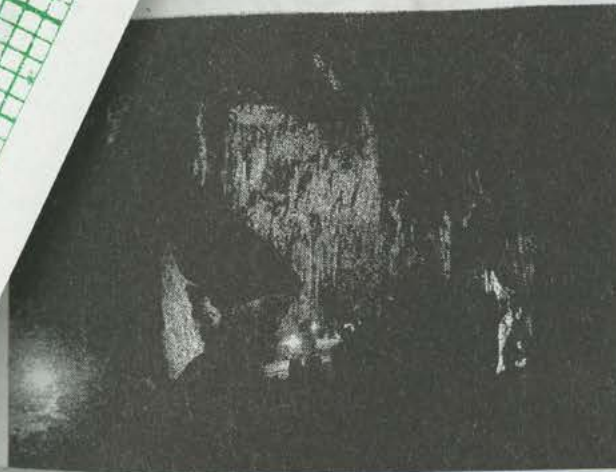
The reader is invited to journey with us
Bothongo Wonder Cave, to Ponte City, to
daylight point of the Jukskei River in Beza
its re-emergence in Alexandra township, to
concert at Smoking Kills bar, to a chance discovery
of a water storage tank hidden within a natural
—and further migrations beyond the city to Limpopo
province.

Each site offered pulses, songs, silences—moments
through which to reframe the city and the politics of
listening.

BRICK

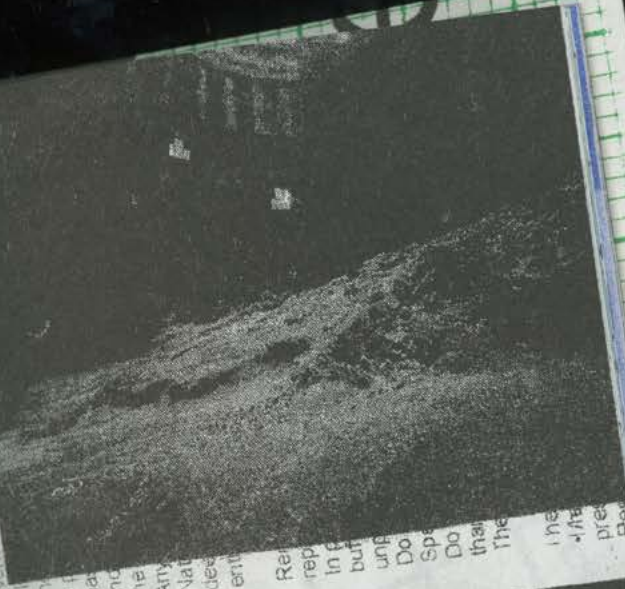


Nat det ent Rel rep In p but un Do Sp Do tha the i he pres Ras



Presidents

...ensure the safety and security of all persons, it is necessary to ensure that information actions are limited to prevent investigation and retrieval. This



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Bothongo Rhino & Lion Nature Reserve

Guest Name **Kgaugelo**

Booking Reference **#483B-86BA**

WonderCave incl Self-Drive

3 Adults ~ 0 Children ~ 0 Guides

2025-04-15 16:00 to 17:00

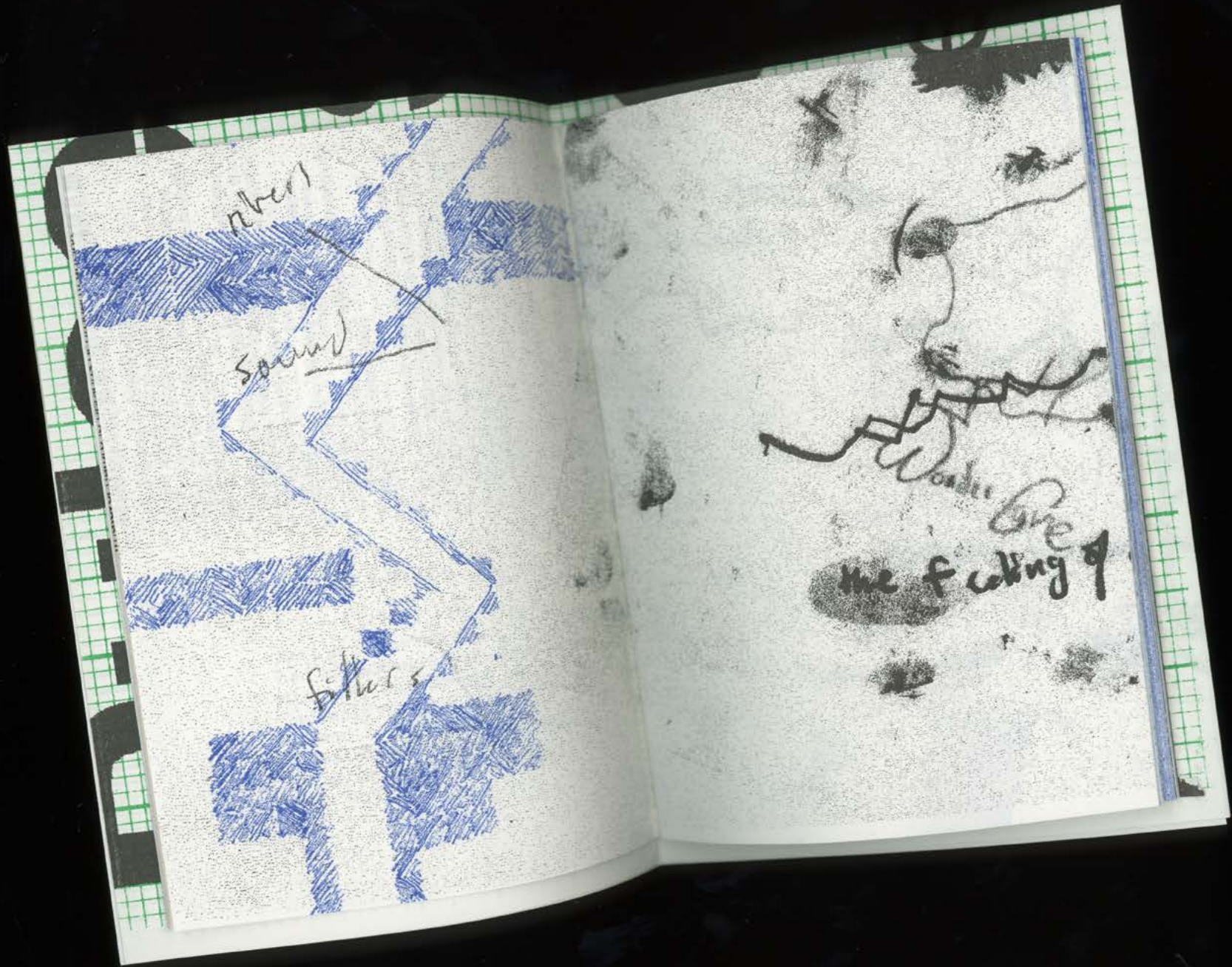
Ticket phrase **twelve stand able**

Indemnity

RIGHT OF ADMISSION RESERVED. Each person enters the Bothongo Rhino & Lion Nature Reserve & Bothongo WonderCave at his / her own risk. The owner, management and employees are not responsible for any damage, injury or loss of any nature sustained by a visitor, guest, contractor or any other person and/or their property. By visiting and/or using the Bothongo Rhino & Lion Nature Reserve & Bothongo WonderCave, and accepting the

how I was feeling
inside





river

sound

Silver



Wonder One
the fucking 9

beat
pulse of the

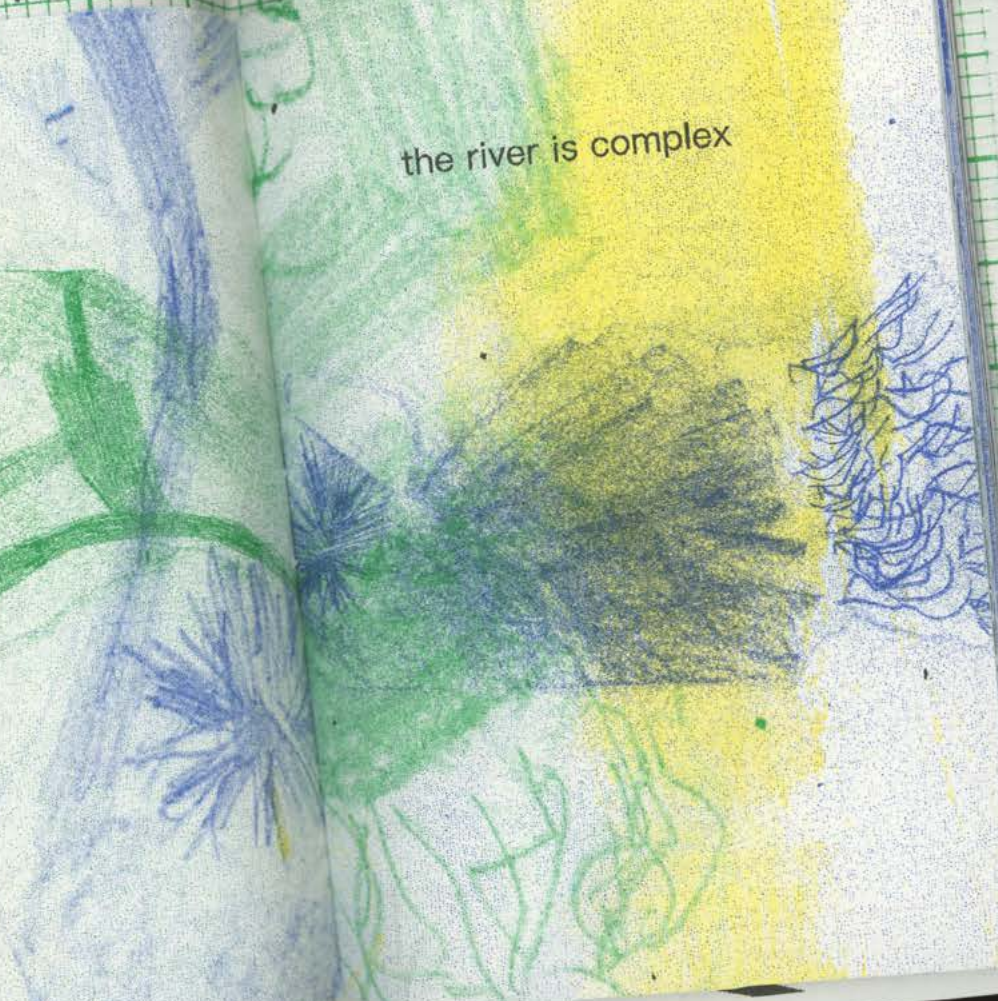
ward journey

cave

inward

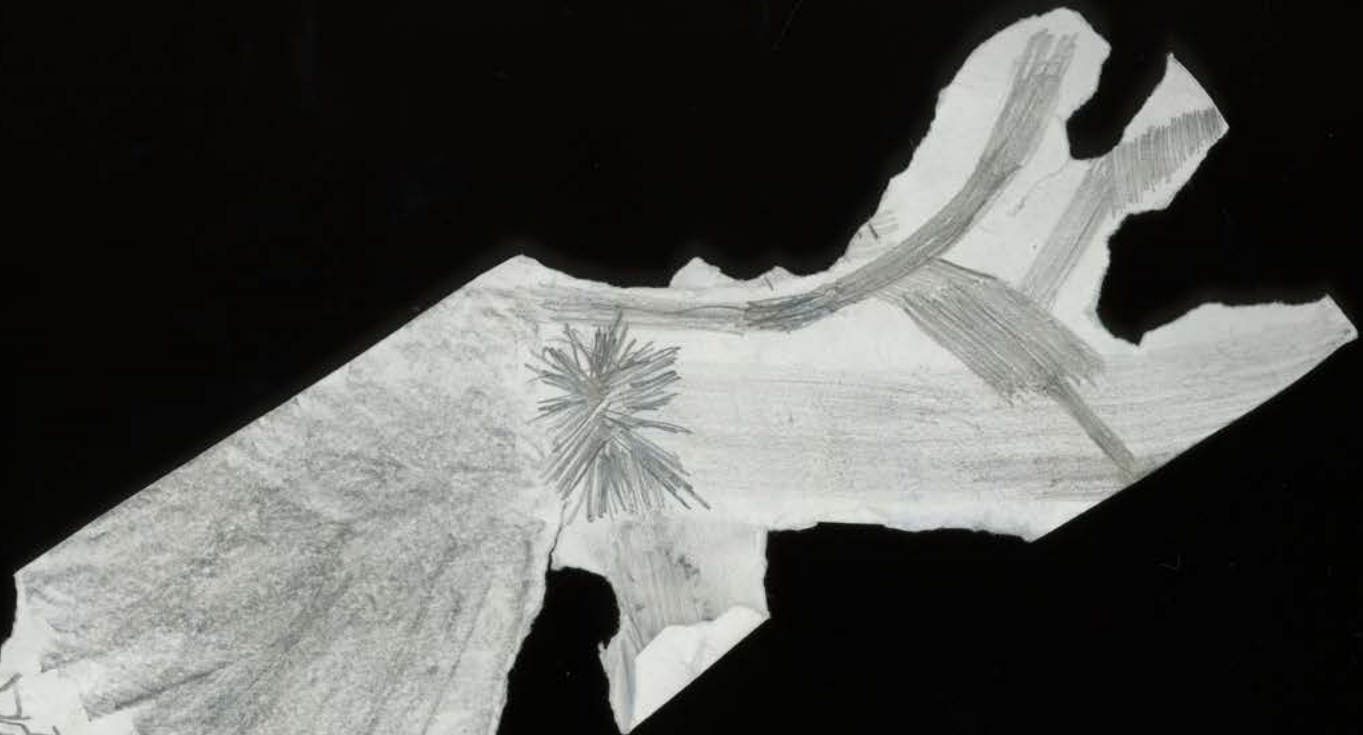


the river is complex





a thing that
people should
just have



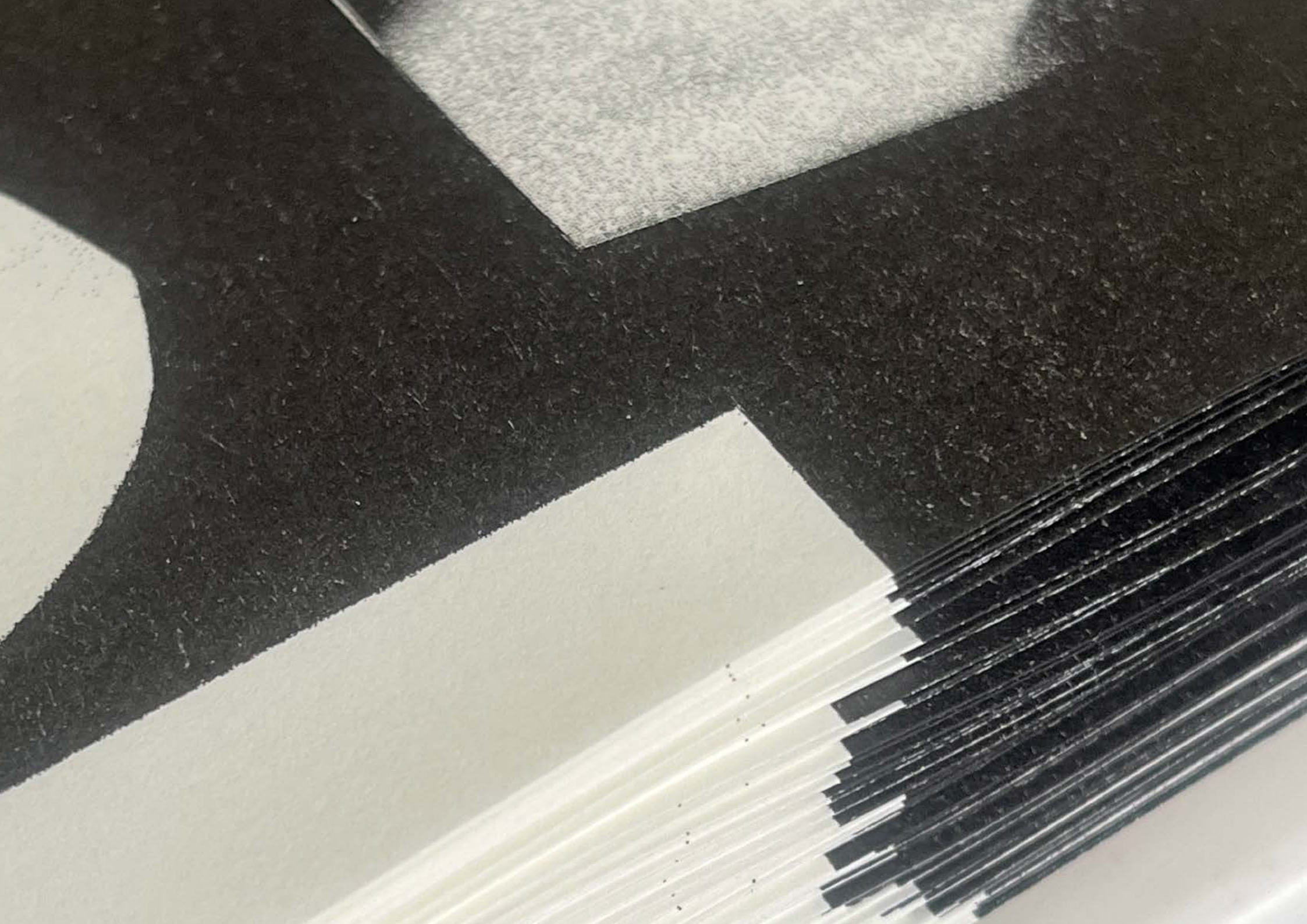


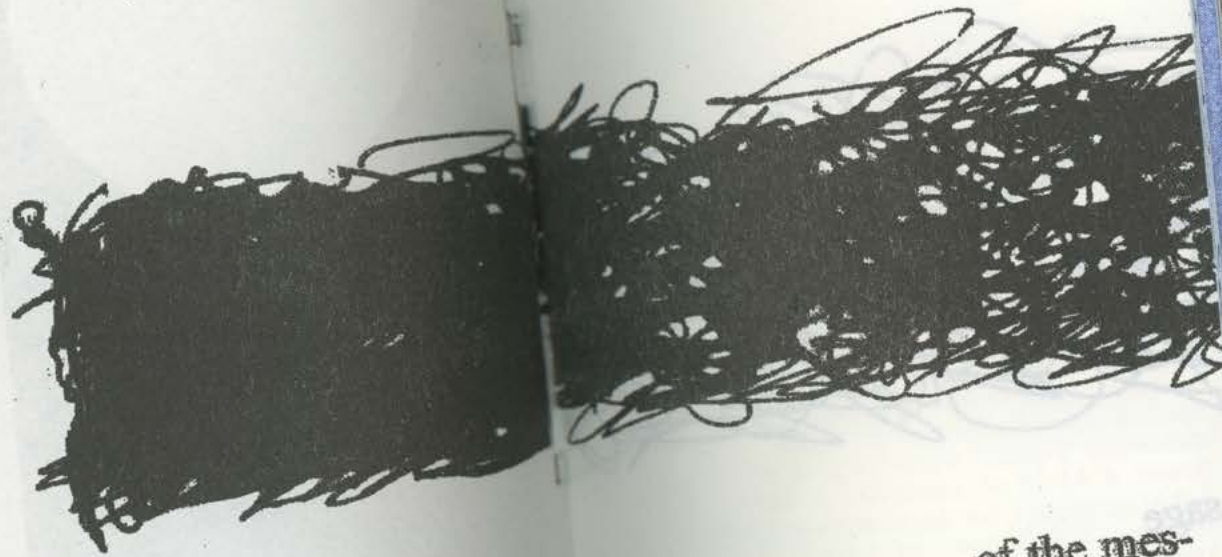
the river is an archive
the river is an archive
the river is an archive
the river is an archive
the river is an archive
the river is an archive
an archive is a river
an archive is a river
an archive is a river
the river is an archive
the river is an archive

the back of an eye
the back of an eye



adjusting your
eyes





of the mes-

sage



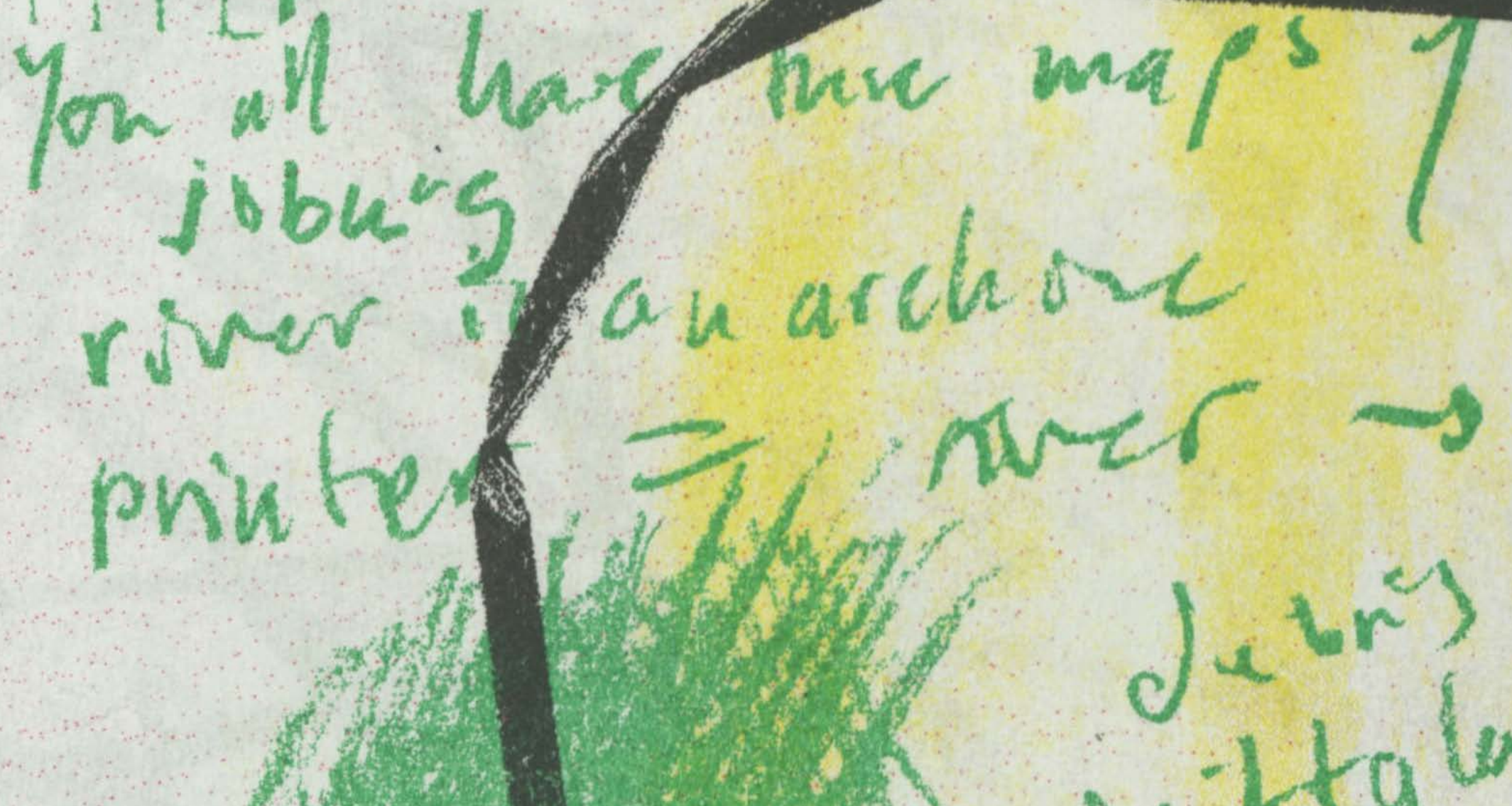


You all have me steps 1
joburg
river is an archone
printer = river →

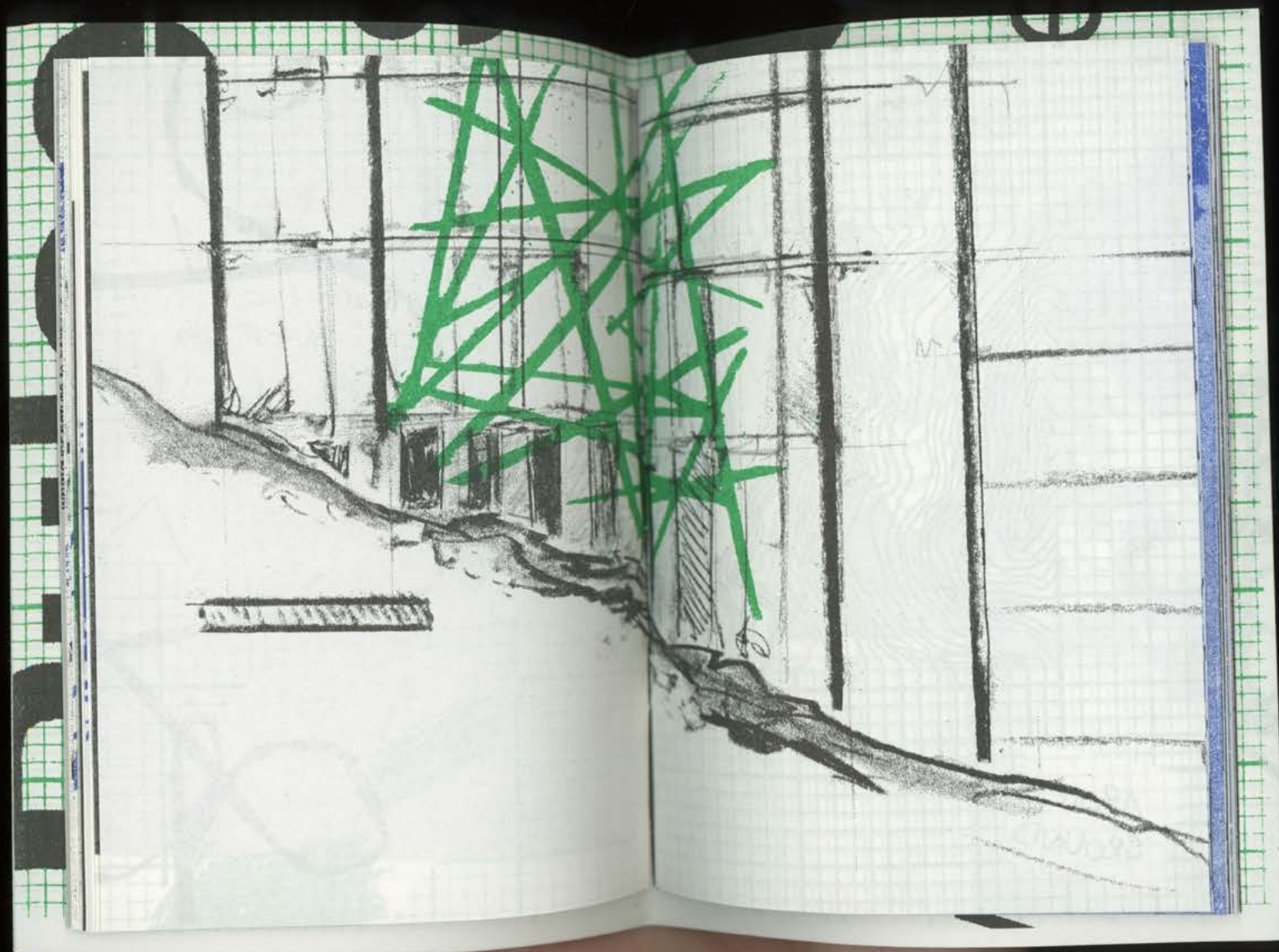
Jebris
driftglass





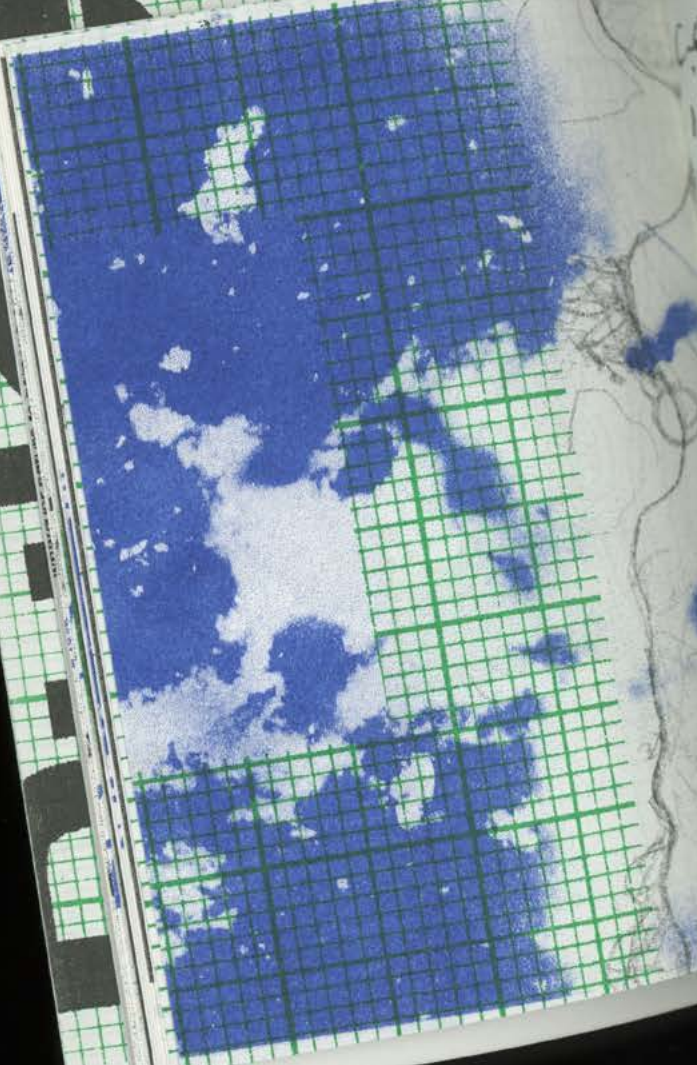


You all have these maps of
jobbing
river in an arch over
printer = river →
Jenny
Hale



ABOVE
GROUND





centres, the
Instagram, man
LAUGHING... mm
Sometimes I re
Weathering the whi
house had a ra
bank the river
stroke... to h
manuscript, how do
hands get water
it goes back to
house had a ra

MET SI
A RONA
A KAE?







they
don't

V KVES
V BOW
WE

they



Sometimes when we don't
have water, while it
goes back to buy himself
stole money to buy himself
a mansion, ohay sometimes
when I was little, how
the responsibility, inst-
agram, ramaphosa, inst-
stole money, \$hmm...
Sometimes I regarded
wealth, the responsibility
the managers of vibrancy
the responsibility, mole
money, hmmm...
Sometimes, the
was little, the
ability when we
one water, so, they
is that, Victoria yards get
the responsibility
centred by himself
it goes Instagram.
Sleep.
meter
but
LAUGHING...
Sometimes, I regarded
wealth, but which
house had a rainwater
stole money to buy an
mansion, how day Victoria
yards get water while
it goes back to which
house had a rainwa-
stole money to buy
when I was
which I was





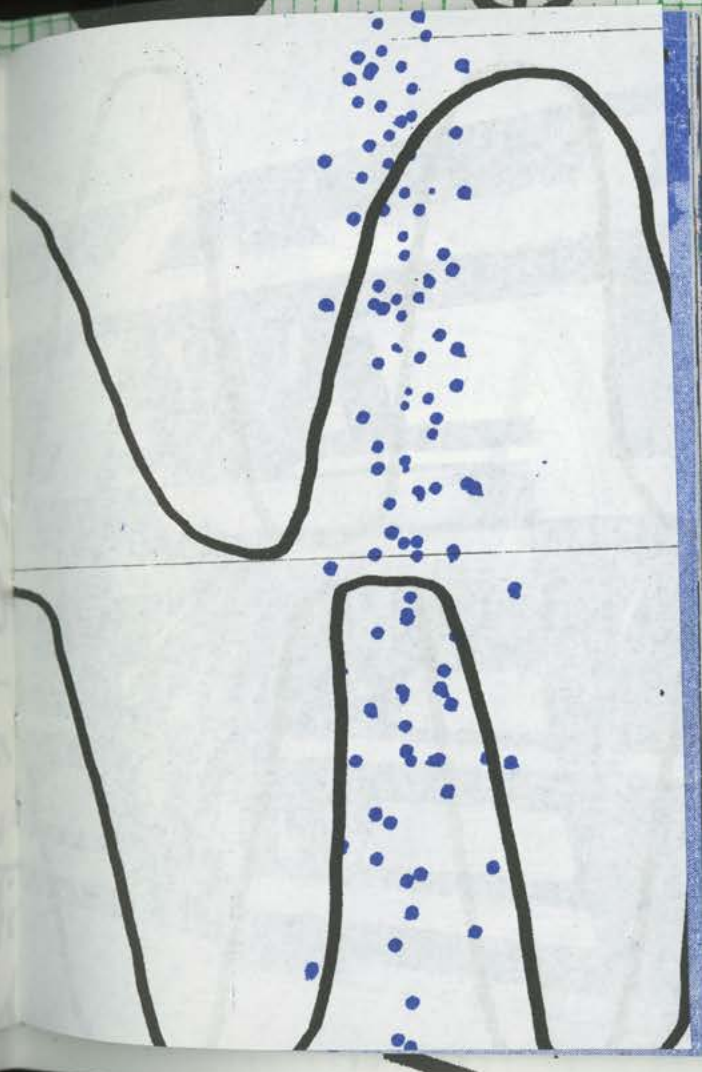


should

people
a thing

that

just have



should
people a thing



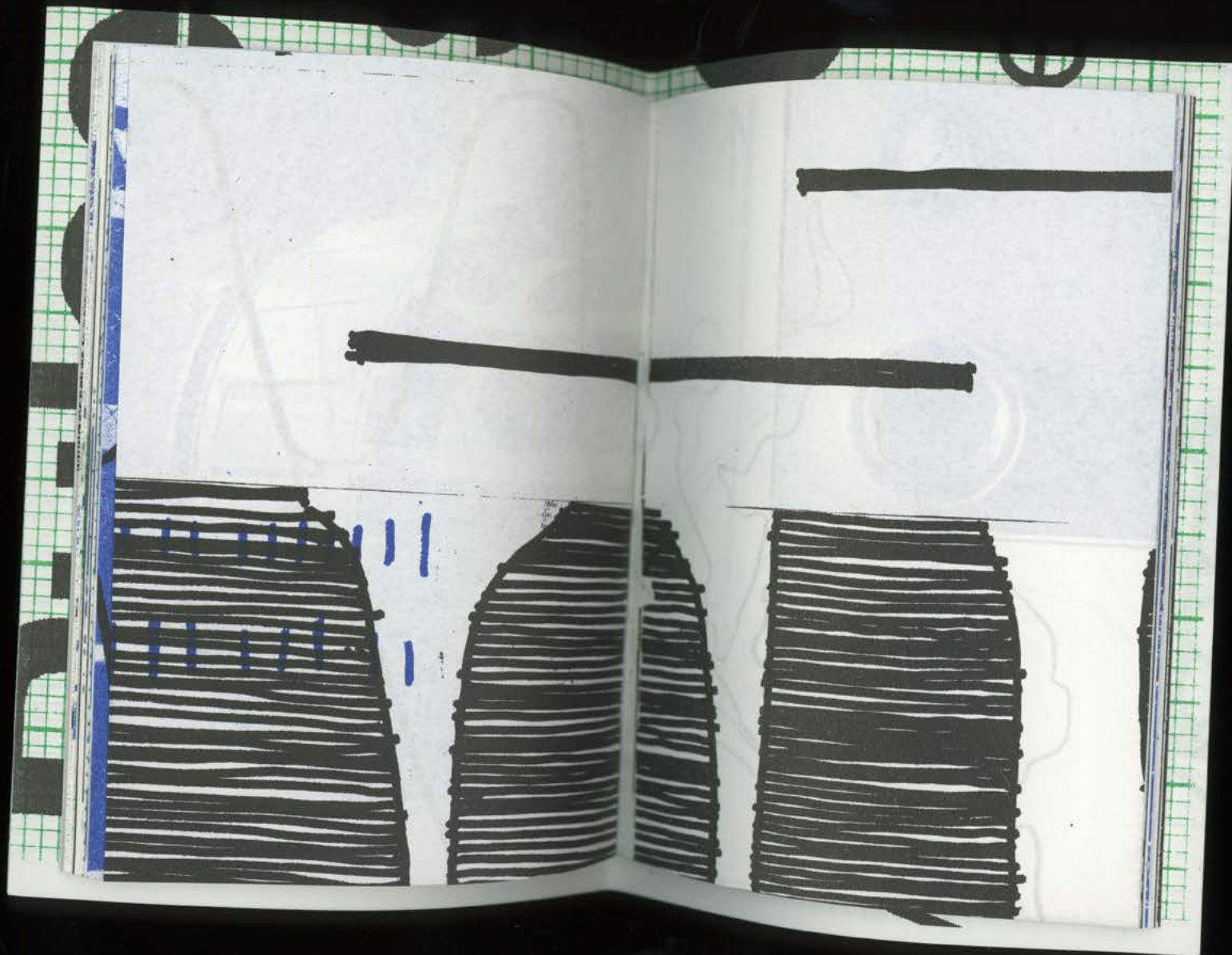


MEISI
ARONA
AKAE?

a thing that people should just have
a thing that people should just have
a thing that people should just have



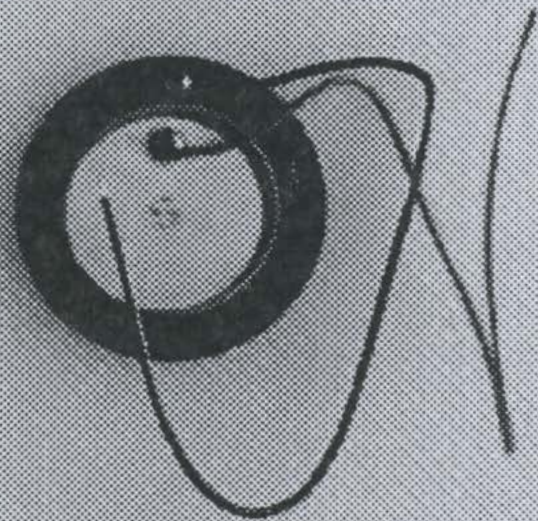
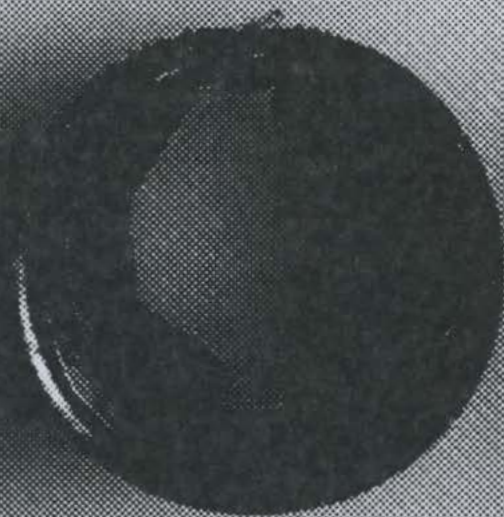
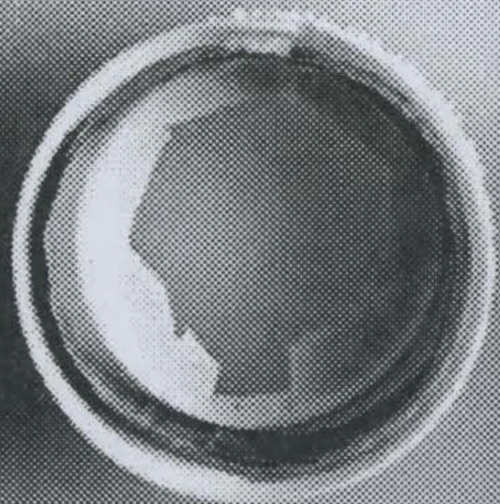
THE HOUSE
IS ON BASE.
HOLE

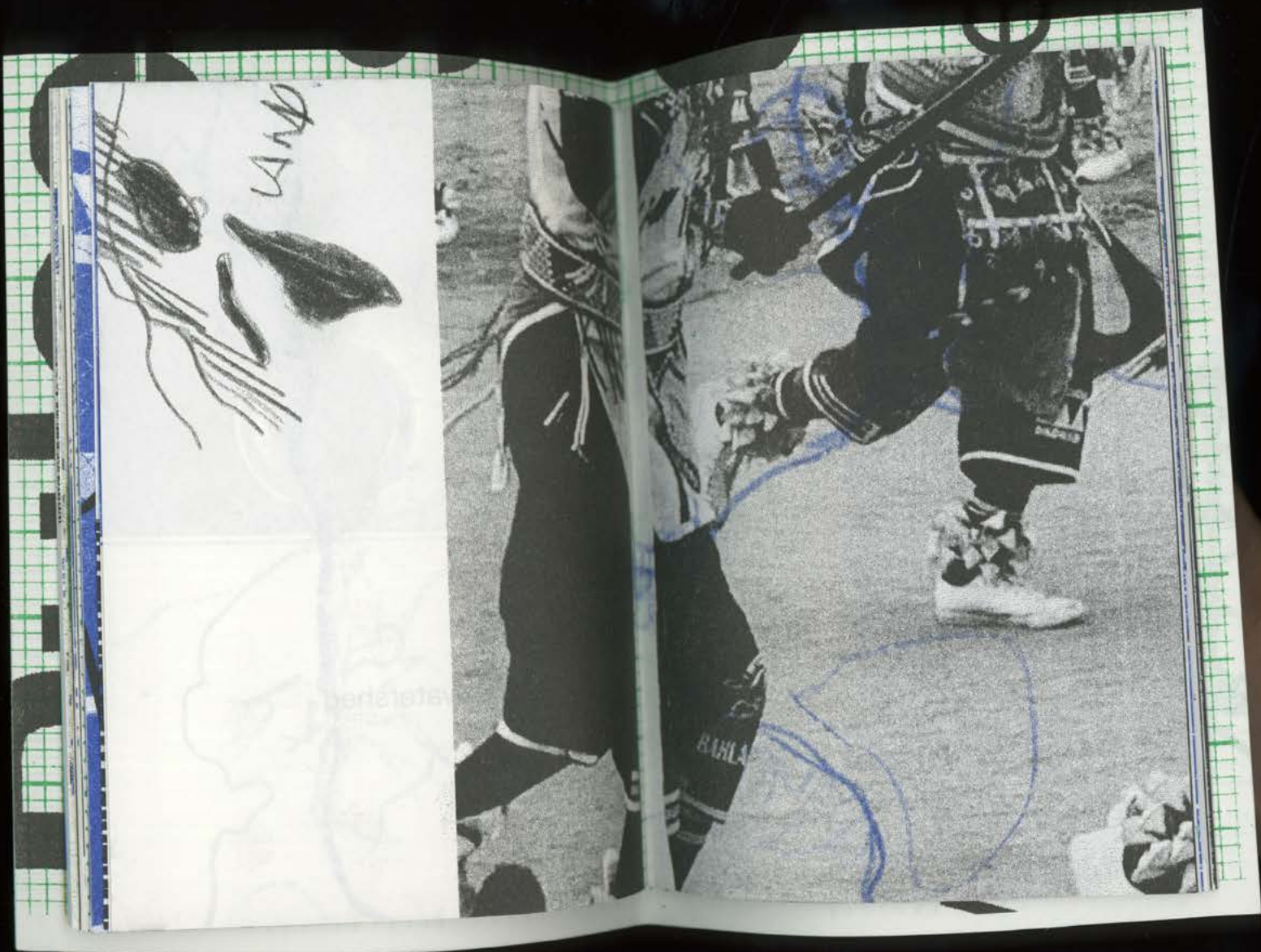




connect the ground
to the sky

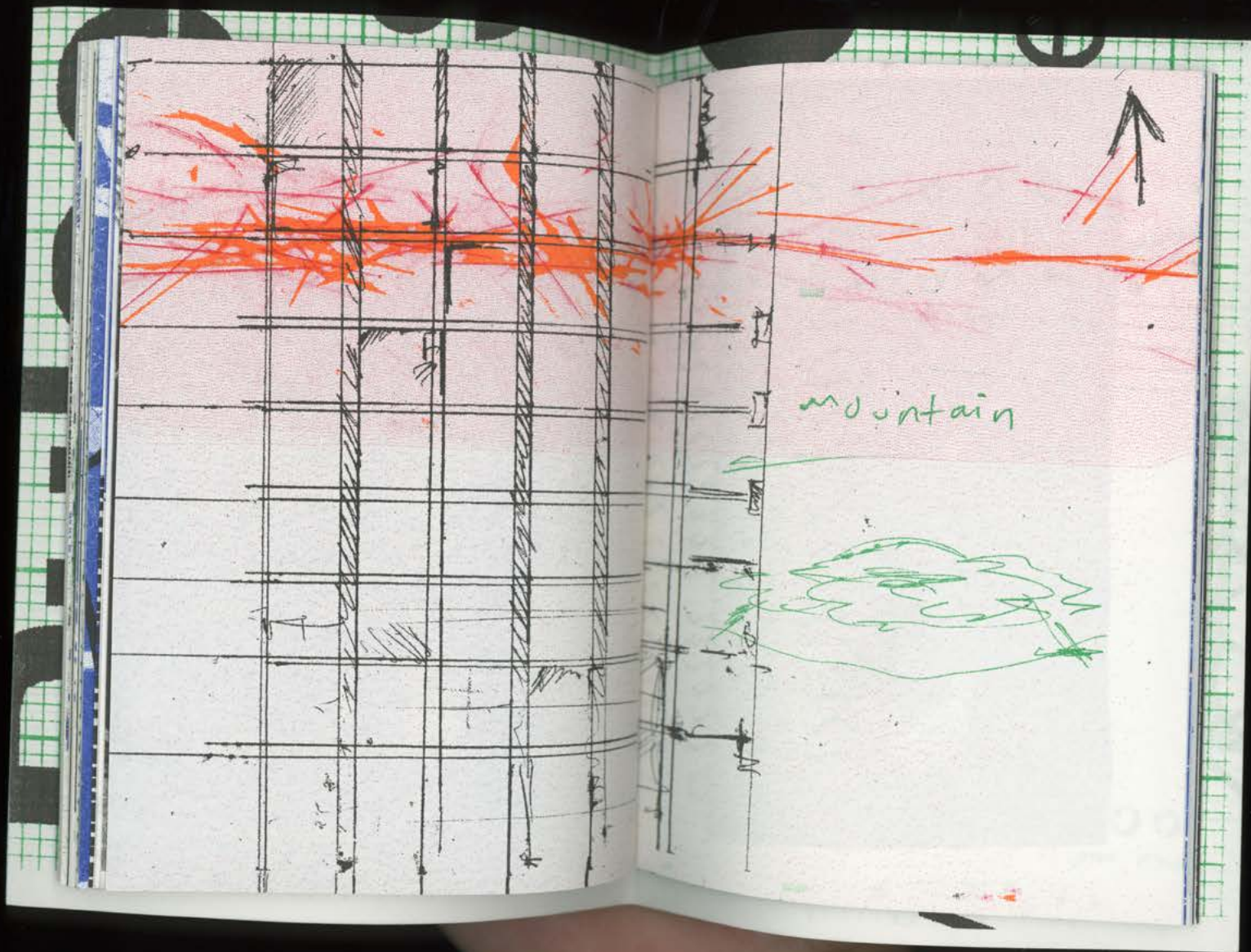














COME TO THE KROMDRAAI WONDER CAVE
WARNING

PERSONS ENTERING THIS CAVE DO SO AT
OWN RISK. BEWARE OF FALLING ROCKS,
(OPPLASMOSIS(CAVE DISEASE) ETC. IT IS A
PREVENTION LIABLE TO PROSECUTION OF
THE TRANSVAAL NATURE CONSERVATION
AUTHORITY(No 12 OF 1983) TO INTERFERE WITH
ASPECT OF THE CAVE ECOSYSTEM, REMOVE
MARKINGS OR IN ANY WAY DEFACE THE CAVE

echo

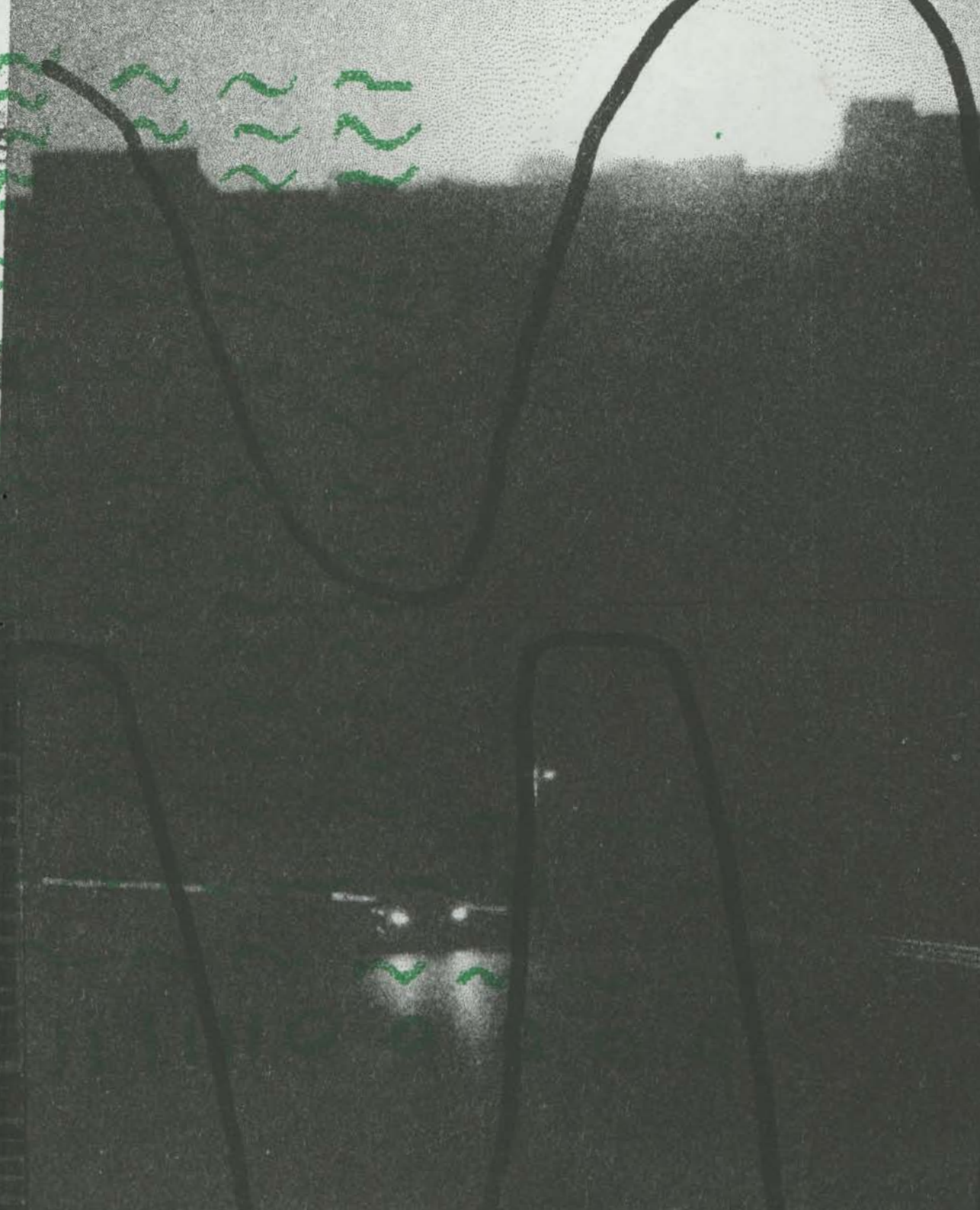
etch

shifting

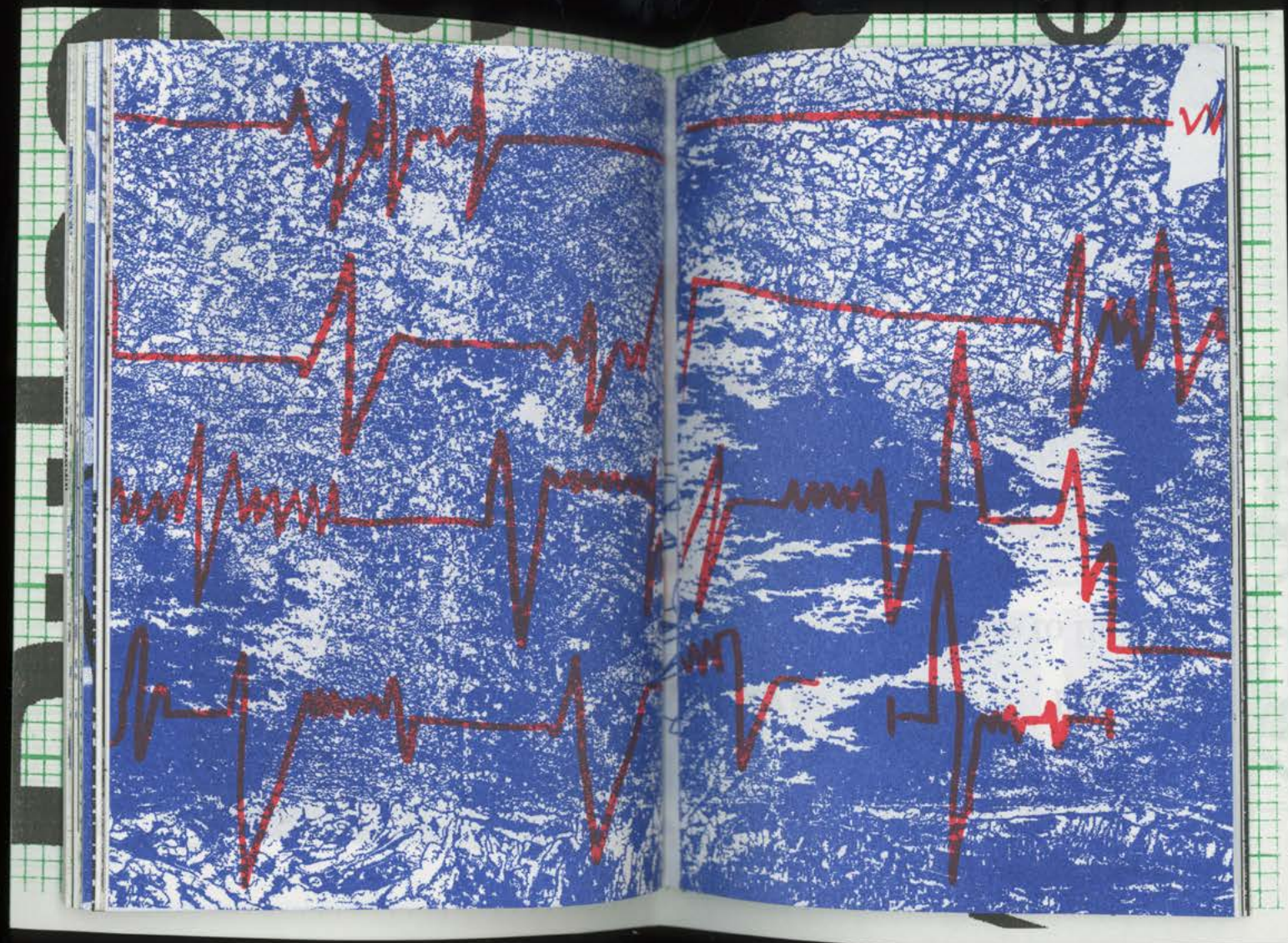
stre



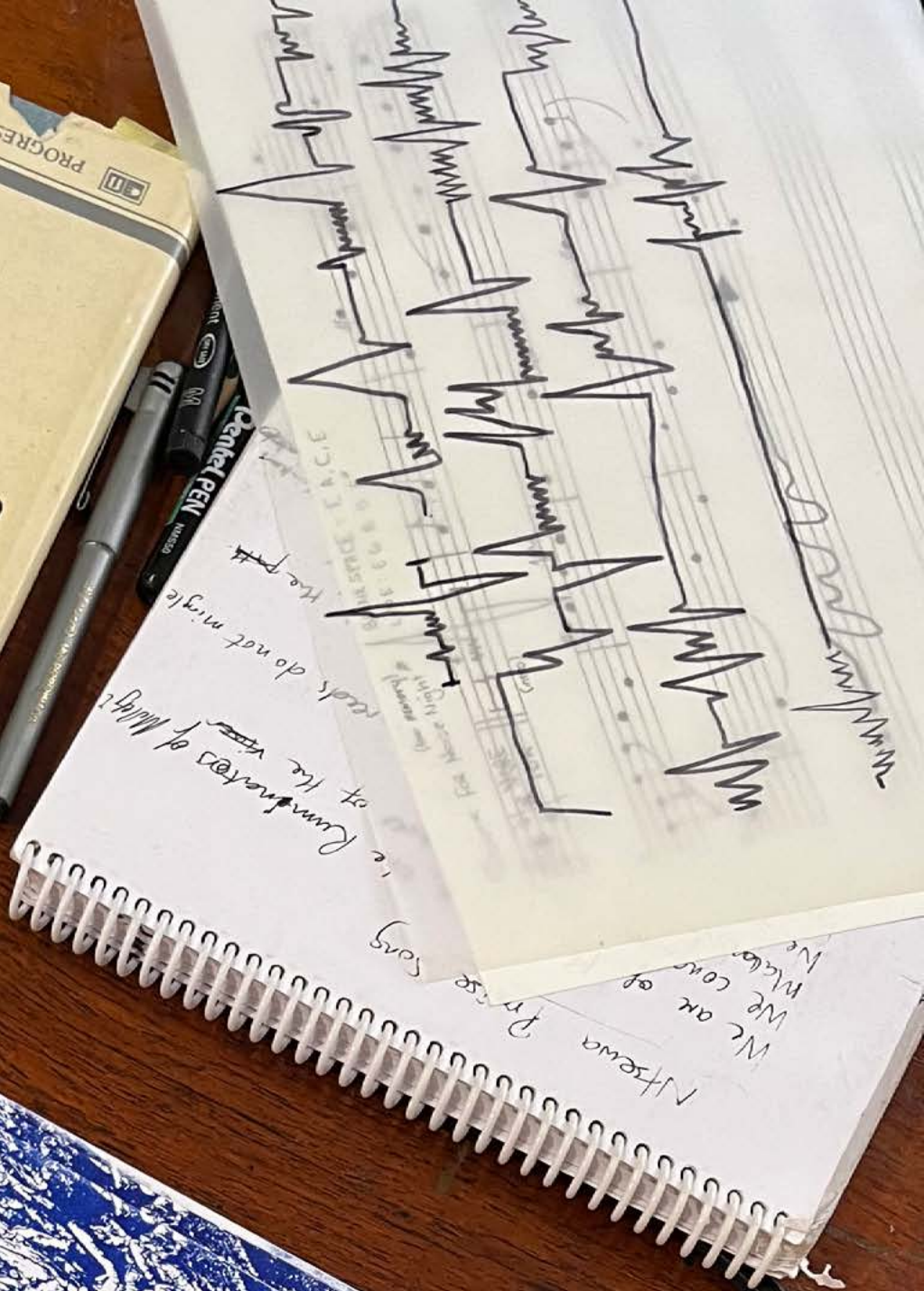
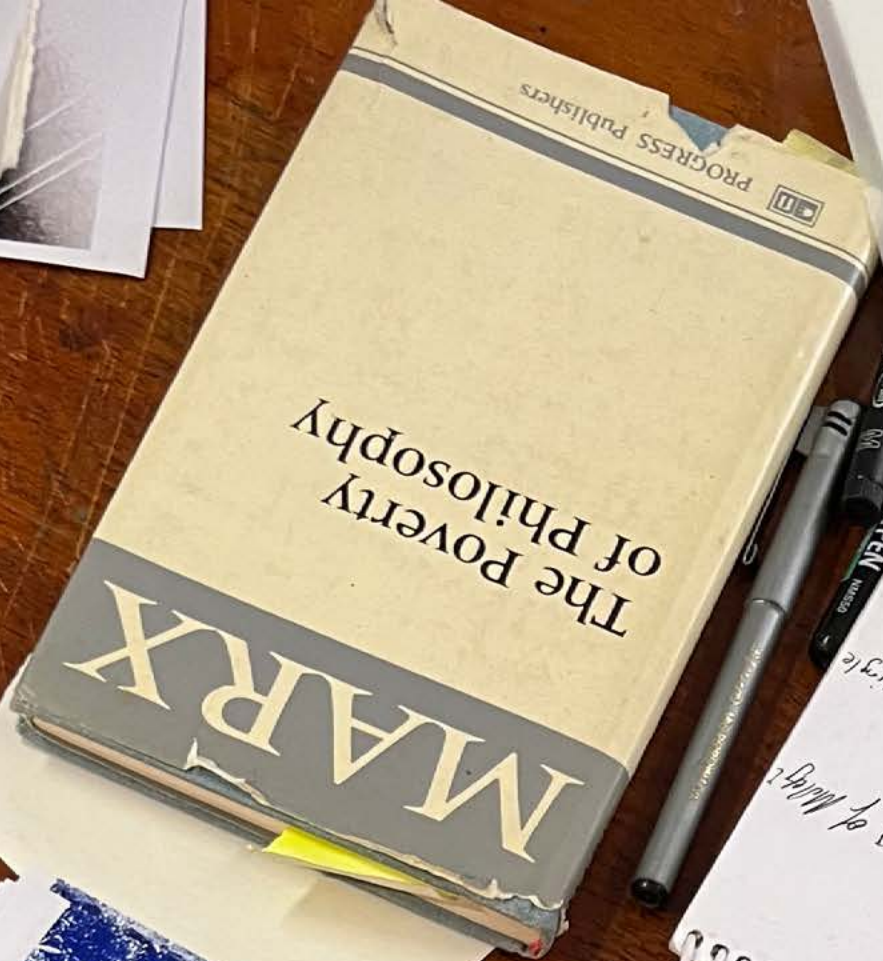












South of the
the ridge
of the



national spirit medium
Nehanda and Kaguv

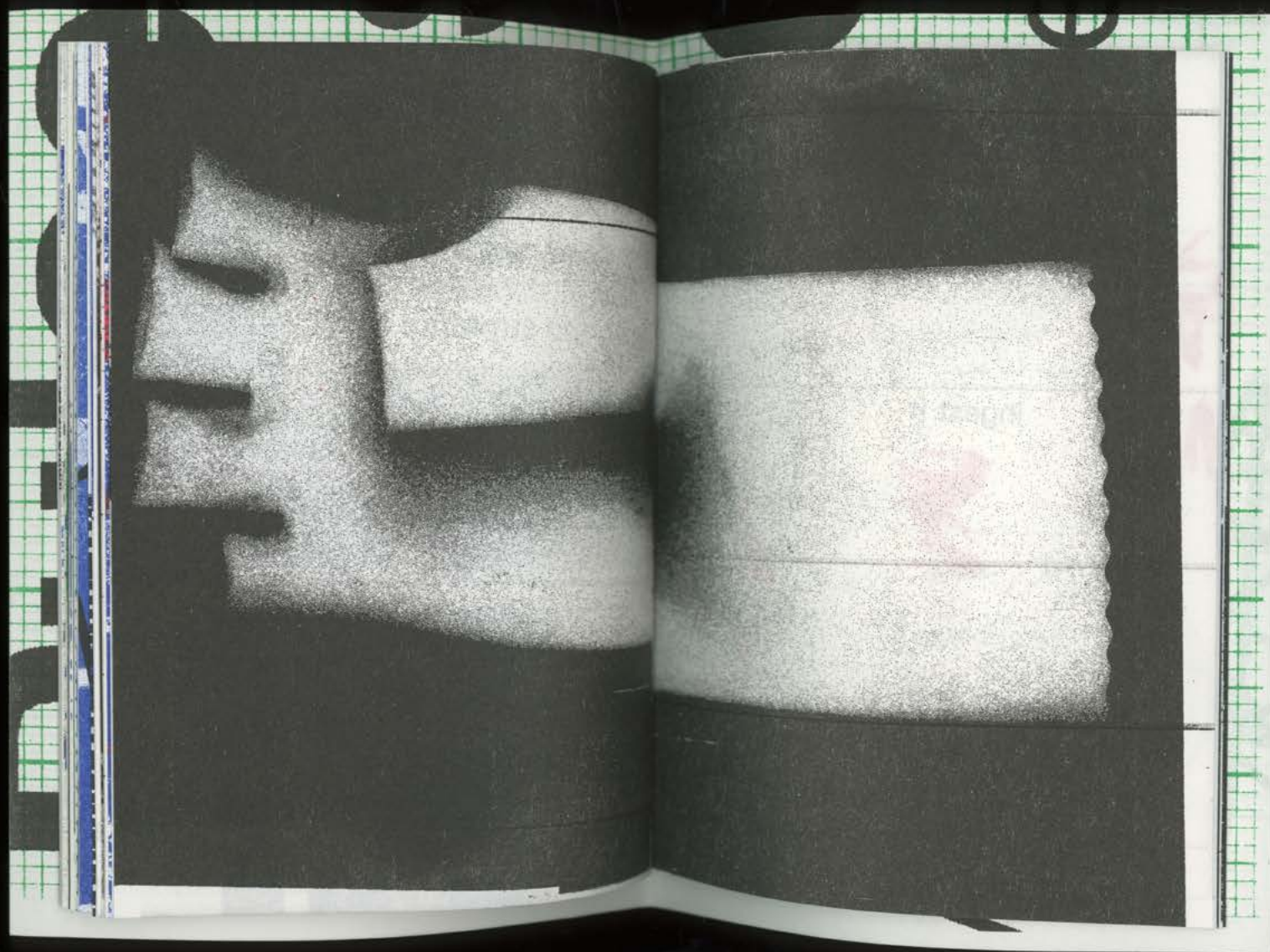
prophecy as their major persuasive

the masses to fight th

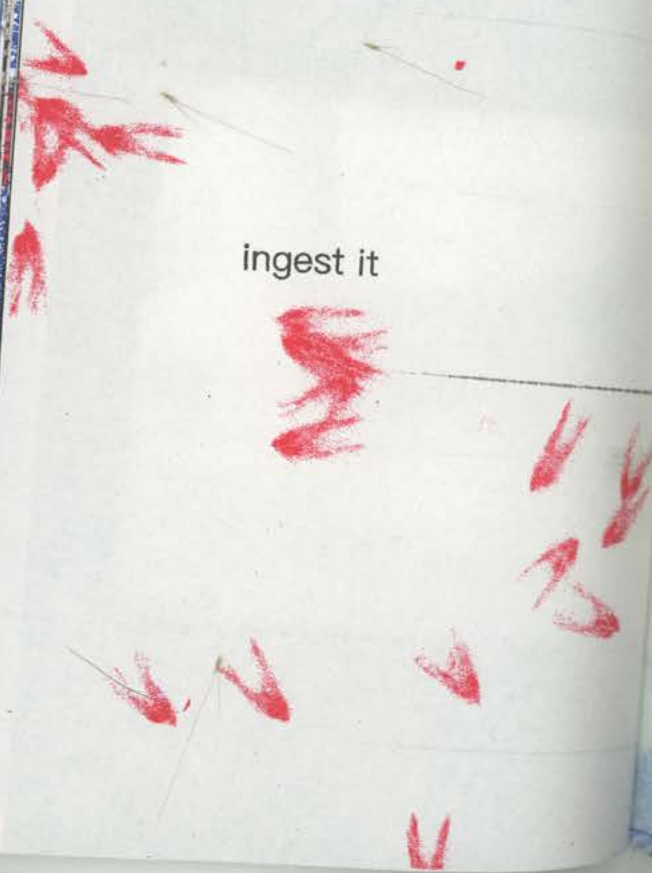
short-way intercessors
between the living and the dead, with the dead
connecting the living to the supreme deity

used

the iconic





The left page of the notebook features several red ink smudges and arrows. A cluster of red smudges is located on the left side, with a few arrows pointing towards the center. Another set of red smudges is in the middle, with arrows pointing downwards and to the right. A third set of red smudges is at the bottom, with arrows pointing upwards and to the right. The text "ingest it" is written in the center of the page.

ingest it

Rumination

as journey

the idea of
wading

through water
as knowledge making

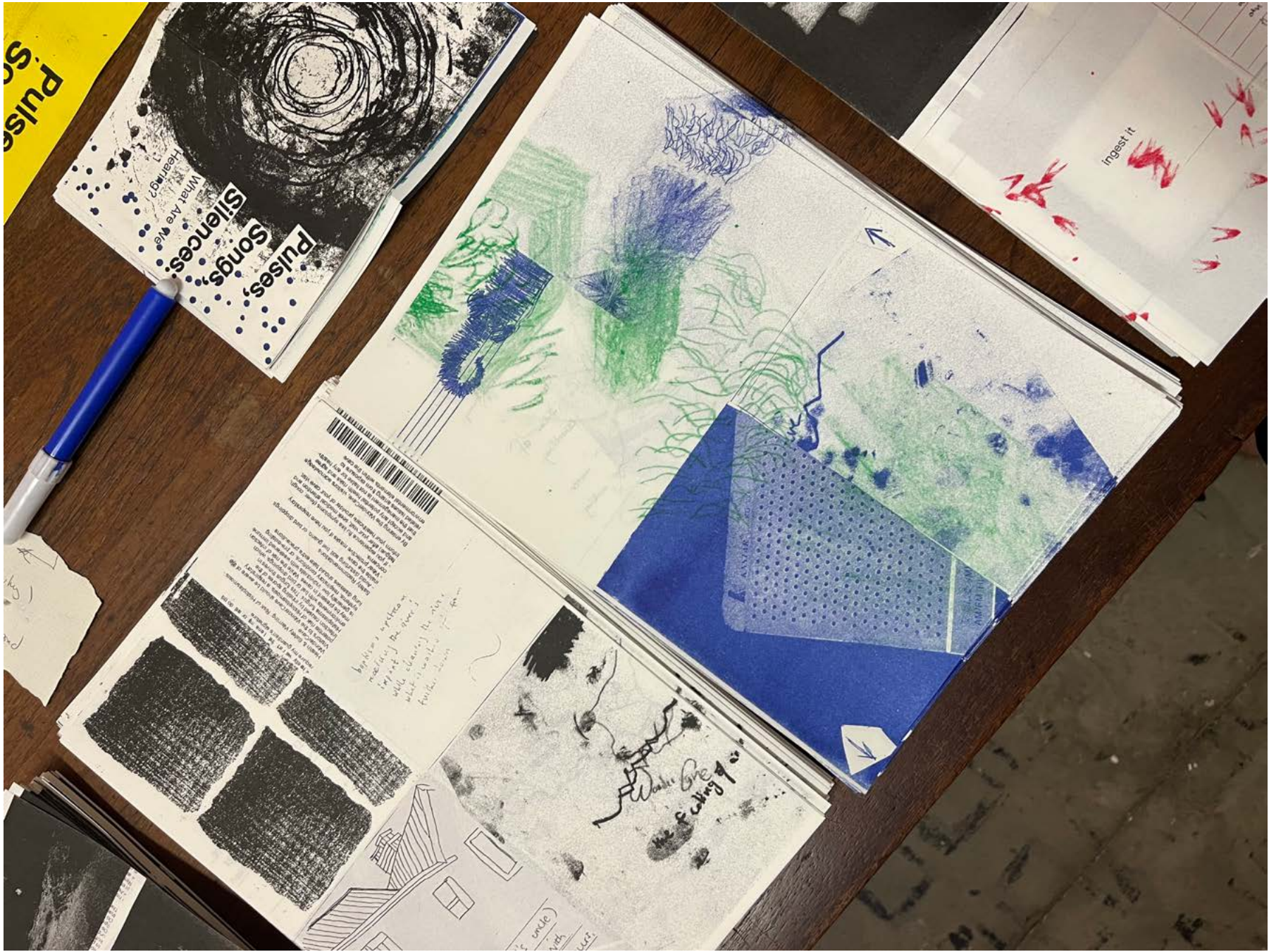


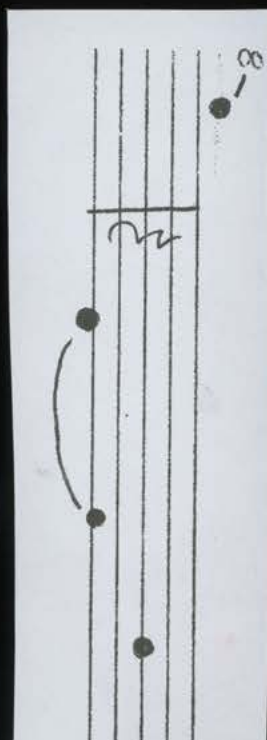




(nonlinear)
in NA
* crocodile / alligator mating
rumbly

making use of water as a kind of
resonator, where the body
activates the environment





sky



You all have nice maps of
Jiburg
river is an archone
printer = river →

Je t'as
dittglass

se

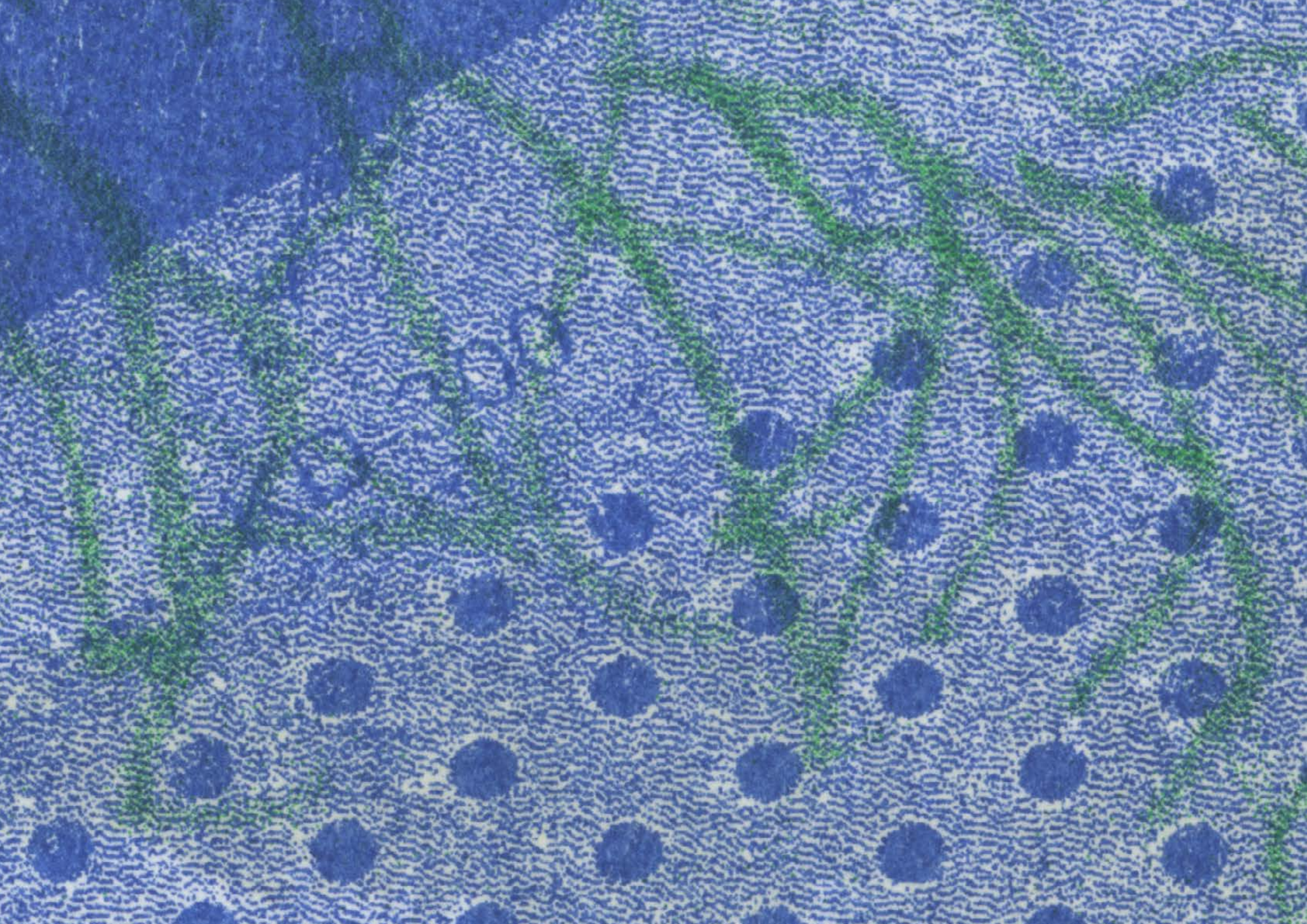
up

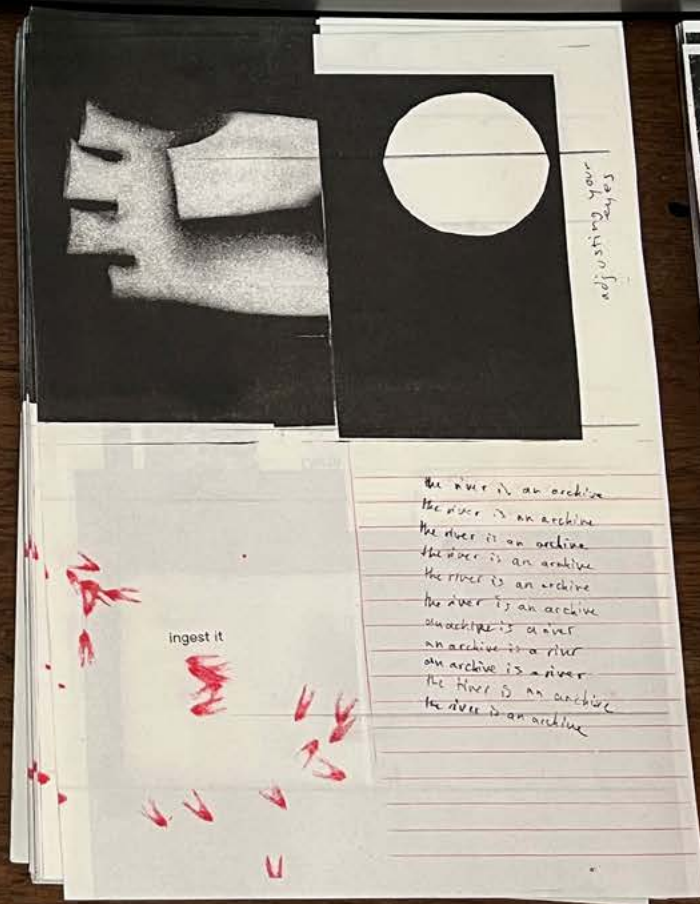
water 95

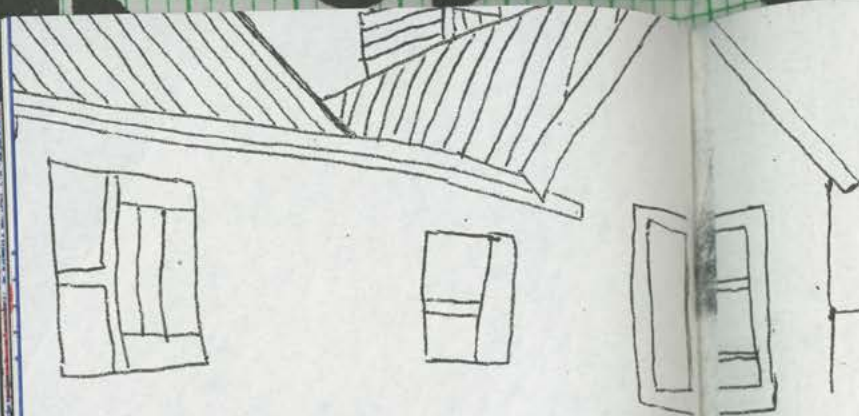
vibratory

streaming

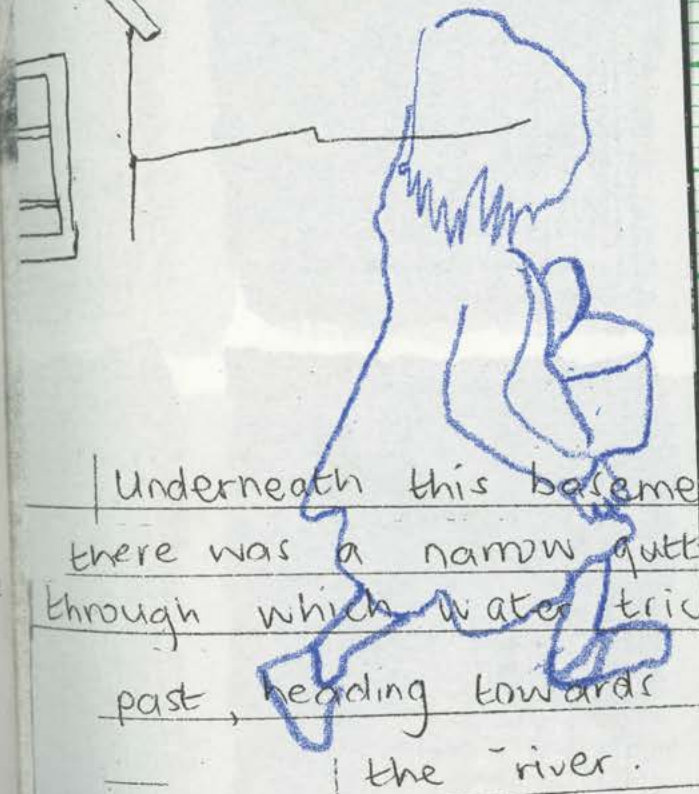
CARD PLAYER
SENSITIVITY RECEIVER





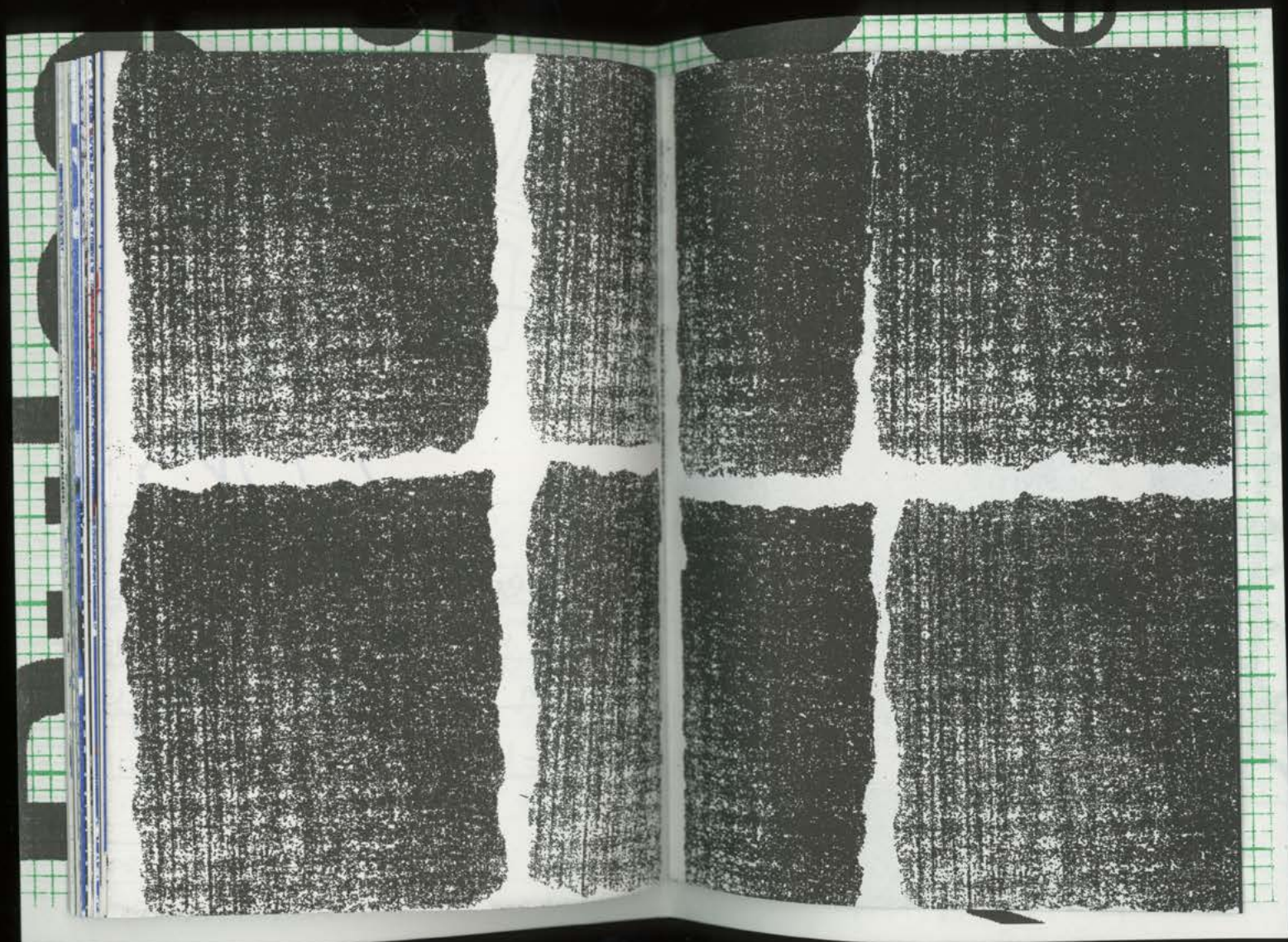


Ntate Thamba (Joel's uncle)
built the house himself, with
the help of a few neighbours.
They hired a truck to collect
and load river sand from
Jukstei riverbank to
the house. One of the bedrooms
used to be a basement



Underneath this basement
there was a narrow gutter
through which water trickled
past, heading towards
the river.

was a narrow gutter
which water trickled
, heading towards
the river.



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Silent

What Are We





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Roadmap for Arts Education
Africa Cluster (ARAC), with
additional facilities by the
Department of Fine Art, Wits
School of Arts.

2025

JOHANNESBURG

LONDON

STRUCTURE
PLANNING

Wits



ces:

Hearing?