

Ivorypress presents

ivorypress



Photo by Pablo Gómez-Ogando © Ivorypress.

## LOOKING FORWARD. Ivorypress at Twenty-Five

On the occasion of its twenty-fifth anniversary in 2021, Ivorypress is organising a multi-institutional exhibition in collaboration with museums, libraries and universities in Spain, United Kingdom, Germany, and the United States, and publishing a three-volume book that chronicles the history of Ivorypress since 1996, using a variety of primary sources that range from oral histories and archival documents to pictorial records and texts.

*Words, Books, and Stories* consider the many facets of Ivorypress activity as a means of reflecting on the history of the artist's book as a medium and of generating new ideas in art publishing for current and future generations of creators, historians, and students. By critically examining these materials, engaging in a series of interviews, and developing scholarship on past exhibitions, publications, and curatorial activities, these volumes seek to amplify the scholarship on the medium of the artist's book.

### Ivorypress

Ivorypress began in 1996, inside of Elena Ochoa Foster's small study in London with little more than a phone and a computer. Since then, it has expanded into a multipurpose structure open to the public in Madrid that includes an artists' books collection of over 500 titles, a publishing house, archives, exhibition spaces, workspaces, bookshop and that has served as a venue for over fifty exhibitions and hosted over a hundred public conferences and debates, educational colloquia, artist talks and book presentations. Over the past twenty-five years, Ivorypress's main project has been the careful production of artists' books, for which Ochoa Foster has worked with over sixteen artists, including Maya Lin, William Kentridge, Michal Rovner, and Edmund de Waal, to facilitate their creation of unique editions.



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## Publication

These three volumes chronicle Ivorypress's history since 1996 using a variety of primary sources and diverse perspectives that range from oral histories and archival documents to pictorial records and texts. It is a research tool for current and future generations of creators, historians and students as well as an opportunity to look back at the people, texts, images, artists' books, and works of art that have shaped Ivorypress.

**Words** is a selection of sixty texts out of the hundreds published by Ivorypress since 1996, ranging from artist statements and essays to poems and narrative texts. Many of these writings were previously only available to a relatively small audience, and thus *Words* seeks to democratise these texts by making them accessible to a wider public.

**Books** foregrounds the primacy of the artist's book as an artistic medium at Ivorypress. Introductory essays explore the conceptual underpinnings of the Ivorypress Artists' Books Collection and the history of the artist's book. Through sixteen richly illustrated entries, *Books* chronicles the complex, varied, and often laborious production processes for each of the artists' books.

**Stories** presents the voices of some of the leading figures in the visual arts and in the field of artists' books. Through dialogue, *Stories* seeks to unpack the recent history and current issues surrounding the artist's book, a medium that has been historically embraced by artists yet has only recently gained the recognition of museums and collectors of contemporary art.

The small-scale format of these volumes converts them into friendly objects, which can be easily transported. The choice of elements, such as the soft dark cover material or the binding method that allows for flat opening, provides a comfortable reading experience. Each book is given an independent character through coloured edges with matching flyleaves.

Rongel is the typeface that unifies the three volumes. Designed by Feliciano Type, it is a contemporary take on the typefaces included in the eighteenth-century compendium *Muestras de los punzones y matrices de letra que se funde en el obrador de la Imprenta Real, Madrid* (1799), which presented the matrixes and punches manufactured at the Spanish Royal Printshop.



Photos by Pablo Gómez-Ogando © Ivorypress.

The special edition box set of *Looking Forward: Ivorypress at Twenty-Five* has been conceived as a pack to house the three volumes. It includes an open top through which the coloured edges can be seen and unfolds into a display device once opened. The books can also be acquired separately.

Special edition box set: €144. Each volume: €48.

This publication is complemented by exhibitions that will take place in museums and libraries across Europe and the United States during 2021. Each exhibition engages with the medium of the artist's book by placing it in dialogue with the collection of the host institution and venue, seeking to highlight the artist's book as an artistic medium alongside other media such as drawing, painting and sculpture.

Participating institutions include the Biblioteca Nacional de España in Madrid, the Bodleian Libraries at the University of Oxford, the British Library in London, the Centro de Iniciativas Culturales at the Universidad de Sevilla, Ivorypress Space in Madrid, Kettle's Yard at the University of Cambridge, Museo de Bellas Artes in Bilbao, Museo Chillida Leku in Hernani, Museo Lázaro Galdiano in Madrid, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía in Madrid, the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Neues Museum in Berlin, Stanford University Library in California, the Warburg Institute in London, and the Yale Center for British Art in New Haven.

## Exhibition programme

### **Biblioteca Nacional de España**

Michal Rovner, *Document*

### **Bodleian Libraries, University of Oxford**

William Kentridge, *Tummelplatz*;  
Marc Quinn, *Thames River Water Atlas*  
and Edmund de Waal, *breath*

### **The British Library**

Francis Bacon, *Detritus*

### **CICUS, Universidad de Sevilla**

Francis Bacon, *Detritus*; Anish Kapoor, *Wound*;  
Michal Rovner, *Document*; Edmund de Waal,  
*breath*; and Ai Weiwei, *Becoming*

### **Ivorypress Space**

All the artist's books Ivorypress has published  
over the last 25 years in dialogue with a selection  
from the Ivorypress Artist's Books Collection

### **Kettle's Yard, University of Cambridge**

Eduardo Chillida, *Reflections* and Richard Long,  
*Walking and Sleeping*, alongside a selection  
of works artists who have collaborated with  
Ivorypress

### **Museo de Bellas Artes de Bilbao**

Anthony Caro, *Open Secret* and Eduardo  
Chillida, *Reflections*

### **Museo Chillida Leku**

Eduardo Chillida, *Reflections*

### **Museo Lázaro Galdiano**

Olafur Eliasson, *A View Becomes a Window*

### **Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía**

Isidoro Valcárcel Medina, *ilimit*

### **The Museum of Modern Art**

Richard Long, *Walking and Sleeping*  
and Richard Tuttle, *NotThePoint*

### **Neues Museum**

Olafur Eliasson, *A View Becomes a Window*

### **Stanford University Library**

Drawings by Buckminster Fuller and  
Norman Foster, and Isamu Noguchi,  
*18 Drawings, 18 Photographs*

### **The Warburg Institute**

Anthony Caro, *Open Secret*

### **Yale Center for British Art**

Marc Quinn, *Thames River Water Atlas*

All dates subject to change due to the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic.  
For up-to-date information on any schedule modifications, please visit our  
website: [www.ivorypress.com](http://www.ivorypress.com)