



MANUALS HANDLEIDINGEN სახელმძღვანელოები

As a bridge between the workshops in Antwerp and Tbilisi, we would like to propose the creation of a joint publication and, potentially, an accompanying exhibition. This project, titled *Manuals*, offers a fresh and playful approach to the traditional user's guide. The idea is to bring together instructions that range from practical and functional to whimsical and even absurd, with the goal of fostering a richer, more reflective life while providing an insight in our respective communities and dreams.

From everyday subjects such as weaving or printing techniques, to more unconventional topics like tips and tricks from the kitchen, manuals for safe protesting, or living off the grid – we welcome contributions that present both useful knowledge and fresh ideas. The project is open to all forms of knowledge sharing, from practical information to abstract or humorous approaches. No topic is too small or too large, as long as it sparks the imagination. Our ongoing collection of manuals will sit between an Ikea user's guide and Carelman's legendary booklets of unfindable ideas¹.

The goal is to create a publication that, drawing from the wealth of craftsmanship and knowledge present in our shared workshops, utilizes the visual and content style of a traditional user manual, both adopting and intentionally subverting it. This approach allows for a deeper message to emerge beyond mere practical instructions. Through these 'manuals', we share useful information from our respective workshops while simultaneously offering an inspiring and poetic approach to the material.

The publication will take a hybrid form, incorporating both written and visual contributions, and will be well-suited for both print and digital formats. This makes it possible to distribute the eventual

book physically while also making it accessible online to a broad audience. The flexible setup allows participants the freedom to experiment with various forms of expression, from text and photography, illustrations and graphic design² to abstract imagery and installations.

Furthermore, this project creates space for a certain level of subversiveness, an element particularly relevant in these times of social unrest. By employing an ostensibly business-like approach (the manual), participants can present ideas in a more critical, sometimes even ironic manner³ – an invitation for the audience to think outside the box.

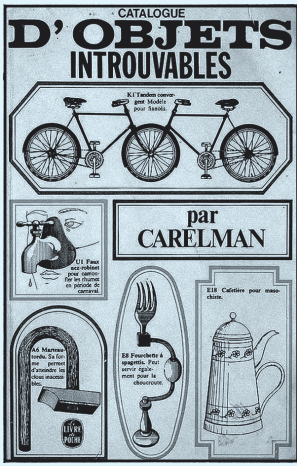
The way in which the work comes together provides ample room for collaboration and dialogue. The project can be realized collectively in a physical space, but also in more fragmented forms such as *cadavre exquis* or mail art. This means that the contributions from participants can evolve in various stages of the process, with room for further additions or reinterpretations of each other's ideas. This open and flexible setup fosters a dynamic and creative process, where each contribution impacts the whole, and the work is continuously developing.

In addition to the publication, we are considering an exhibition that presents the manuals in a visual and interactive way. This exhibition could take various forms, from traditional print formats to digital presentations, or even live demonstrations of the techniques described in the manuals. By combining the visual and practical aspects of the project, we aim to create an additional layer of experience that not only informs the audience but also challenges them to actively explore and apply the content.

1 SEE ANNEX I

2 SEE ANNEX II

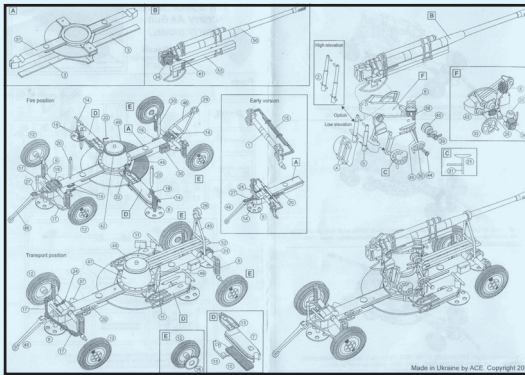
3 SEE ANNEX III



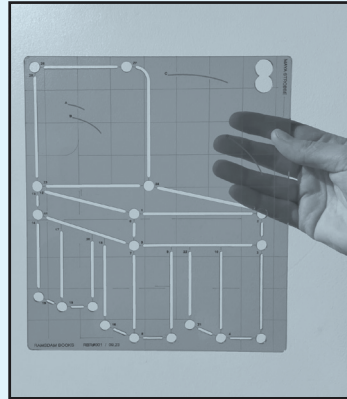
I. CARELMAN, CATALOGUE D'OBJETS INTROUVABLES, 1969



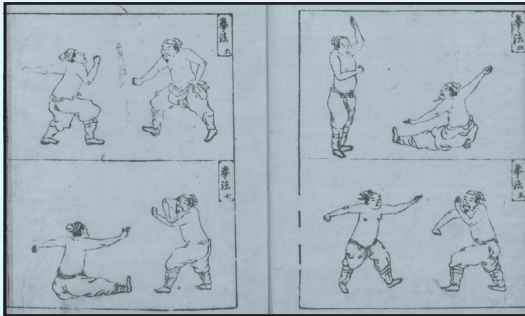
III. PETER MORRENS, RICHTINGEN, 2020



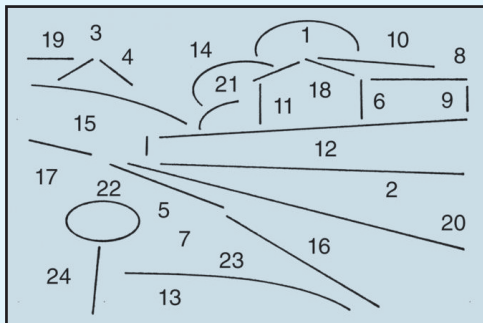
IV. ACE'S KIT #72274, 52-K 85-MM SOVIET HEAVY AA GUN ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS



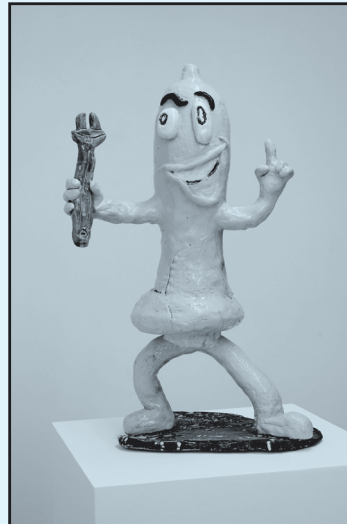
VI. MAYA STROBBE: RBR#001, 2023



V. MOROKOSHI KINMO ZUI, ILLUSTRATED ENCYCLOPEDIA OF CHINA, 1718-1719



II. JOSÉ QUINTANAR, A DUTCH LANDSCAPE, 2020



VII. TOM VOLKAERT, CAN'T FIX IT FUCK IT, 2017