

# Grundlagen der Gestaltung II - The Accidental Library

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**Bookshelves (Pictures of each one)**



Zeppelinstraße 17, Robert-Sinner-Platz (Patrick)



Elsässer Platz (Alisha)



Weinbrennerstraße 89 (Jana)



Leopoldstraße 7A/9 (Niki)



Im Grün 8-9, Ostendorfplatz (Me)



Gebhardstraße 33a (Jeewon)

## Task 1 Questionnaire

### 1\_Object

Description of the object as precise as possible- dimensions, materials, colors, etc.

### 2\_Environment

Description of the location as precise as possible

### 3\_Content

As detailed as possible description of the current contents, quantity of books, genre, etc.

### 4\_Impression

As precise as possible description of your personal impression of the bookcase

### 5\_Presence and Visual Lines

as precise as possible description of the approach to the object from different directions

### 6\_Research

what else can you find out about the object? f.e when was it built and on whose initiative?  
What other stories can be researched?

### 7\_Potential

what potential do you see in your bookcase, are there already initial ideas, impressions, observations that you would like to explore further?

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## 1\_ Object

### Description:

The object is around 1,77m wide and 2,16m high.

The outer part, the shell is made out of sturdy metal, which has a dark grey protection layer. Each door of the object is made out of glass. The base inside is lined with red metal, while each compartment is made out of aluminium composite panels. Each compartment has different sizes. The aluminium panels are pretty thin, being glued together, makes it more durable and sturdy. They are white in the inside and outside, with the edges being black.



Metal Part



Inside the bookshelf



Bookshelf

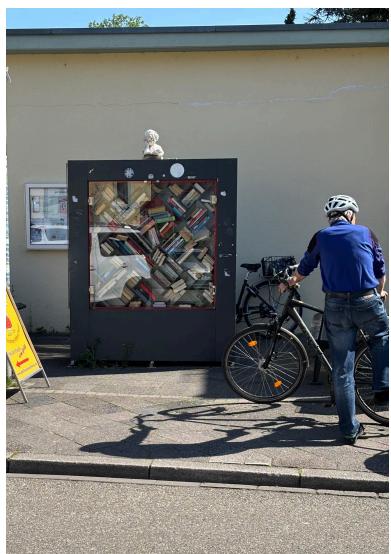
## **2\_Environment**

The bookshelf is right next to a small supermarket (to the right coming from the Main Street), almost tugged away into a corner of a housing street, but still in a vivid area. Right on the other side of the bookshelf, is the parking lot for the supermarket (nahkauf).

The area around the bookshelf is pretty small, but still two benches fit. There is a lot of greenery such as grass and flowers, with bushes surrounding the area.



Supermarket (view right next to the Bookshelf)



Bookshelf (view from the parking lot)

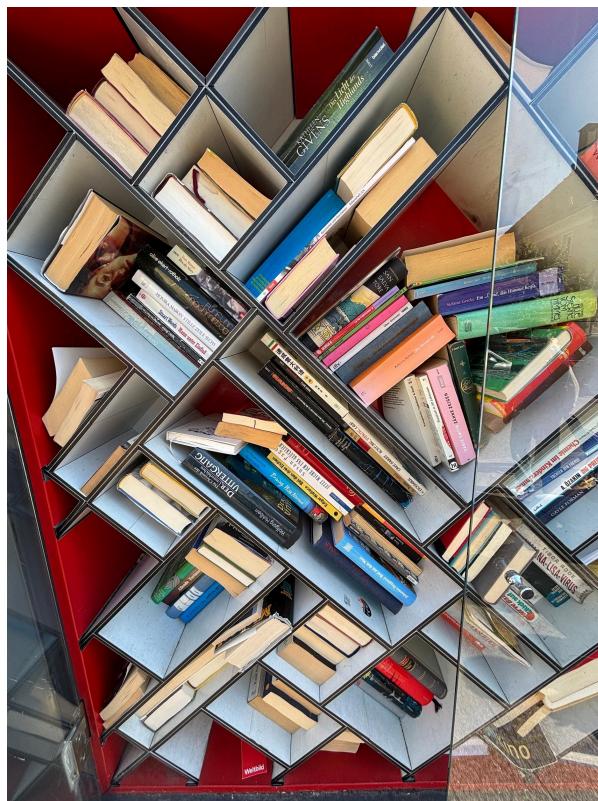
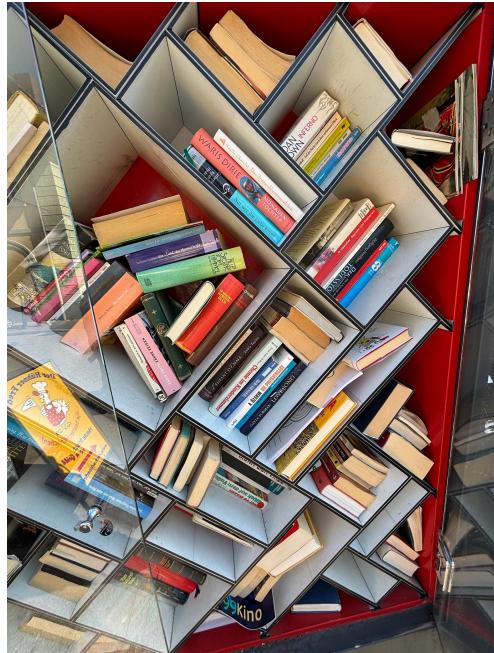


Parking lot (view from the bookshelf)

### 3\_Content

The bookshelf has a variety of different Books, it includes novels and romance but there are also a few crime, cooking and guide books. The children's books have their own section on the left side of the bookshelf.

Most of the Books are very old, but you can still read them.



## **4\_Impression**

From an artist's point of view, the bookshelf itself is an art piece, the way each cell has a different size makes it possible to put in books of any size.

While it's pretty easy to take books out of the bookshelf, I found it not that easy to put them in again. This could be a little bit frustrating, especially when you come with a bunch of books you want to put in.

What I also noticed is that a lot of people are using the bookshelf. It's quite nice having a reading area right next to the supermarket. People can rest, eat and maybe exchange some books.



## 5\_Presence and Visual Lines

When you walk to the left from the main street (or shopping area), you can see the bookshelf pretty clearly, even though there are some bushes hiding the object a little bit. Walking towards the bookshelf especially from the right side of the crosswalk, you view the whole area surrounding the bookshelf. If you walk from the home street towards the bookshelf, it is less visible, due the height of the bush in front of it. There is also a lot more going on, because the two yellow buildings are very flashy, making the object almost blend in completely with its surroundings. Coming from the parking lot, you look at the bookshelf directly. This is the moment when you also notice the small angel above the bookshelf, reading a book.

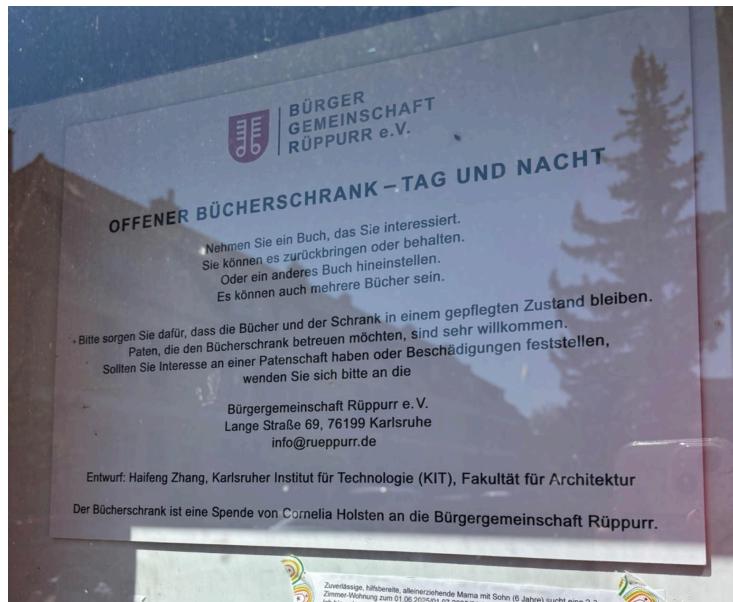




## 6\_Research

While searching for some information about the bookshelf I stumbled upon this information:

The bookshelf was designed by Haifeng Zhang, a master student from KIT (Karlsruhe Institute for Technology). Initiated and donated by Cornelia Holsten Head of the Bürgerstiftung Karlsruhe, the bookshelf has stayed at this location since April 13th 2013, making it a desired object to this day. As stated in an article from 2018, the bookshelf is used by many, due to the fact that it is located in a busy area. Right now the bookshelf is handled and protected by the Bürgergemeinschaft Rüppurr e.V.. For further information you are able to write them an email at [info@rueppurr.de](mailto:info@rueppurr.de).



## 7\_Potential

So far, my future ideas are still pretty small and short sentences. I still have a few ideas relating to the area around the object and the interesting architecture. For instance I can imagine creating a few construction papers or use the ones I potentially can get from the artist themselves. There is also the option to manage an event, celebrating the long existence of the object and having a small reading gathering.

I can also imagine doing a workshop but I am still unsure of the theme. Maybe something that relates to the inside of the bookshelf, reusing it for something else or it relates to the surrounding area.

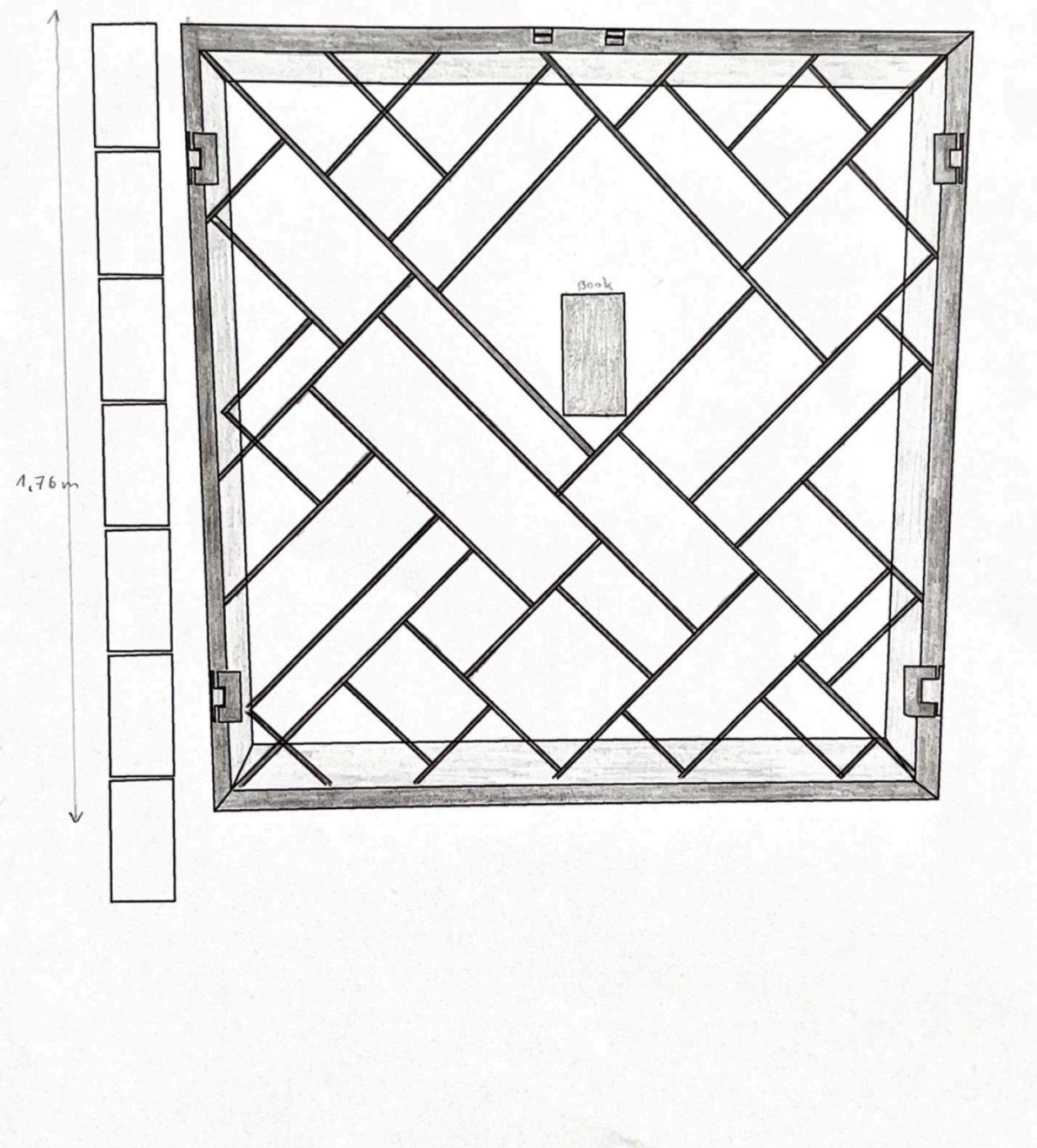
There is also the option to have an art event. Exchanging books in different sizes (mainly from the front) or books that relate to architecture. The options are endless. In the future I will come back to this and envision something that truly fits the place and the object.



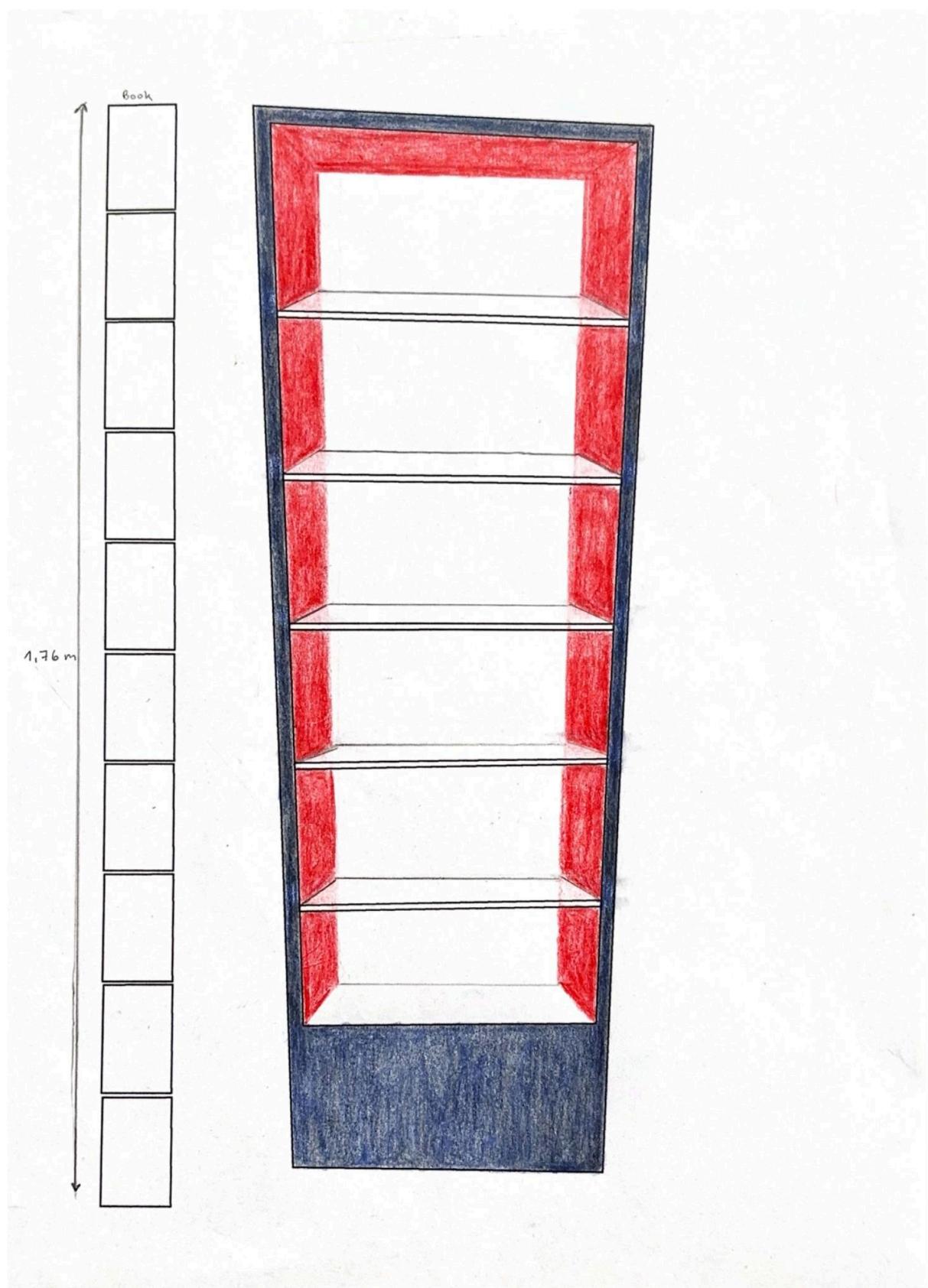
## Task 2 Archaeologists

Archaeologists use the instrument of drawing to accurately document finds. Treat your bookcase like an archaeological find and make various archaeological drawings ( at least 3) that document it as a whole and in detail.

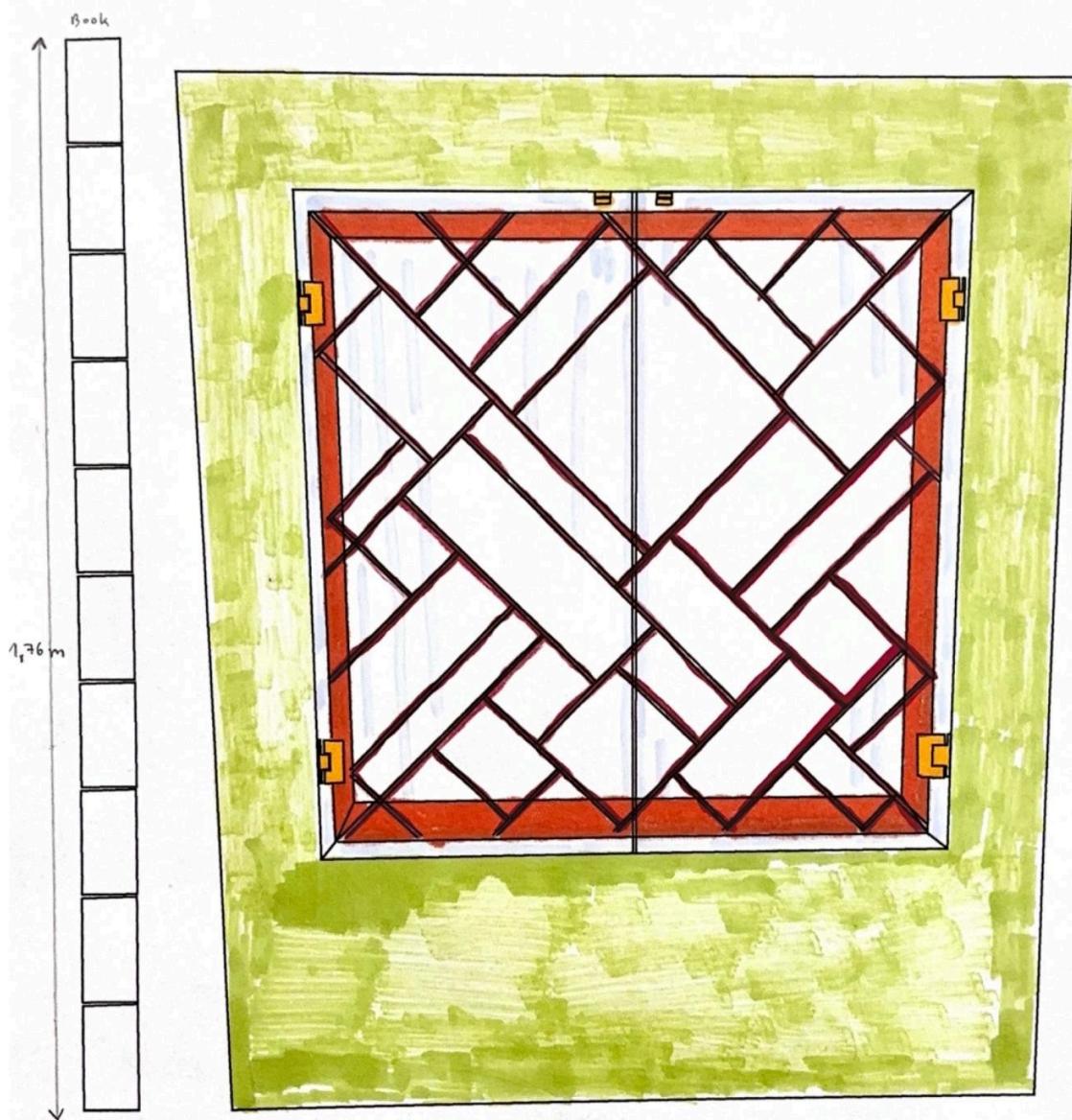
Think about what other techniques can help you to document the object in as much detail as possible. How can you describe colors accurately? How can you describe the connections of individual components and document structures?



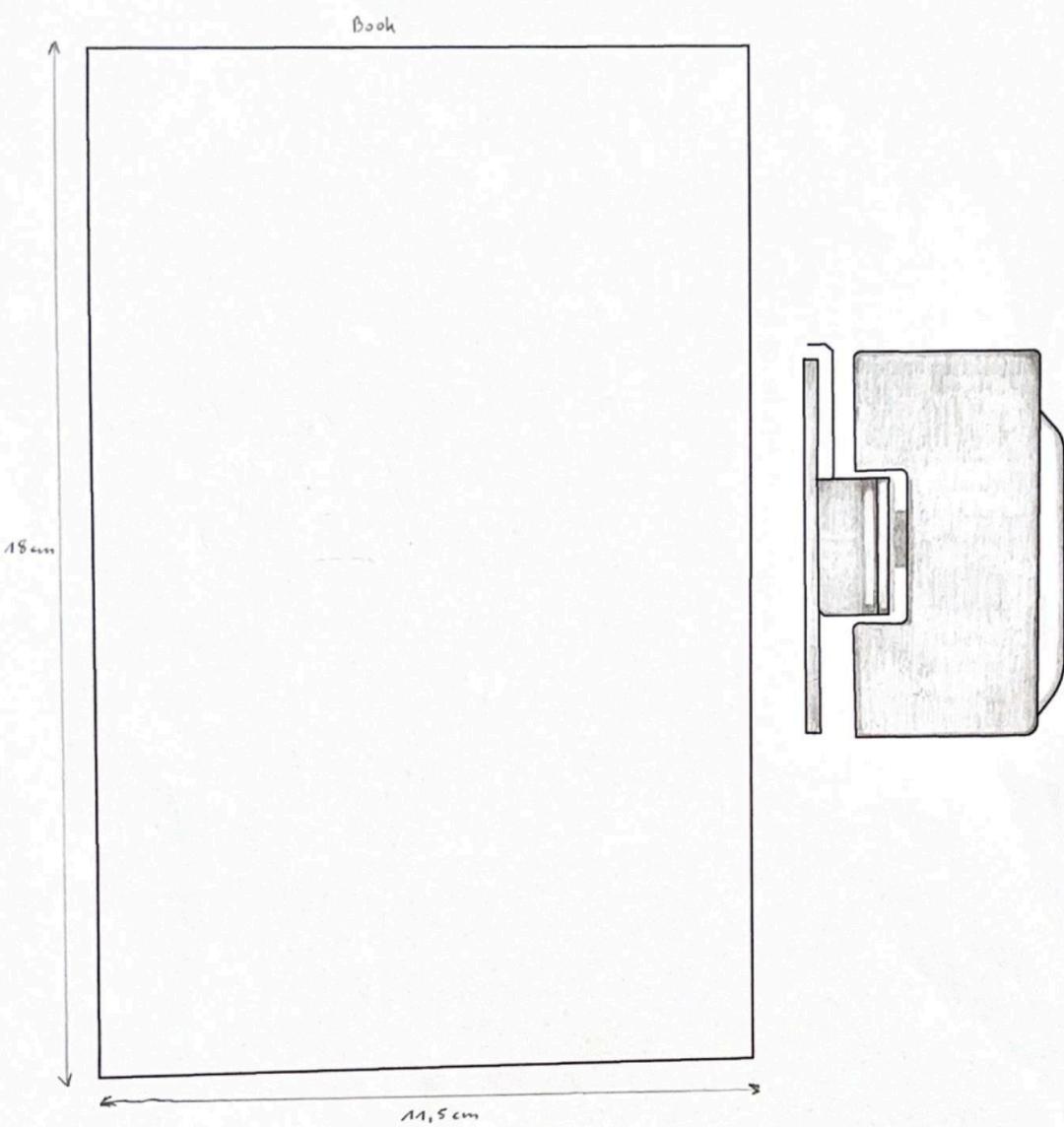
Bookshelf overview (front side)



Bookshelf side view, colored in original colors (left side)



Bookshelf front view (materials used)



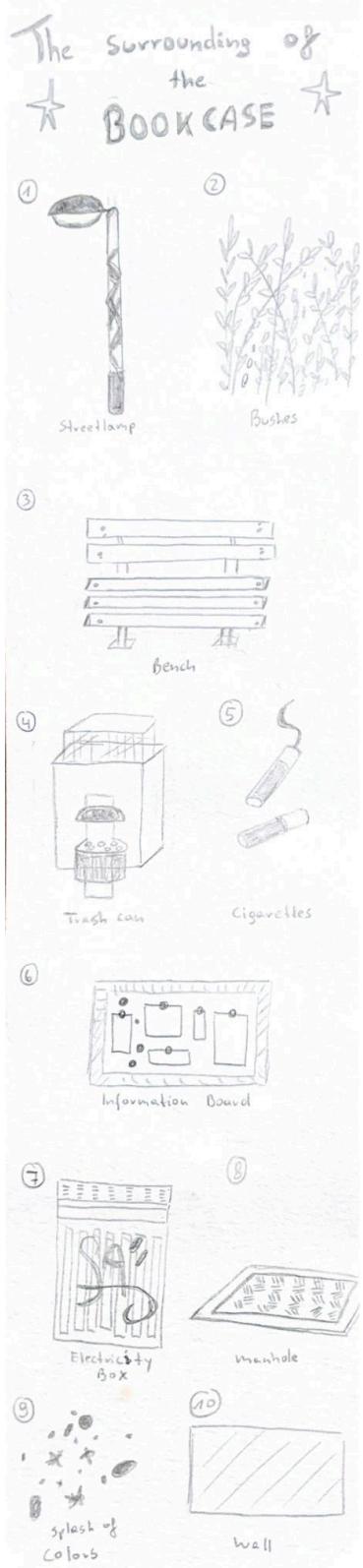
Door Hinge (Comparison with the book)

Original Pictures I used:

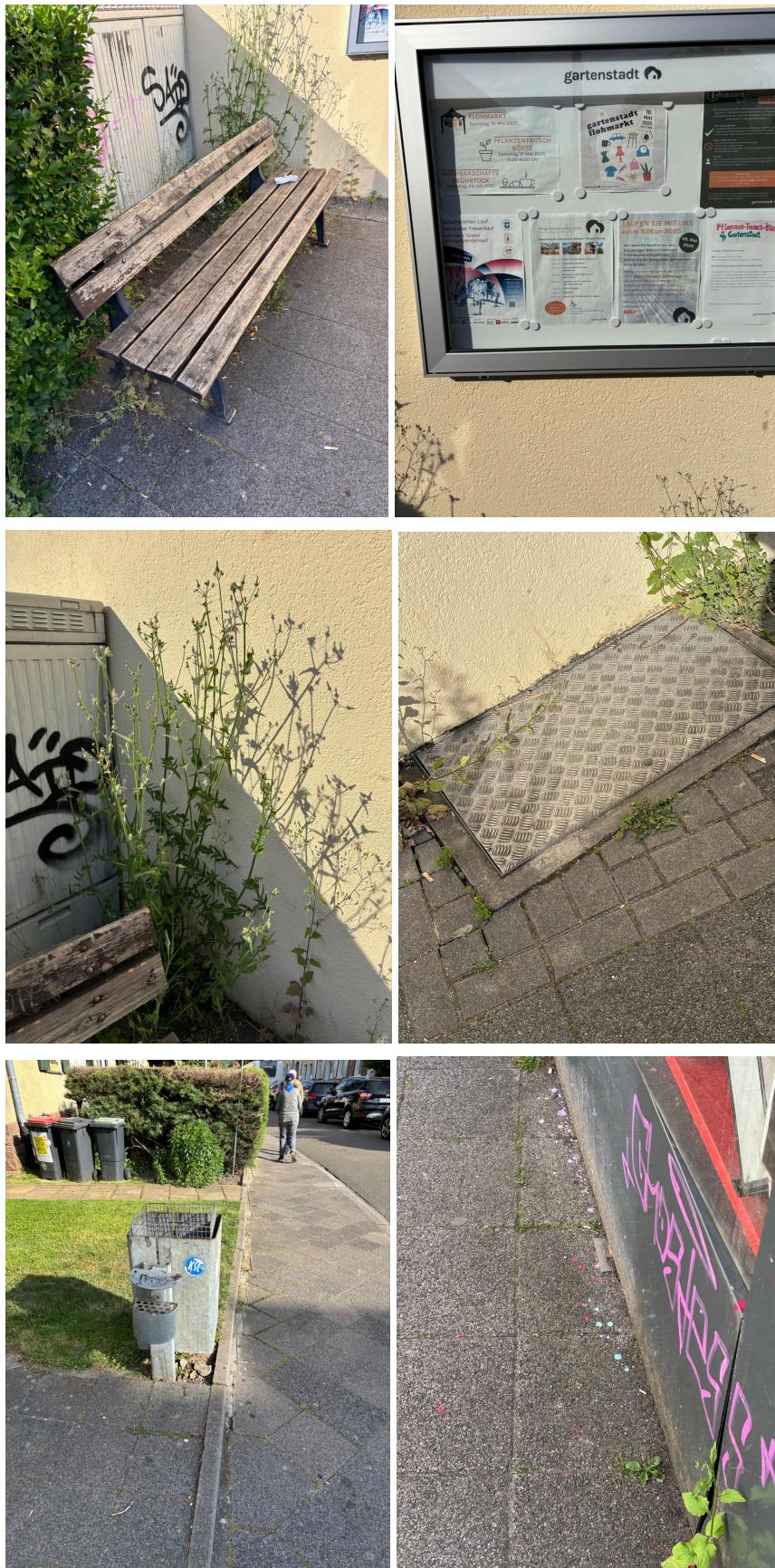


## Task 3 List

Make two lists for your bookcase. Each list must contain at least 10 items. The content of the listed items is freely selectable. Design each list as a handout in 99x420mm format.



## Pictures I used:





## Phone Conversation with Cornelia Holsten

Cornelia Holsten:

Initiatorin und Stifterin des Bücherschranks Rüppurr

- die ersten zwei Bücherschränke sind durch eine Kooperation mit einem Kölner Architekten entstanden
- durch Verrat und vielen fehlgeschlagenen Kommunikation, wandte sich Cornelia an die KIT um ein neues Projekt zu realisieren
- Durch die Leitung von Herrn Koch fand ein Wettbewerb in der Fakultät für Architektur bezüglich eines Entwurfs für den nächsten Bücherschrank statt
- Der Preis war die Realisierung des Entwurfs
- Die Entwürfe zu dem Bücherschrank existieren heute nicht mehr
- ein identischer Bücherschrank wurde auch in Mannheim aufgestellt
- bei der Veröffentlichung des Bücherschranks gab es eine Poetry Slam und lokale Musikspieler, zu dem Event kamen viele Rüppurrer
- der Bücherschrank hat große schwere Sicherheitsglastüren, weshalb die Schaniere oft unter dem Gewicht des Bücherschranks leiden und kaputt gehen
- Sie selbst findet, dass interaktive Bücherschränke viel mehr Sinn machen, da sich mehrere Menschen gleichzeitig am Bücherschrank bedienen können.
- Die anderen Bücherschränke haben Schiebetüren Mechanismen, die sehr schnell kaputt gehen
- ursprünglich war ein anderer Standort (Nähe einer Kirche), jedoch sträubte sich die Kirchengemeinde, da der Bücherschrank zu nah an dem eigenen Bücherschrank stehen würde

## First Ideas for the publication

As suggested, I am going to publish two small publications.

One about the bookshelf and all the research I made about it and one publication about the event. Right now, I am thinking of chaining them together with a chain by pocking some holes into the cover. If so, the publication would be made out of light weight material, similar to magazine paper. For the front and back cover I would then use glossy paper for one publication and matt paper for the other publication, because the bookshelf being more matt and the event being glossier because of the material used.

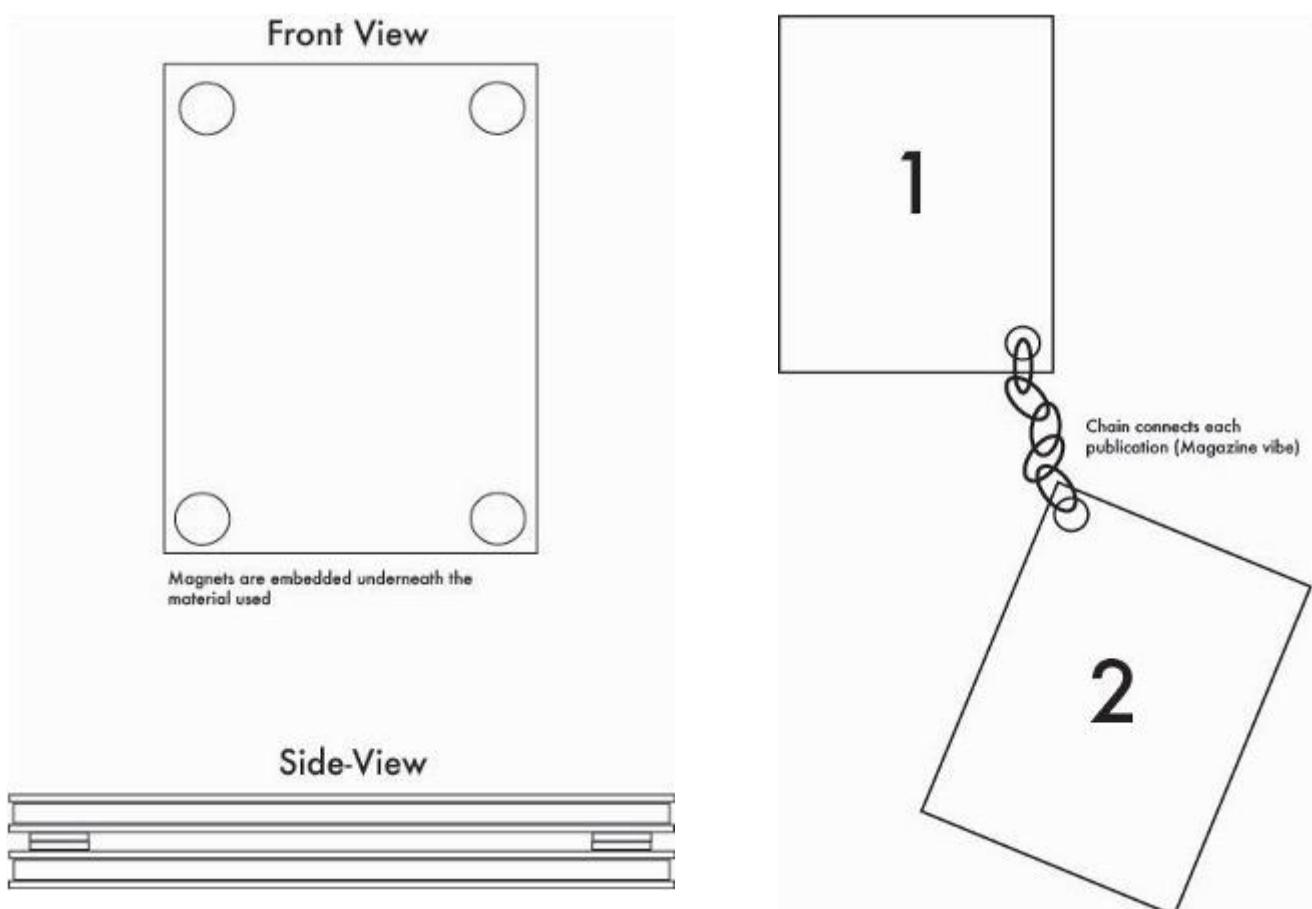
For the inside of the publication, I would use matt/glossy paper for the introduction while using better copy paper for the rest of it, but I can also imagine using some matt/glossy paper for some parts in the publication, for example glossy paper for the Invitations or matt paper for the instruction paper of the bookshelf.

For the second option I can imagine doing a hard cover with magnets. One of the publications (here the event) I would use a wrapping technique, while I would do carving for the front of the second publication. By carving I mean, underlining the structure of the bookshelf with a 3D effect. Either way, the magnets (4 in total for each publication) would be underneath the cover. The reason for the magnets is to have a reference that they both belong to each other, even though they don't look similar.

For the inside of the bookshelf publication I would use thick paper, at least for the first 10 pages, to enhance the sturdiness of the bookshelf. After that normal good quality paper is fine.

I can also imagine using red paper for the first and last 4 pages. Then the cover would be navy blue. The other pages would be white

For the second publication I think of foil for the cover and backside, while for the inside I am thinking doing wrapping paper for the first and last 2 pages. Then some pages (book photograph pages) would be printed on thicker paper, than the rest of the publication to create a reference to weight and sturdiness.



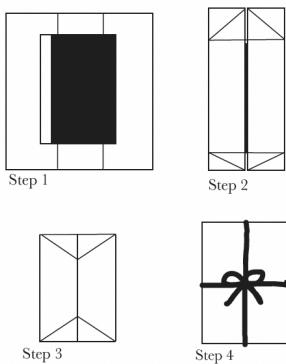
## Task 4 Event

Organize an event and with your bookcase develop an idea/concept, design invitations, organize the event and take care of the documentation. It makes sense to contact the keepers. The bookcase representatives, they can help you to make the event visible. Bring your concept presentation as a folded A3 sheet to the meeting on June 3rd.

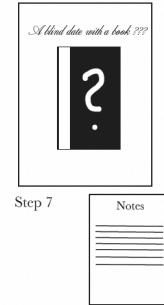
### *A blind date with a book ???*

**Idea:** Since a lot of people are visiting my public bookcase every day, I thought it would be a great idea to add a surprising layer to it. The idea is to collect around 20 books from different genres and concepts, that I personally think could be interesting. After collecting them, I would wrap them up in a similar way as the bookcase is structured, to add a reference. On the outside there would be some glues, that give small hints what the book is about. After all I would document the process, create a poster for the event and also add a sheet of paper to the bookcase, to see if someone would add a comment to the event.

#### How to wrap a book?



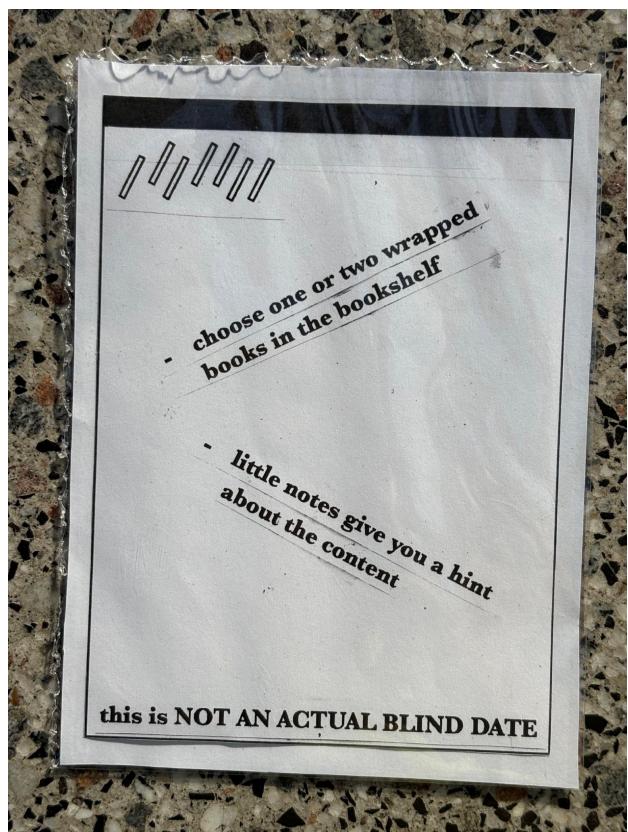
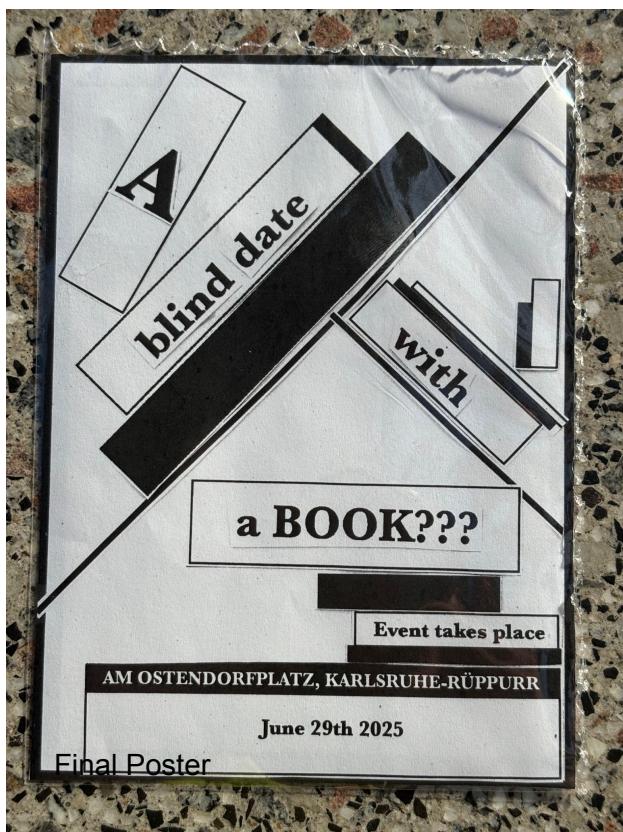
#### Plakat



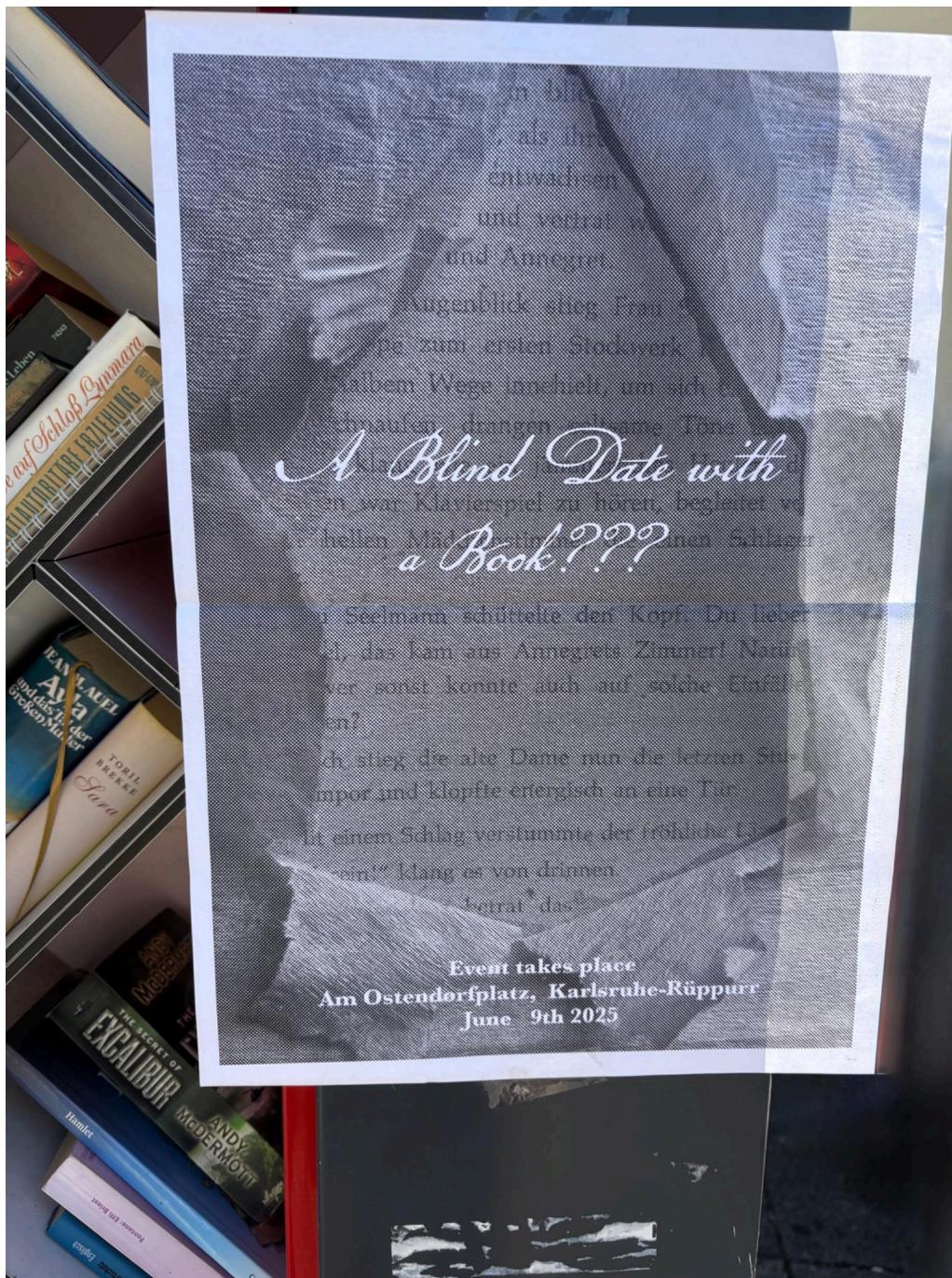
## Production of the Invitation Card



## Final Invitation



## Poster



## After the Event

Documentation:

**My event took place at 29th of July at around 10:30 am in the morning. We went together as group of friends to the event. There I build everything up, placed the books and hung up the poster. While being there, a few strangers also came to the bookshelf (around 10), when they saw what we were doing, like for example me doing the documentation, they didn't ask anything but quickly went away. Some of them looked from a distance, some of them looked from a window in a car. Either way, my friends opened each book one by one and looked needly through what's the book about. At around an hour later we had to leave due to the heatwave. We were all exhausted but had a great time being there. My friends also recommended doing this at home again as a little gathering. Overall I would say it was still successful, we had a great time, nothing felt rushed in the document process and my friends got also a few new books.**

## Wrapping



## The Books



# Comments

“Maybe we can do this in a smaller group again”

“Oh I really like this idea, it gives a new perspective on the old books, like it seems like they are new!”

“Ah I wanted to read this book, the hints were helpful to figure out which type of book this is”

“There are a lot of fantasy books!”

“This book reminds me of the ones I already read”

„The books are actually well wrapped”

## Final Publication in the Bookshelf

