

# LUMBUNG OF PUBLISHERS



The lumbung of publishers emerges within the framework of the international contemporary art fair documenta15, held in Kassel (Germany) every five years. This effort brings together over 20 independent artists and projects whose editorial practices and philosophies resonate with the principle of collective work, in tune with the community-driven proposal that characterizes this year's edition of documenta, under the artistic direction of the ruangrupa curatorial collective (Indonesia).

Since March 2022, the editors, organizers, and harvesters have gathered together through a series of virtual assemblies to create an international network, sharing practices, strategies, and tools. Also, they have been collaborating in the creation of a program of workshops, presentations, site-specific activations, readings, and exhibitions open to the public at documenta fifteen.

This effort promotes dialogue between writers, publishers, and book artists from different parts of the world. It aims to create an international network of independent publishing projects that collaborate even after the 100 days of the fair in Kassel are over.



*Lumbung of publishers*

*#lumbungofpublishers*

*microutopías*

microutopías is an indie risopress oriented publication studio from Uruguay, that produces art books and prints on socio-political artistic works. Considering the publishing process as a creative act and a reflective exercise of graphic activism, in the production of new counter-narratives from the South. They also take part in the international network publication-studio.biz as "PS Montevideo", organize the Montevideo Art Book Fair and different community based activities around bookmaking and the social life of publications.



*Rotopol*

Rotopol is a publishing house for graphic storytelling touching upon the borders of what illustration and comic art can accomplish, founded in 2007 in Kassel from where it also runs a bookstore that also hosts a gallery for contemporary illustration exhibitions. Locally anchored, they work with an international network of graphic artists and designers. Rotopol is a platform that brings together the creative potential around, developing it and making it visible in multiple ways.



*Strapazin*

Since its foundation in 1984, Strapazin has been a platform for the national and international independent comic scene. For over thirty years, Strapazin has continuously been observing, encouraging and reflecting the comics world, steadily supporting and promoting young talents, and providing high quality graphic narrative to a broad audience.



*Relámpago*

Relámpago is a place where visual projects are conceived and produced. It is a team, a publishing house, an experimental printing press, an exhibition space, a design studio. At its heart there is a letterpress workshop which, through experimental practices, reconfigures patrimony and uses it to learn and unlearn the present. It is a platform where capricious projects are reviewed, deconstructed and reassembled. Relámpago believes in building networks and rebuilding community through craft and art.



*N'fana Kaba Diakite*

I am N'fana Kaba Diakite, literary author, short story writer, novelist, screenwriter and producer of radio films. My books are: Monsieur Bleu-Clair, Child Soldiers, Kouman Ye Lafia Yé and Les Cherifs de Niore. TAKABA editions have published a dozen titles. All books have been self-published. And 70% of our authors are young people and women. I organize the Book Fair La Fo'arts aux Manuscrits de Bamako, a festival for the promotion of literature, art and digital youth in Mali.



*The Packet*

The Packet works in self-publishing, site specific installations and digital interventions. The Packet was formed as a space for emerging artists in Sri Lanka to exist together in community, resisting narratives of art-production and meaning-making defined by global hierarchies. With a commitment to make work located in the playful and the intimate, The Packet embraces impurity, contradictions and messiness in the things they engage with as artists.



*Stripburger*

Stripburger is a comics magazine and publisher from Ljubljana (Slovenia) founded in 1992. For already 30 years Stripburger has been maintaining its recognizable concept and distinctly international character: uncovering independent comics scenes and featuring an eclectic selection of comics narratives by established names alongside new and upcoming comics talents. Additionally, an important part of the Stripburger's activities are exhibitions, workshops and other events that aim to promote comics culture and creativity in Slovenia and abroad.



*David Kaiza*

I am a writer from Uganda. In the last 25 years, I have in turns been an arts and culture journalist and a literary critic, edited an arts magazine and been a literary editor in Eastern Africa. As a literary critic, I have focused on African literature from the 1960s. In the last decade and half, I have been a researcher on arts policy and support, working towards modeling and tooling, and in this role, worked with a number of arts organisation in developing visions and practical studies.

*Erick Beltrán*

HAMBRE is a lesbian publishing initiative, based in Santiago, Chile, that amplifies the work of female-queer artists and writers from Latin America. Through zines, propaganda, workshops and activations we experiment the political and creative possibilities of publishing from a feminist perspective. Each zine is a unique recipe, cooked intimately with our collaborators. Through small scale editions we play with unconventional formats and craft economic publications with handmade details. We are inspired by the kitchen as a space of meeting, collaboration and subversion of the heteronormative ideology.



*HAMBRE*

*Marjin Kiri*

Founded in 2005, Marjin Kiri ("left margin") is an Indonesian independent publisher dedicated to fostering critical/leftist thinking within the academia and general readers. In the midst of an increasingly commercial publishing world, Marjin Kiri mostly publishes on humanities and social theory, political-economy and Marxism, Indonesian studies and history, cultural studies, ecology, and fictions from around the world.



*Reading room*

Reading Room is an independent publishing project initiated by writers and researchers Xiaotian Li, Di Liu and Siyan Xie, who are based in Guangzhou, Shenzhen and Hong Kong. Founded in 2019, Reading Room aims to introduce publications and ideas to a wider community of friends in multiple languages. Setting out from an active network of art collectives and cultural commons, our main interests are in alternative economy, social practices, family and childhood, comics and a variety of gender-friendly reading materials.



*Nieves*

Nieves is an independent publishing house based in Zurich, Switzerland. Nieves was co-founded by Benjamin Sommerhalder in 2001 in Zurich with the aim of creating affordable, quickly made and simply distributed publications that could be published on a regular basis. The featured artists all have in common a hand-made approach to their work in drawing, illustration, photography and graphic. Over three hundred artists have contributed to the growing list of Nieves Zines. The zines are published sporadically in an edition of 100 copies, distributed to a handful of bookshops worldwide and quickly becoming collectibles. Nieves publications have been exhibited at Kunsthalle Zürich, Kunstverein Hamburg, Art Metropole in Toronto, Printed Matter and Swiss Institute in New York and Centre Culturel Suisse in Paris.



consonni is a publishers based in an independent cultural space located in the San Francisco district of Bilbao. Since 1996 we have been producing critical culture and at present we have opted for the printed word - together with the word that is whispered, heard, silenced or recited. From the expanded field of art, literature, the radio and education, our ambition is to alter the world that we inhabit and in turn to be altered by it.

*consonni*

Cooperativa Cráter Invertido is a space of articulations between artistic practices and collective processes to create common imaginaries. We share a self-organized space in Mexico City, home of the risographic printing workshop and experimental radio (Taller XD and Radio Tropiezo, respectively), among other tools for dialogues, encounters and self-publishing. The cooperative is also nourished by various decentralized processes related to the care and territories, biodiversity, shared learning and the commons.

*Cooperativa Cráter Invertido*

Nairobi-based independent publisher, pan-African writers' collective founded in 2014 that has established itself as a leading literary force both on the continent and internationally through its influential anthologies, collaborations and radical special projects. Jalada prides itself on being a platform for good writing publishing both well-established authors and artists such as Binyavanga Wainaina, Wangechi Mutu and Sofia Samatar to countless first-timers who receive guidance from Jalada's in-house arts and editorial team. Jalada's Board of Trustees comprises leading figures in Africa's literary landscape namely; Ellah Allfrey (OBE, Hon, FRSL), Yvonne Owuor, Leila Aboulela, Stephen Parington and Jekwu Ozoemene.

*Jalada Africa*

kuš! (speak koosh!) is a tiny comics publisher from Latvia founded 2007 in Riga. The aims of kuš! are to popularize comics in a country where this medium is practically non-existent and promote Latvian comics abroad. kuš! doesn't just publish comics on paper, but also organizes exhibitions, workshops, residencies, comics jams, and other comics related events.

*kuš!*



*La Impresora*

La Impresora is a women led editorial and experimentation workshop located in Isabela, Puerto Rico, run by the poets Nicole Cecilia Delgado and Amanda Hernández and dedicated to small scale editorial work and to the allocation of resources to promote and support independent publishing. They specialize in editing and publishing contemporary poetry with risograph technology. Kutikuti is a non-profit contemporary comics association and artist collective formed in Helsinki in 2005. The core of Kutikuti consists of app. fifty members who make, teach, and publish comics. Kutikuti has over a hundred supportive members around the world and has become one of the most recognized marvels of the Finnish comics scene abroad. They operate internationally with an aim to maintain and develop comics as an art form.

*Kutikuti*



*Bananafish books*

Bananafish Books is a Shanghai-based publisher that uses riso printing to produce comics, illustrated work, and typography. Besides the printing activities they are also running a printing workshop, a gallery, and a bookstore, and they are the organizers of the UNFOLD Shanghai Art Book Fair.

