

22:25

All Inboxes

EE

Endless Editions

To: Endless Editions >

22:11

V-BKABF \* Postponed to support the movement for Black Lives Matter \*

Dear Book Fam,

In solidarity with the Movement for Black Lives, we are postponing V-BKABF.

While we still believe in the value of this fair, we do not feel that this is the moment to be holding this event. We don't feel ethical about continuing to promote V-BKABF. Our grief and rage at the murders of Breonna Taylor, George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Tony McDade, and the many names that have preceded them, is immense and we are called to turn our attention to show up for the struggle at hand and support it's momentum.

We spent the day deeply discussing this decision. We are grateful to all in our community who have offered their questions, labor, and guidance through this decision making process.

We are going to hold another Zoom meeting for all vendors and performers in an effort to be transparent about our decision making process.

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22:28

KW

Kurt >

Maybe we can use for protest event

Would y'all be down to help print? I can give y'all paper and masters

definitely down

i think we are good on masters so we can donate those

coordinating paper could be good? we are gonna print an edition of a defunding the police guide using bunch of our current stock

but yes we'd be down to help print

I have a lot of 11\*17 that is useless rn

word

I can drive it to y'all before the program starts.

we can give you a bunch of ink then

Printers for the revolution. Ink & paper

iMessage

📷

📁

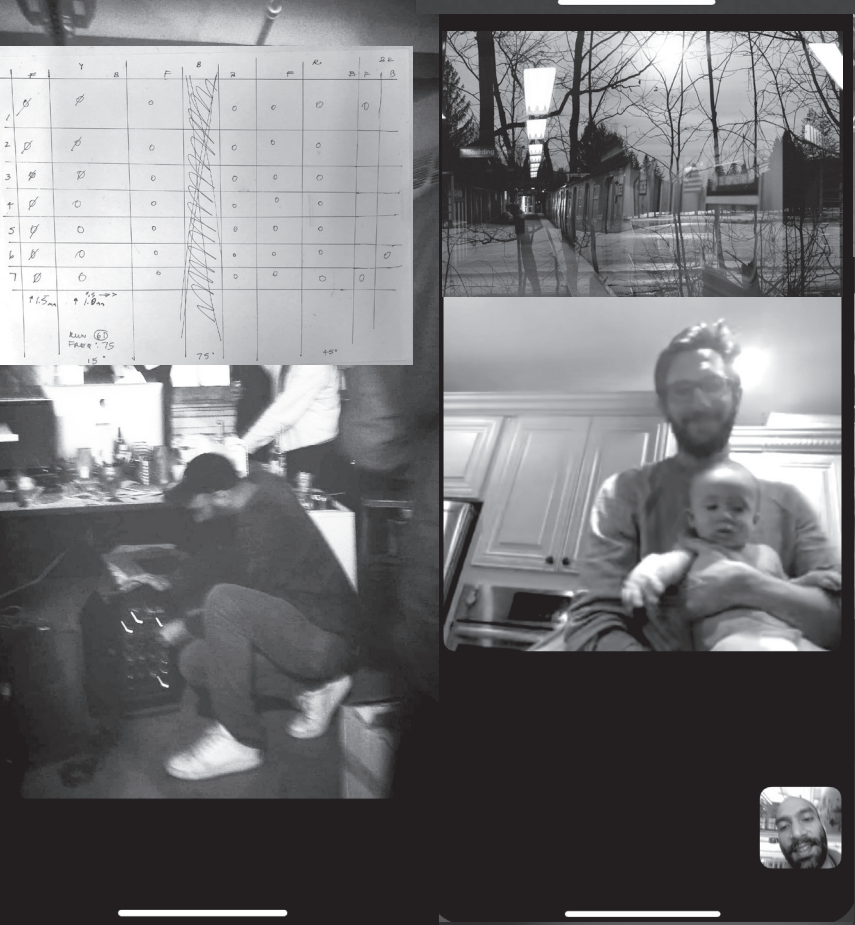
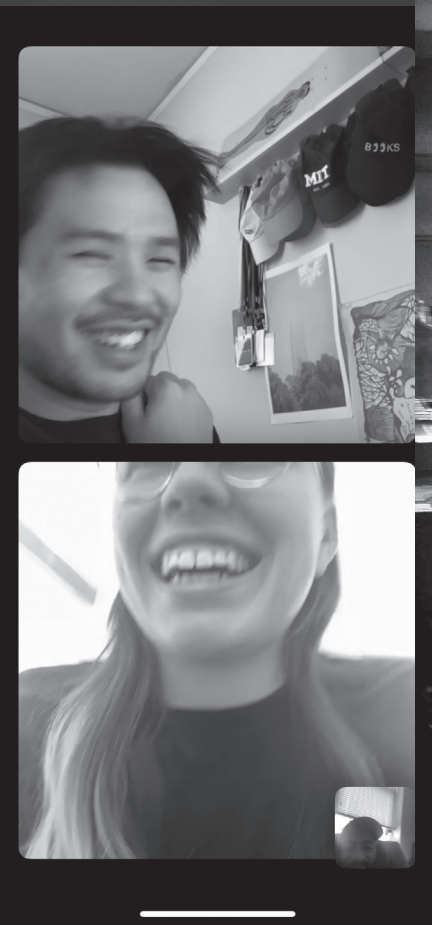
🍎

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🎵



11:38

HC SS PL

V-BKABF CREW >

responding to your email on the artforum address

Hannah Coleman

texted and emailed khari!

& yes Paige, we are still working on alt text. would happily accept more assistance, would love a connect xx

Paige Landesberg

ok great - going to connect you by email now

Hannah Coleman

and PJ- maybe just see if it makes sense for any listings on our press list also?

Sending to freebies. Gonna activate promotions on Facebook and IG

Today 14:07

Hannah Coleman

PJ- can you text Brian Broker to submit his stuff for shameless- we sent an email last night but still haven't heard from him

iMessage

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17:55

Breanne Trammell

breanne\_

BKABF was talked about as a format to pay attention to in an archives zoom conf I attended today! Immediate impact on the field! ❤️

whattttt LOL

Howwww

Message...

Q W E R T Y U I O P

A S D F G H J K L

↑ Z X C V B N M ↵

123 space return

😊

08:52

NM

Nontsikelelo >

peace with what is there.

Congratulations PJ

I'll take the congratulations if this works lol

And so appreciative of you all pausing on the first launch to prioritize other movement building

Oh. It will.you are involved

If you can't make it work, who can!

Lol. Probably Printed Matter :)

Delivered

It is really crazy to look back on work

I have to work so fast: in between so many things... like teaching. It is really crazy to look at this work again after months:

Uploading now.

Lies. Fixing something then uploading

effects

mute

flip

end

📷

📁

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🎵

15:47

HC SS PL

V-BKABF CREW >

many spaces for more urgent actions in this moment. Our grief and rage at the continued police violence against Black Lives, and the police killings of Breonna Taylor, George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Tony McDade, David McAtee, and the many names that have preceded them, is immense and we are called to show up for the struggle at hand

Paige Landesberg

looks good.. only thing is the eventbrite is linked twice, not sure if thats on purpose.. also at the bottom, Eventbrite should be one word

Hannah Coleman

great catches- i agree once is likely fine and lets fix that typo

and ahh ok i can see it from my phone and not my desktop

Paige Landesberg

also.. i noticed the black chalk event never got added to the website, i flagged it to kurt - its in the google doc with programming copy, i know we're postponed but any chance he can add it in case they see it for inclusivity?

iMessage

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18:24

OR

Ola >

Hi

No sadly that's all I got

Monday 16:55

All good!

Today 17:55

Hey Ola! Are these the prints you're vending at BKABF? How many of each did you wanna list for sale? Or is there only one color available

Delivered

Yes 5 each for now

I can count when I get home

iMessage

📷

📁

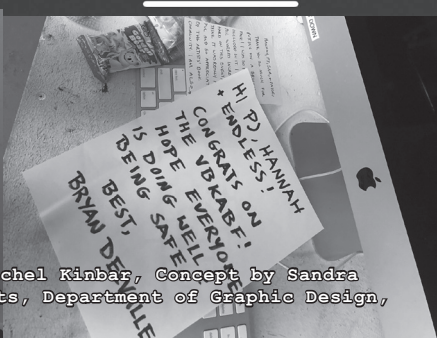
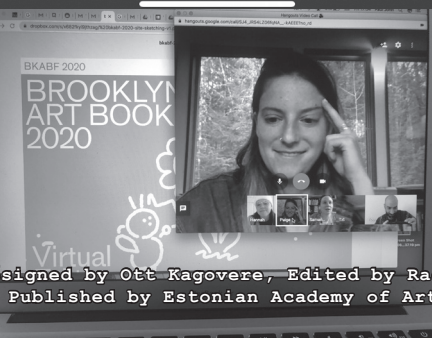
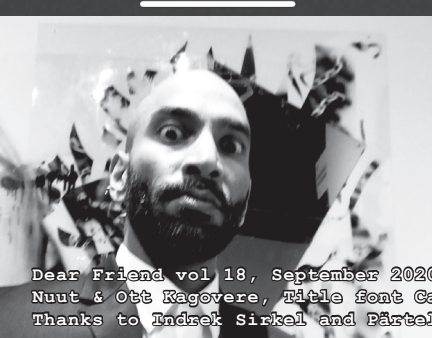
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TRYING  
BRIEFLY  
REMEMBER  
DISINTEGRATING  
EATEN  
DREAMS  
IMPOSSIBLE

DEAR FRIEND,

Walking in New York with my camera is better than having a diary.

My pictures are like dreams, overlaid and blurry at times. The film has been exposed multiple times, and there's no record of its history. I look at a picture and try to remember where I was and when I clicked. When did I finish that roll? I'm noticing little details that give way to some memory.

Did it fly back with me before I snapped the last few shots to send off to get developed? Or maybe I took a long detour from the subway to walk?

I haven't had a metro day in a very long time. Perhaps that's what I miss most about the before times: a day filled with subways and walking. I'd walk from my studio to my favorite independent book store, Printed Matter, for a reading, quickly run into Chelsea to see some openings, hustle once more to the Lower East Side and catch the end of a friends' performance, then leisurely trot over to a bar, let's say Clandestino (the grumpy bartender liked me... I think), or maybe walk up to the East Village and have a drink at Blue & Gold Tavern, where everything is five dollars or less. It's surprisingly tidy for a dive bar, and they have chess boards built into their tables. I'd always ask the bartender for the chess pieces, trading my ID as collateral, and await a stranger to play. I'd lose a lot, sometimes on purpose, but mostly because I am not improving in chess. Winning isn't as much fun as playing.

Most nights, I'd walk alone hoping to run into a friendly face: old restaurant friend, old colleague, old secondary school alum, and filling with excitement when meeting someone new, eager to know who they are and what stories they have. I'm reminiscing about nights I'd walk into KTown dreaming of doing karaoke by myself, but instead I'd walk back to my studio in Hell's Kitchen and play music as loud as I could.

Every time I think I have some time, it gets eaten. I was busy before. It was in vogue to be busy, and today I thought, "Wow, what a time. I can't be busy..."

I'm still trying to say something, but I can't do it briefly.

I found a way to get busy while New York was in shutdown. We decided to run the annual Brooklyn Art Book Fair online to support independent publishers in our community, most of which are under-represented and marginalized, but some have loads of visibility. All these various publishers and artists had taken on financial investments and prepared new work only to be presented with a vacuum to exhibit them, as the Los Angeles Art Book Fair had just been cancelled and the shutdowns began around the world. We began with "what if we can't host the fair in May, IRL..." and developed a new plan from scratch. Our weekly video calls *\*almost\** felt like we were in the studio. I want to keep the memories of calling all of them and talking to them about this fair, but they are disintegrating. When the protests erupted, we were on the phone for almost an entire day straight. It was an emotional day and laborious week. But ultimately we put our energies there, to the street,

in print, and postponed the fair. I'm still feeling the weight, under my eyes, from that week.

Our fair's mission has always been to lessen the burden on our vendors. We took on the task of completing all the shipping and fulfillment for this online book fair. It was basically a large online store with 45+ vendors and over 400 unique items. We had no idea what to expect, and when sales became overwhelming, we joked about closing the fair early (we didn't). All the vendors shipped their sold inventory to us and we picked, packed, and shipped the orders to their final destination. We made our own fulfillment world in the printshop. Etching presses filled up with inventory, ink slabs became packing stations, and I made a karaoke station with our portable PA while we sent out almost 800 packages of books, prints, and merchandise.

How many hours did we work on that project? Can you honestly say that you stopped working if you worked in your dreams?

I'm trying to remember that you can touch fire, and not get burned... you just can't hold onto it.

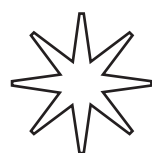
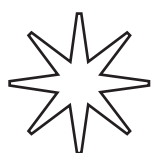
I'm meant to say more, but I can't. It's impossible. Maybe we can meet one day at the Robert Blackburn Printmaking Workshop for a glance at the most important histories in art and printmaking. We can walk to Printed Matter, cut over to the Center for Book Arts, then hop down to Scarr's for a slice, to Attaboy to see Jon or The Smith to see Doug, while I tell you how Bob would change lives through printmaking, and later we can talk about whatever we want, jaywalking across streets and dipping between cars and then down into the subway, chasing *\*something\** worth working towards.

I remember asking people visiting the city, "Do you have an unlimited weekly? Get one..." Secretly hoping they come on this journey with me through Manhattan by foot and trolley.

I prefer telling stories; I'm better with showing pictures. They offer me a more poetic way to understand the constant madness surrounding me... and this spiral into madness doesn't seem to end. I know life only goes one way. All my friends are leaving me... they're leaving New York. Nobody lives here to spend time in their 9 square meter room, they're here for the streets, the people, the never ending list of things to do and eat... some things are meant to dissolve, others to vanish with the wind, *"New York, I love you, but you're bringing me down..."*

If you feel like it, call me and I can tell you all the stories I know and all the stories I wish I knew more about.

*\* this was written from June → September 2020... \**



GREETINGS!  
PAUL JOHN