



*...the paratext is what enables a text to become a book and to be offered as such to its readers and, more generally, to the public. More than a boundary or a sealed border, the paratext is, rather, a threshold, or... a "vestibule" that offers the world at large the possibility of either stepping inside or turning back.*

Gerard Genette, 1997. *Paratexts: Thresholds of Interpretation*, Cambridge University Press.

It is often the case that in the gallery space the viewer is struck simultaneously by the work and artist's statement. The text (work) and paratext are of course bound, but when presented simultaneously one's engagement with the text can be dogged by the knowledge that the passkey is printed in vinyl Helvetica lettering on the wall. **para·text** exists to explore the relationships between these elements and seeks to foster an unbounded approach to reading via the removal of this threshold.

**para·text** will be published biannually in a loose leaf format unaccompanied by paratextual elements as far as possible. In this minimal printed format each work is assigned a number giving the reader the option to access corresponding paratextual information (author names, statements of intent etc) via <http://www.paratext.co.uk>

We welcome submissions of conceptual, experimental, or innovative poetry, particularly works which respond to the format in some way.

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