

Some information on this page is only available in Dutch

## HANNAH SCHLEIFER

I aim to offer a perspective that triggers a dialogue about the spaces we inhabit and navigate daily—spaces we may never have consciously considered.

My practice is located within a methodological framework of images, research, archives, and collaboration. The starting point of my work often lies in the personal discovery of a place, or detail within a place, that I am not yet familiar with. By taking photographs, collecting existing information, conducting fieldwork, and simply spending time in these locations, I first investigate my personal perception of the site to then draw a broader interpretation which finally forms the work. Recent sites of exploration include newly-built neighbourhoods (Vinex-wijken), Gravity Roads, apartment complexes, and a US army training area. While the process and elements of my work may initially appear analytical, the outcomes raise questions and propose reflections on the relationship to and our positioning within our surroundings. A reoccurring methodology is going through a great amount of documents/archive in order to end up with carefully picked out elements, that I then expand on again, which bring a surprising, often humorous element to the work. I aim to offer a perspective that triggers a dialogue about the spaces we inhabit and navigate daily—spaces we may never have consciously considered. I enjoy to share my curiosity and the excitement of not yet knowing but therefore discovering with those who encounter my work. My autonomous practice is inevitably carried by what I do parallel to it. Working in collaboration motivates and inspires me. This collaborative activity spans from exchanges with others in the research process of my works, over publishing and designing books with and for artists, to curating and facilitating exhibitions.

### WEBSITES

autonomous practice, artists portfolio

[hannahschleifer.com](http://hannahschleifer.com)

independent publishing project, handmade artist books run by Hannah Schleifer

[ringelpress.com](http://ringelpress.com)

artist-run initiative and project space

[the-servers.net](http://the-servers.net)

### SOCIAL MEDIA

[www.instagram.com/hannah\\_schleifer/](https://www.instagram.com/hannah_schleifer/)

[www.instagram.com/ringelpress/](https://www.instagram.com/ringelpress/)

[www.instagram.com/the\\_servers/](https://www.instagram.com/the_servers/)

### MEMBER OF ARTISTS' INITIATIVE/COLLECTIVE/INCUBATOR

The Servers

### PLATFORM

ringelpress

### EDUCATION

2020 - BA Photography Den Haag, Koninklijke  
2024 Academie van Beeldende Kunsten diploma

## EXHIBITIONS

2026 46 folding chairs Punt WG Amsterdam, Netherlands A folding chair is a quiet yet powerful object embedded in everyday social life, but it is never neutral. It signals something about to happen: a meeting, a vote, a ceremony, a performance. It implies collectivity and equality — each seat the same height, the same material, the same claim to space. No hierarchy. No ornament. Only presence. A folding chair anticipates a body, ready to be sat on but this time it will host artworks. [puntwg.nl/46-folding-chairs](https://puntwg.nl/46-folding-chairs)  
Group

2025 Please RSVP The Servers The Hague, Netherlands A group exhibition about pleonasms—the curious, the attendant, the superfluous act of repetition that sneaks into language and meaning. In a world fueled by efficiency, pleonasms represent something that doesn't quite fit the system with their excessiveness, but they reveal something essential; a desire to reinforce, to underline, to return to the point of departure again. "End result." Redundant or unnecessary? Yes. But also kind of revealing. [the-servers.net/exposervers](https://the-servers.net/exposervers)  
Group

2024 The Hague Independent Publishing Event Paradise The Hague, Netherlands THIFE stands for The Hague Independent publishing event. It brings together book enthusiasts in and around The Hague. The mission is to create a momentary space for books that provides room for exchange, browsing, and looking. The event runs for 2 weeks during which there will be two book exhibitions, book talks, and a bookmarket. The first Exhibition featured Punk Art Zine, ringelpress, HOK Gallery, Hein Ebersson, Heden, Huis van het Boek, Lula Valetta / Bur-Rose Books, Painpub, West, Salvo, Maldoracca and Stroom Den Haag. The

## PROJECTS

2023 Drei Häuser The Hague, Netherlands [hannahschleifer.com/Drei-Hauser](https://hannahschleifer.com/Drei-Hauser) On the main road there is a sign that points to a forest road, nothing more than a gravel road with many holes and bumps. Following that road, it doesn't seem as if there is more than trees and bushes but after the second road bend, tiles are peeking through the seemingly never-ending leaves. Tiles from three tiled roofs of three houses. I found the place that I was creating in my head, secluded life in the countryside, surrounded by nature. Mushroom picking, sheep in the back of the garden, ice skating on frozen lakes in the winter and never-ending days in summer. It's a fenced-off piece of world, times moves slowly here and there is no urge to keep up. They can do their own thing here; the world won't notice. I didn't notice. When did this place stop changing? Exploring new places by capturing them through a camera is a way to understand them for me. It acts as an ongoing exploration of ways of living that are unfamiliar to me but hold my attention out of personal interest or purely by fascination. Drei Häuser is a project about romanticizing the countryside life. It is an invitation for a conversation between each other; despite different world views.

2022 hereinspaziert / welcome in Cologne, Germany [hannahschleifer.com/hereinspaziert](https://hannahschleifer.com/hereinspaziert) What is it like to be in a unified place that is actually constructed for people to live their individual lives in? The Uni Center presents itself as an own cosmos which a couple of thousand people navigate in. Shouldn't this amount of people leave traces of personality and community? By spending time in the building and moving through it I am trying to find answers to these questions and to capture the daunting discretion the place evokes.

second exhibition was a selection of books found in Kringloops around Den Haag. The books are beautiful but mostly did not have any artistic ambition when they were made.

[ringelpress.com/THIPE](http://ringelpress.com/THIPE)

2024 Graduation Show Royal Academy of Art  
The Hague The Hague, Netherlands  
[graduation.kabk.nl](http://graduation.kabk.nl)

Group

2024 Mapaway Institute of Cartopology  
Vaals, Netherlands In the border region of the Euregio Meuse-Rhine, where the Netherlands, Germany, and Belgium meet, the landscape subtly challenges our sense of orientation. Gravity Hills—roads that appear to slope uphill while actually descending—are natural optical illusions. During a residency at the Institute of Cartopology in November 2023, artist and photographer Hannah Schleifer conducted a site-specific investigation into this phenomenon, leading to the discovery of the first documented Gravity Hill in the region. For Mapaway, this research was made accessible to the public through fieldwork, guided walks, and a symbolic opening moment of the site. A self-guided expedition offered visitors a field guide and tools to explore the illusion independently. The guide was available in three languages. Hannah Schleifer also led a walking seminar through the hilly landscape, discussing photography, perception, and orientation—culminating in the collective discovery of the Gravity Hill. The walk concluded with a small conceptual opening of Gravity Hill Aachen. Gravity Hills reflects Schleifer's ongoing interest in the intersection of visual perception, geography, and the limits of certainty in how we read the world around us.

Group

2023 , the pigeons took the house  
Brouwersgracht 25 The Hague,  
Netherlands self initiated group show  
at our atelier in Brouwersgracht 25

Group

2023 As above, So Below The Grey Space in  
The Middle The Hague, Netherlands As

above, So below marks the second chapter in the Fools journey. 'The Fool' is a guide and reminder to wear our open hearts. As we begin refining our practices, old links gradually fade and make space for new connections. We have constructed a network of interconnected individual works where materiality shifts between the fragile and the solid. We invite our audience to shape their interpretations and interrelations to create new paths of understanding. By embracing, we allow alignments of elements. Immaterial and material, from our different positions and knowledge. All together we create stories told in various visual languages. They can produce order and new negotiated meanings. Our stories are wired in the middle but disperse their individual points, allowing them to take different turns and directions.

[foolcollective.cargo.site/Exhibition Group](http://foolcollective.cargo.site/ExhibitionGroup)

## INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES/RESIDENCIES

- 2024 Outerspace Press Berlin, Germany  
Outer Space Press is a resource for artists' books, a platform for collaboration and book design studio founded in 2016 by Claudio Pogo and Magdalena Wysocka in Berlin, Germany. We combine contemporary book design with keeping the practice of traditional bookbinding alive.  
[www.outerspacepress.com](http://www.outerspacepress.com)
- 2023 Institute of Cartopology Vaals, Netherlands  
Artistic Research residency with the goal of finding (or looking for) a gravity road.  
[cartopology.institute](http://cartopology.institute)
- 2023 KULT Books Stockholm, Sweden  
Kult Books is an independent publishing project for photography and other lens-based visual arts founded by Janne Riikonen in Stockholm, Sweden. Kult Books publishes monographs and artist books that embrace a personal artistic vision and visual language. The

## COMMISSIONS

- 2024 Mapaway: Gravity Hills Institute of Cartopology Vaals, Netherlands  
commissioned publication for an event.  
Event Description: The road seems to go up, but it goes down. It is almost unbelievable, but in the hills of the Euregio Meuse-Rhine you can encounter just this kind of illusion. Those who look closely will notice that an uphill road seems to go down, or vice versa. Such spots have been recorded all over the United States. In Europe, you can also find them here and there. And, in the hilly border region around Vaals, we also have found one! Discover the story, learn the tricks of tracking them and go in search of more. And who knows, you might run up, uh, down, faster than ever before. Artist and photographer Hannah Schleifer will give a walking seminar on the hilly landscape, photography and her fascination about gravity hills. And... at the end, we will discover the first Gravity Hill in the Euregio Meuse-Rhine! At the end of the Tour, there is an and official moment in the border forest between Vaals and Aachen in honour of the opening of the Gravity Hill Aachen. Be

publications are designed in collaboration with the artists, ensuring the physical form of each book enhances the concept and meaning of the work. [kultbooks.com](http://kultbooks.com)

there or be lost! finished

## PUBLICATIONS

- 2024 Graduation Catalogue - class of 2024  
Catalog the fool collective The Fool Collective The Hague, Netherlands  
Graduation catalogue of the Photography Bachelor at KABK, The Fool Collective, 2024
- 2024 The Hague Independent Publishing Event 1: putting things together, spreading things out Book ringelpress Malva Askerup, Hannah Schleifer, Vincent van Baar The Hague, Netherlands [ringelpress.com/THIPE](http://ringelpress.com/THIPE)  
“What you are holding in your hands documents the process of the first edition of making and facilitating ‘The Hague Independent Publishing Event’ in Paradise, The Hague, August 2024. It archives a collection of books, presented in two exhibitions supported by three tables in the space; (1) books published in The Hague and (2) books found in the shelves of Kringloops in The Hague. It is also an index of three book talks in the temporary library. We are a group of people, amongst us are publishers, graphic designers, artists, and friends, together making a space for books in The Hague. This is a document of things we put together, whilst figuring things out, and finally spreading them out.” Exhibition one featured Punk Art Zine, ringelpress, HOK Gallery, Hein Ebersson, Heden, Huis van het Boek, Lula Valetta / Bur-Rose Books, Painpub, West, Salvo, Maldoracca and Stroom Den Haag.
- 2024 Gravity Roads Book ringelpress Hannah Schleifer The Hague, Netherlands [hannahschleifer.com/books](http://hannahschleifer.com/books) It is the summer of 2020, I am sitting in a van, driving to a photo-set in Portugal, when our local driver mentions that we are now on a gravity road. He explains that here, gravity doesn't work and that

## REVIEWS

- 2024 Ook het Drielandenpunt heeft een 'zwartekrachtheuvel' waar water omhoog lijkt te stromen Newspaper Merel Visscher Maastricht, Netherlands  
[www.limburger.nl/regio/vaals/ook-het-drielandenpunt-heeft-een-zwaartekrachtheuvel-waar-water-omhoog-lijkt-te-stromen/22321376.html](http://www.limburger.nl/regio/vaals/ook-het-drielandenpunt-heeft-een-zwaartekrachtheuvel-waar-water-omhoog-lijkt-te-stromen/22321376.html)  
newspaper article about the work Gravity Hills during Mapaway at the Institute of Cartopology
- 2024 The Hague Independent Publishing Event Blog/Vlog Dutch Design Daily Netherlands [dutchdesigndaily.com/stories/the-hague-independent-publishing-event/](http://dutchdesigndaily.com/stories/the-hague-independent-publishing-event/) about dutch design daily: It is our mission to unite the most important Dutch voices in the field of design and to help ensure that their diverse views on design reach a wider audience. It is our vision that the design community brings a unique and specific perspective to the important themes of our society.

vehicles move up the hill by themselves. Gravity Roads is not a work about one unique place but rather about a phenomenon that occurs in multiple locations. These are places where a natural optical illusion tricks the eye into perceiving objects as moving uphill by themselves. This draws people's attention to these otherwise ordinary countryside roads and turns some of them into touristic roadside attractions. I am fascinated by the human need to understand what is happening and the urge to explain anything. While making this work, I am also just someone that gives in to her curiosity. This tension between believing either our eyes or logical explanations is captivating. Often, the explanation marks the end of this curiosity, but with the gravity road it is different. The phenomenon has been scientifically and logically explained - yet we still give in to its strangeness. Gravity Roads is a research-based work that consists of photographs, texts, observations, and found material and which is presented in an artist book as well as an installation. It is an invitation to discover and explore the phenomenon of the gravity-hill-illusion and to question one's personal awareness towards one's surroundings. Gravity Roads is a playful comment on human fascination for the absurdity of a place, even though we know that there is nothing absurd about it at all, really.

2024 Making and Publishing a Photobook  
Book ringelpress Hannah Schleifer The Hague, Netherlands  
[ringelpress.com/making-and-publishing-a-photobook](https://ringelpress.com/making-and-publishing-a-photobook) This paper reflects on my journey of making and publishing a photobook and investigates how looking at photobooks will teach one how to make them. This research is based on my process of making and publishing a photobook and starting my own publishing project ringelpress. It started from an urge to work with (photo)books in my artistic practice and became a document of my findings, learnings, and opinions that I became aware of during that process. By combining elements like book

comparisons, book analysis and personal notes I am drawing an honest and open picture of that journey. The research paper doesn't present itself as a finished, closed research that answers all the questions that were raised but functions more in a way that it leaves questions open, raises new ones and states challenges for the future.

2023 hinterlands magazine - green issue  
Catalog hinterlands magazine Berlin, Germany [hinterlands.eu/issues/](https://hinterlands.eu/issues/) Green are the meadows, forests and fields that form rural landscapes. Green is chlorophyll, a pigment absorbing red and blue wavelengths of light. Green are trimmed hedges bordering an estate in the village and shielding it from the neighbor's view. Green is the color of political parties that aim to counter the climate crisis. Green is sometimes just a fantasy. The chosen color of hinterlands' third issue points to the climate crisis and its consequences. It shows us the drawbacks of an industry focusing on "green" solutions. It leads us into the forest and to family histories tied to the soil on which they live.

2022 Trickle Book the fool collective The Fool Collective The Hague, Netherlands [foolcollective.cargo.site/Trickle](https://foolcollective.cargo.site/Trickle) The publication is a note to The Fools' journey where stories of absurdity, vulnerability, contemplation, and meditation are told and expressed in various visual languages. It is a voyage into a diverse selection of works, a journey of the growing Fool. The theme of Trickle refers to how we experienced our time, to always be trickled and disoriented, accompanying each other in the journey of The Fool. Curated in an intuitive way, photographs are connected like the transience of water drops, trickling through the pages. Trickle is our debut as young artists towards the public. It is the first publication of the collective that reveals our profession as growing photography students. We would like to share our experience and journey through the medium of a book. It is a starting point of our ongoing collective journey. By

sharing our work and stories we evoke everyone's memory of togetherness. We want to pass on the courage of turning back to the starting point, and embracing the journey of the unknown, just as the fool does. To not get discouraged by obstacles but to learn and keep moving.

## SECONDARY ART-RELATED ACTIVITIES

2025 - -- co-founder and active member of the artist-initiative and project space 'The Servers' On-going

2023 - -- running the publishing project ringelpress On-going



THIPE, 2024  
hand made publication, stapled



THIPE, 2024



making and publishing a photobook, 2024  
hand bound publication



THIPE, 2024



Gravity Roads, 2024  
digital photograph



Gravity Roads, 2024



road experiments, 2023  
digital photograph



hereinspaziert, 2023  
Hahnemühle Photoprints, wooden frames with LED light tube., 110x220x45mm



Drei Häuser, 2023  
digital photograph



Drei Häuser, 2023  
digital photograph