

AS IF AN ENTRANCE IS OVER THERE—

Edward Clydesdale Thomson

He talked of fore-grounds, distances, and second distances—side-screens and perspectives—lights and shades [...] and by an easy transition from a piece of rock fragment and the withered oak which he placed near its summit, to oaks in general, to forests, the enclosure of them, waste lands, crown lands and government, he shortly found himself arrived at politics [...].

Jane Austin, *Northanger Abbey*

As if an entrance is over there— brings together a series of texts, conversations, images and decorative structures thematically focussed on the intersection of landscape and the practice of visual artist Edward C Thomson (b. 1982, UK/DK).

The thinking through of recent history has made clear the link between politics and landscape, and the role artists have played in the production and mediation of this dynamic. In the face of this cultural vista, we continue to be fascinated by depictions of landscape and site, and are drawn into the complexities of the conditions of distance and the lure of travel. *As if an entrance is over there—* is structured in textually and visually delineated chapters, forming

a metaphorical architecture that houses a series of shifting decorative patterns and images developed by the artist in collaboration with designer Sandra Kassenaar, alongside a number of existing and newly commissioned texts.

The texts illuminate landscape, architecture and art making through the lens of history, the processes, practicalities and potentials of description, the specificity of landscape as a form of cultural and political identity, the phenomenology of the image and the potential of the mode of address of a representation of landscape to move through mediation and engage a viewer. Creating a series of parallel affects, the patterns, images and texts form a publication that is not intended to be a retrospective overview of Thomson's work, but, rather, is presented to give readers an expanded insight into the concerns and processes of his practice.

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