

Arne Schmitt

SOME PLACES TO READ

homage to V.B.



opening: friday 09/06, 7 pm

10/06 - 01/07/2017
fridays & saturdays, 4-6 pm

Richas Digest
Lothringer Strasse 51
50677 Cologne

CHLODWIGPLATZ

(step surrounding subway entrance in front of city gate)

distance from RD:

10 min. walk / 5 min. by bike

FRIEDENSPARK

(bench facing elevated square framed by colonnades)

distance from RD:

20 min. walk / 8 min. by bike

VORGEBIRGSPARK

(leaning lawn between apartment towers at Raderthalgürtel)

distance from RD:

30 min. walk / 13 min. by bike

Sometimes, all it takes to capture our attention is a sudden reflection of sunbeams in a glass door being opened on the right; the nervous sound of a bird flapping its wings while landing in a tree on the left; a portable speaker blasting the latest tunes in the background; an emerging smell of sewer reminding us of some cities in the summer we once visited – or heard about, at least. Or: a sudden breeze of wind offering tangible resistance to the transitory gesture of turning the page, reminding us that the book has an actual body and thus shares the same environment as us readers. Opposite to succumbing to the allure of romantic ideas – like thinking photography takes us to other places, for example – we rarely observe the physicality of the book, although secondary in nature to the message it is supposed to convey. Yet, the book is way more than a mere screen between here and elsewhere: what is often said about photography – that it has no surface – is as notional as the idea that the design of a textbook does not matter. Both claims may apply much more to recent technological efforts which make an actual voyage to Italy feel like a quick swipe across the map.

ALBERT-MAGNUS-PLATZ

(university campus around Philosophikum building)

distance from RD:

25 min. walk / 12 min. by bike

OBERLÄNDER WERFT

(rhine banks underneath station Schönhauser Strasse)

distance from RD:

30 min. walk / 10 min. by bike