

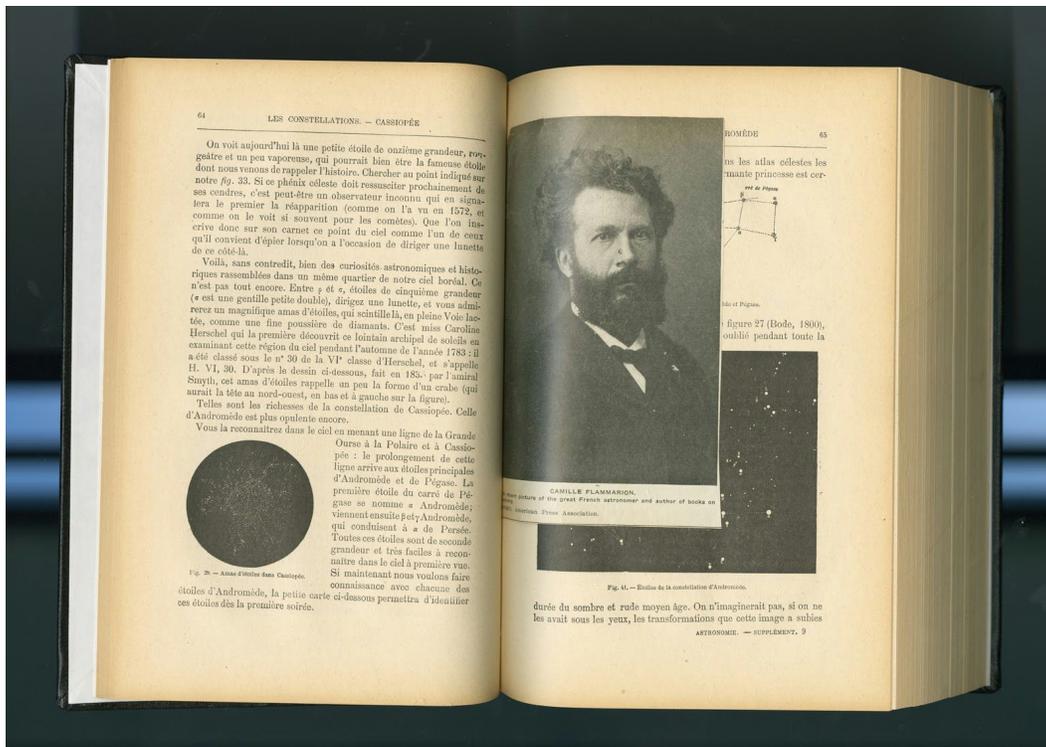
Abra Ancliffe

When Looking Down is Looking Up

A Viewing from December 12, 2015–January 17, 2016

The Secret Astronomy of Tristram Shandy Book Launch + Opening Reception
Saturday, December 12, 5–7pm

Gallery Hours: Friday–Sunday, noon–5pm or by appointment



Abra Ancliffe, *Les Etoiles*, 64+65 (Flammarion), 2013, digital photograph, 24 x 17", courtesy of the artist

October 29, 2015 – Portland, OR: c3:initiative is pleased to announce *When Looking Down is Looking Up*, A Viewing from December 12, 2015–January 17, 2016 featuring the work of Portland-based artist Abra Ancliffe.

When Looking Down is Looking Up is an ongoing investigation of the shift from outer space to page as a re-envisioning of matter and printed matter. The work centers on how when contemplating what is known and unknown, one usually finds themselves either staring down at the page or up into the sky. The program's descriptor "a viewing" derives its name from this notion, uniting the study and observation of celestial phenomena with human inquiry, the quest for knowledge, and the role of perception in these attempts. The viewing will open with a reception and the launch of Ancliffe's limited edition artist book *The Secret Astronomy of Tristram Shandy*.

The Secret Astronomy of Tristram Shandy is a publication that reproduces over one hundred, self-reflexive black pages from multiple, paperback editions and copies of Laurence Sterne's *The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy, Gentleman*. When taken out of context and accumulated, these once playful, visual metaphors reveal the printing inconsistencies of ink on paper: varying density, hickeys, oxidation spots, and moiré patterns. The hidden nature of the page, that which was unread, can now be read. In this case, astronomical imagery is revealed; that of stars speckled across an inky blackness or the soft haze and ripple of a galaxy. Since the 1760s, readers, printers and publishers have been forced to grapple with the black pages of Sterne's novel; this struggle with discovery, meaning, and craft is at the heart of *The Secret Astronomy of Tristram Shandy*.

The Secret Astronomy of Tristram Shandy is funded in part by the Regional Arts & Culture Council.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Abra Ancliffe makes printed matter, books, and libraries about the pursuit of knowledge and the inevitable mistakes and misunderstandings inherent in this pursuit.

abraancliffe.com
personallibrarieslibrary.com

ABOUT C3:INITIATIVE

c3:initiative is a nonprofit arts organization dedicated to process-based exploration. Based in Portland, Oregon, c3 connects creators and communities through three distinct residency programs, a studio incubator initiative, and integrative exhibition and public programming.

c3 is committed to creating partnerships, facilitating artistic exchange, and developing educational opportunities by cultivating dialogue amongst various communities.

LISTING INFORMATION

c3:initiative: 7326 N. Chicago Avenue in St. Johns | Portland, OR 97203

Hours: Friday-Sunday, noon-5pm and by appointment

Public Information: 971-267-2340 | info@c3initiative.org

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Book Launch + Opening Reception: Saturday, December 12, 5–7pm

PRESS CONTACT

info@c3initiative.org

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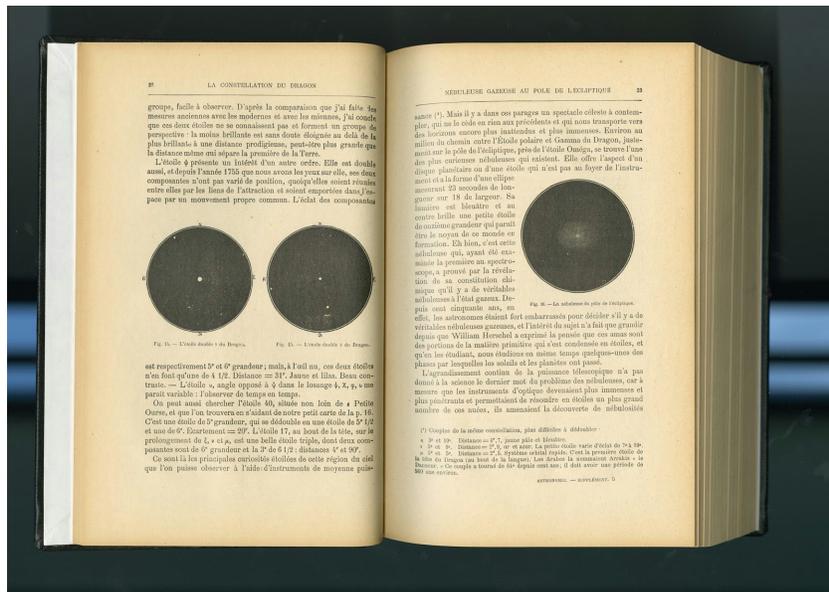
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Images Available for Reproduction

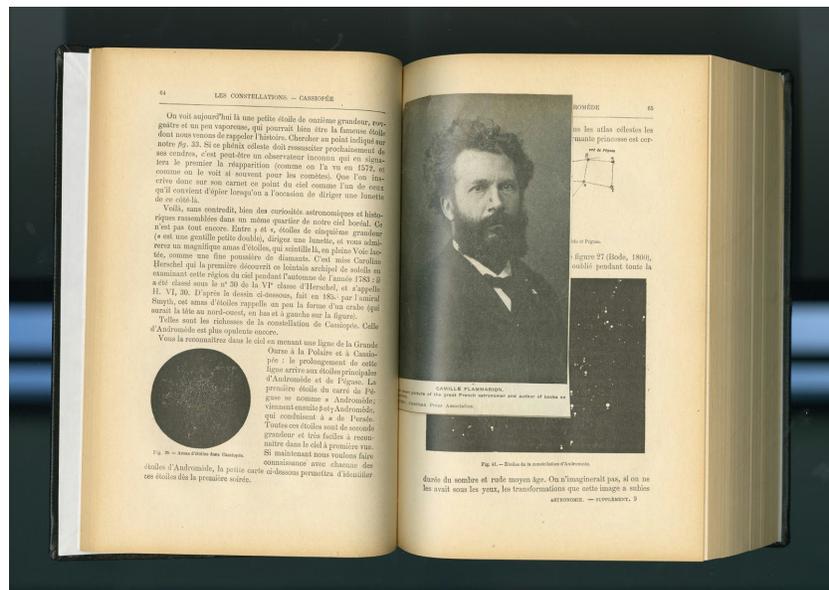
c3:initiative
Abra Ancliffe

When Looking Down is Looking Up
A Viewing from December 12, 2015–January 17, 2016

For images, please contact: info@c3initiative.org



Abra Ancliffe, *Les Etoiles*, 32+33, 2013, digital photograph, 24 x 17", courtesy of the artist



Abra Ancliffe, *Les Etoiles*, 64+65 (Flammarion), 2013, digital photograph, 24 x 17", courtesy of the artist