

The National Grid #10

The National Grid #10 returns with conspiracy theories, activism, hostile architecture, Māori printing presses and Tongan design practices.

Graphic design is everywhere, but its influence is often invisible. *The National Grid* #10 looks again at the world we already inhabit, uncovering fascinating histories and surprising revelations about how cultural meaning is created and reproduced. The new issue presents nine contributions, including:

- The story of New Zealand's first centralised electronic database, the "Wanganui Police Computer," and the activist who tried to bomb it
- A Māori printing press and its use in the Kīngitanga movement and early Māori media
- The erosion of community in Auckland's half-finished subdivisions and commercial wastelands
- The search for a body of Tongan design

Contributors include Tamsen Hopkinson, Jane Wallace, Matthew Galloway, Kim Paton, Catherine Griffiths, Fiona Jack, Shaun Naufahu, Ann Shelton, Layla Tweedie-Cullen and David Bennewith.

THE NATIONAL GRID

Based in Aotearoa, *The National Grid* is a periodical dedicated to research in the field of graphic design. It takes an expansive view on graphic design as it intersects with culture, society, politics and histories. As a practice concerned with the reproduction and distribution of language, graphic design—*The National Grid* suggests—is significantly more interesting, and more impactful, than purely market-led or 'value added' narratives tend to imply. Not quite 'magazine' and not quite 'academic journal', *The National Grid* attempts to chart a path through the murky wasteland between professional practice and academia, art and design.

THE EDITORS

Luke Wood (Ōtautahi Christchurch) is a senior lecturer in graphic design at the University of Canterbury's School of Fine Arts. Katie Kerr (Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland) is a graphic designer and publisher whose practice revolves around books. Matthew Galloway (Pōneke Wellington) is an artist and designer whose interdisciplinary work often uses the methodologies and tools of design within a contemporary art context.

Left: The editors speaking at Objectspace about *The National Grid*, June 2025. Image: David St George.



Published by GLORIA and Ilam Press
Edited and designed by Luke Wood,
Katie Kerr and Matthew Galloway
ISSN 1177-2468
Soft cover, 96 pages
170×240mm, upright
Edition of 500

RELEASED: Tuesday 10 November
CATEGORY: Arts & Culture
NZRRP: \$30.00

Available online at gloria-books.com,
thenationalgrid.net and independent
bookstores around Aotearoa.

PUBLICIST

Erena Shingade
erenashingade@gmail.com

Editors are available for interviews.
We ask that no review appears before the
publication date unless prior permission
is given by the publisher.

