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»Artefakte«, 2009

In their digital form image and text are as close as never before. According to Philippe Dubois the index status of an analogue photography is based on the physical contiguity between sign and its referent. This causal coherence between the object in front of the camera and its portrayal has deferred in digital photography. The digital image of an object does not only depend on the object itself but on its complete digital code.

The »Artefacts« series a continuation of the work that started with »Decode Daguerre«. Whereas »Decode Daguerre« is a presentation of an image in form of a text, in the »Artefacts« series the typographical image editing is followed by a re-translation into a pictorial form. In opening an image file with a text processing programme the approximately 100,000 characters (in this particular case) spread over more than 1000 pages in Din A4 format. Thereby only a few characters stand together mostly. According to the JPG-format itself, compressing the picture information heavily, the part important for the picture content was as far condensed as like in »Decode Daguerre« a compact text block resulted. The output got retransferred into a pictorial form as JPG-file. The occurring artefacts are a direct aftermath of the typographic editing.

The footage are pictures taken from the web portal *flickr.com*, the most important location to interchange digital images online. The pictures are the ones chosen by Flickr itself as background pictures on their own start page for promotion purposes. The decision to use this material establishes on the presumption, that these pictures with few exceptions have a pure digital setting. They have been generated digitally, stored digitally and they now are shared on the web portal in a digital way.

The single pictures of the series are archival pigment prints on photolux-paper in vertical format 50 cm × 60 cm, presented in a wooden frame