

SLIMVOLUME POSTER PUBLICATION, 2002

*Slimvolume Poster
Publication, 2002*
30 prints loose bound
in card covers
Cover: letterpress on card;
prints: mixed media
Dimensions: variable;
covers 42.2 x 30 cm
E.155:1-34-2003
Given by Andrew Hunt
© Slimvolume

Below:
Launch of *Slimvolume
Poster Publication 2002*,
at the Austrian Cultural
Forum, London,
12 November 2001

Slimvolume, a 'not-for-profit' organization, was set up in 2000 (by Andrew Hunt and a Swedish curator, Helena Sundström) to provide an open space for artists to expand their practice within a collective curatorial framework. Hunt has continued the *Slimvolume Poster Publication* as an annual project.

This is the second edition; it contains work by thirty artists – the first fifteen each selected another artist to contribute. The participants are from Germany, Sweden, the US and the UK, and the project is conceived and produced in a collaborative process. However, the artists themselves are responsible for producing their own prints, so there are many different media in each edition, ranging from Xerox to screen-print. The publication is not bound, and functions both as a conventional portfolio and as a ready-made exhibition. The works themselves are simultaneously prints, posters and multiples. An essential feature of the project is its method of distribution.

The edition is allocated to people chosen by the participating artists and the organizers. The recipients are free to exhibit or distribute all or parts of the set, or to keep it intact. As a loose-bound edition, the publication can be used and exhibited in a variety of contexts. Some copies are preserved intact, others may be broken up and disseminated, exhibited, fly-posted or even discarded. The recipients include artists, writers, theorists, curators, musicians, friends and museum collections.

The first edition in 2001 was shown in London, Berlin and Stockholm, the second at Vilma Gold, a London gallery; the third, exhibited at Norwich Gallery, included new work by the thirty artists chosen for EAST 03 (an international open art competition), and editions by Toby Webster and Eva Rothschild, that year's EAST selectors. The 2004 edition was launched at @edux, a London project space, where it was presented as a traditional exhibition, with each print mounted and framed.

Slimvolume offers a publishing opportunity to emerging artists; it is also a collectable manifestation of the new tendency for artists to make and exhibit work outside the traditional gallery system, using cooperative strategies for publishing, promoting and curating their own work. It demonstrates some of the ways in which artists are working with traditional media – the portfolio, the limited edition, the poster, the artist's multiple and book art – but moving beyond the accepted definitions and established formats.



