

1+1=3 what?

This is a space for everything that can be printed black on white paper, by anyone who feels the needs and urges to do so. First of all, we are a network of people contaminating and enriching each other through communication.

It's a pleasure and honor to share insights and thoughts with you. This was created through a collective need for sharing what is urgent for all of us, now. An open space for communication and discussions being the base, this paper depicts the December 2020 outcome of all that grows inside of us.

The journey of the two of us started with no more than two beers in Jerusalem and continued with an unplanned wildlife adventure in the French Alps, for then landing in our current base – Linz. The more frequently we met, a seed started to grow: the wish of a place for meaningful connections and creative outcomes. A place where we could share our ongoing researches and questions without feeling the pressure of adding a good title, a pleasing look, and a signature in the end.

It is urgent for us, to create a platform for unfiltered, unjudged content – that often is still in process - but needs to be set free nevertheless. In the best case, enabling collaborations of people that don't have the chance of a physical encounter due to locational distances, or the current circumstances. Since we are lucky to know many human beings from different places,

we decided to open an opportunity to work together. It was also a chance for both of us to deepen friendships and connections. We probably have never seen such enthusiasm between people that seemingly are strangers to each other. Everyone was engaged, inspired, and contributing with crazy energies. A shared google doc is filled with beautiful anonymous words. Specific group discussions come out, with separate meetings and shared environments to topics like feminism, art and politics, and cutting hair. Two people realize they have the same questions in mind and start to exchange material about it. A design team meets to discuss how this thing should look like. People in the Middle East share the same space to say things. Everyone switches to three consecutive 45min zoom meetings and takes notes before going to sleep. Someone doesn't want to leave and continues talking until late. We truly hope that this enthusiasm and collective energy can be projected to you while reading this paper. We both never expected something like this. It grew in only a few weeks.

Call it how you want - this is just a documentation of all that has happened through a collaborative, non-hierarchical, open and inclusive environment of exchange: busy shared google docs, zoom meetings, slack channels, coffees and cigarettes, individual chats, endless phone calls, etc. These possibilities made us speak much more about the honest us, our situations – this project became a great excuse to meet and spend hours talking with people we care about.

Since this year has made a shift towards the digital, it is even more important for us to print. We don't feel like following the concept of social media and internet environments: it seems like we're going in the opposite direction, towards something intimate and demanding. It's different to share a physical object - it requires more effort but also forces us to sustain physical connections through the beautiful act of giving.

There is no money involved in the distribution since it is a basic need to share. You can consider what you are reading as a present.

Meaningful connections were a necessity of our starting point. An open call was not an option.

The aim is not to reach as many people as possible. The aim is to connect meaningful people in our lives, and this leads to unexpected things. The content of this paper is the 3 of the equation: 1 met 1 and something new was born. This is also why we collectively decided to eliminate the personal authorship of individual works. Because each of us was an equal part of these creations; directly or indirectly.

It's not our goal to promote individuals but to encourage a space for collective reflection – created through the diversity of individuals.

This paper is placeless. These connections are not only based on physical connections. We are grateful for the opportunity that digital spaces enable because this allows

us to communicate wherever we are. This paper is printed in multiple cities around the world: Austria, Canada, Colombia, France, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, Palestine, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland, etc.

We try to use English as a Lingua Franca to break language barriers, but we also speak our native languages when this allows a deeper connection with our places and people.

We hope that this network can reach anyone that feels the same necessity – if you are captured while reading, please feel free to contact us here: 1plus1paper@gmail.com
More people = more minds = more ideas.

This project has been making both of us feel very much alive. It's so good to see people that are enriched and grateful by meeting new people. We hope that at some point we are not the only two who create these connections: anyone involved is very welcome to contact those, whom they want to be part of this journey. Up to now, this outcome has already been beyond any of our expectations. It feels good.

We are curious to see where this little seed will go. This is only the first issue of something we care about. The energies we have for this project come from everyone who gives theirs.