

# Thunderwordbox

In his book *Finnegans Wake* James Joyce created ten *Thunderwords*, rythmical, beautiful sounding abstract language fantasies. All of them are 100 letters long, except for the tenth, which contains 101 letters. Inspired by this, percussionist Rob Kloet and visual artist Helen Frik have created a limited edition of ten unique, numbered Thunderwordboxes.

Each box contains the letters of a *Thunderword* and a paper strip of one meter (attached to the lid) with the thunderword - together with a reference to the page in the book - printed on it. A spoken interpretation of it by Rob Kloet will be accessible as a download to the owner of a Thunderwordbox.

The letters have been cut out of clay by hand and high fired, achieving a finely high pitched sound. The strip is made of polypropelene paper. Coloured parallel lines were drawn on it by hand, which suggest the lines on the A5 index cards Kloet uses to make notes when composing. The box is cut from birch plywood and finished with microcrystalline wax on the outside.

Five of James Joyce's *Thunderwords* are used in the Pure Joyce performance. They formed the basis for the percussion pieces in the play.

Helen Frik is a visual artist, living and working in Amsterdam, Holland. Her oeuvre comprises sculpture, drawing, installation, and print. For the last few years Frik has concentrated on ceramics, resulting in the ever growing Frik Collection Ceramic Museum.

Rob Kloet is drummer and co-founder of the Dutch pop band NITS. Simultaneously he regularly works on projects in conjunction with visual arts or literature. In Switzerland he frequently performs with musicians such as Simon Ho, Oli Hartung and Fritz Hauser.

In 2006 Helen Frik and Rob Kloet cooperated in the project Drumset With Dog; this was their first collaboration. In 2010 Frik and Kloet worked together on an installation called Gas And Dust, also involving ceramics and sound.

Weblinks:  
[www.helenfrik.nl](http://www.helenfrik.nl)  
[www.helenfrik.viewbook.com](http://www.helenfrik.viewbook.com)  
[www.nits.nl](http://www.nits.nl)  
[www.purejoyce.ch](http://www.purejoyce.ch)

