

Basic Detail Report



Untitled

Date

2001

Primary Maker

Anna Gaskell

Medium

book with photographs

Description

This piece revives the antiquated form of the "peep show," a toy-like device resembling a private, miniature theater that was popular in the 19th century. As we look through the peep hole to the scene inside the bellows, we see a deep, mossy well inhabited by siren-like figures gesturing toward a floating body that appears to be beyond their grasp. When we flip the object and look through the back, this soul returns our stare. The photographs for this project were taken by Gaskell at the Netherworld Well on the grounds of Villa Regaleira in Sintra, Portugal. The design of the well and surrounding gardens are based on Dante's "Inferno."

Dimensions

Overall (Closed): 6 × 7 × 3/4 in. (15.2 × 17.8 × 1.9 cm)