Komplot is pleased to present a solo exhibition by Perri MacKenzie. The exhibition is inspired by her book *What does an oracle look like?* recently published byLeaky Press. The artist has created a theatrical extension of the book across Komplot’s unique spaces, via paintings, drawings and prints. The exhibition is divided into two parts: first ‘the Speaking Room’, then the ‘Reading Room’.

*The Speaking Room*

In ‘The Speaking Room’ paintings on paper are hung dynamically throughout the space.

These paintings depict the animal fountains of Sainte-Catherine / Sint-Katelijne, Brussels. For the artist, the gushing water acts as an energetic materialisation of voice, further amplified by the unruly dimensions of the paintings. These spluttering creatures are in enthusiastic, if discordant, conversation.

A thematic in MacKenzie’s work is the shape of sound: its texture rather than its meaning. In ‘the Speaking Room’, we see collaged papers haphazardly follow the contours of each fountain’s unique voice. The shape of the gushing water might recall stuttering syllables, harsh consonants, gliding vowels.

*The Reading Room*

The walls of ‘the Reading Room’ are decorated with a series of ink drawings, figurative with written elements. Their scale invites you to step into their theatrical worlds: the messy desk of a crime novel illustrator, the spidery notes of a pottery enthusiast.

Amongst these drawings are hung a series of large colourful prints, titled *Oracle.* Each one is unique: the result of layering swirling brush-strokes and cryptic motifs in the graphic medium of silkscreen. Each print presents a new pictorial puzzle as vortexes push and pull against fields of enigmatic marks.

The ink drawings and the screenprints are hung together as a provocation, insisting on an unbroken legibility. One can ‘read’ the abstract prints in the same way one ‘reads’ the figurative drawings.

Interrupting this hang of drawings and prints is an immersive wall painting of a floppy open book. Its spine nestles into the corner of the room. For the artist, the double-page spread of an opened book is a sensual zone. A space full of potential; a space where you can lose yourself. Across the mural are hung small ink drawings. These are *Chapter* illustrations from the artist’s book.

*What does an oracle look like?*

On the stage are boxes and piles of books, A4 in size with an orange cover. This book is a collection of drawings and essays from 2020-2024, loosely themed around pottery painting and vocal expression. As you flip through it, you’ll begin to recognise the ink drawings scattered throughout the exhibition.

These slim orange volumes are covered in the artist’s signature scrawl, all insistently asking us ‘What does an oracle look like?’. The playful scenography of the exhibition invites you to become your own oracle, to gleefully slip through the leaky spaces of image, line, text and voice.