



What does an oracle look like? Publication, 2025.
Photo credit: Flora Vanclooster

What does an oracle look like?

Publication by Perri MacKenzie (Leaky Press, 2025).

If I look at the night sky while aching with desire, do the constellations I draw bend towards my longing? What if this urgency, which feels so personal and interior, was actually a force out there that I've caught, like a cold?

What does an oracle look like? gathers essays and drawings made by Perri MacKenzie between 2020 and 2024, themed loosely around pottery painting and vocal expression. The drawings, rendered in splashy India ink and collage, range from expressive sketches to theatrical still lifes and experimental *bandes dessinées*. The book presents for the first time the essay 'Cathedral'. Part memoir, part literary/sonic investigation, it meditates on the vocal texture of a Hollywood actor.

'In Perri's firm prose, voices resonate from ceramic amphorae, studio speakers, Claire Danes, and the occasional butt-cheek on the move. Her book excavates the living voice from its material remains, an archaeological miracle.' – Becket MWN, artist and writer, Amsterdam.

'*What does an oracle look like?* is an inquiry, a celebration and an open invitation to engage with Perri's 'oracular method' ... I received it as a whole new manual for how to heed, translate and retranslate the messages and materials of the world.' – Kate Briggs, essayist and translator, Rotterdam

What does an oracle look like? is written and drawn by Perri MacKenzie, with design by Ilke Gers. It is printed as an offset edition of 400 by robstolk Amsterdam. Published by Leaky Press, 2025.