

The Library of Unread Books

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If you have a book you haven't read, donate it to us, and someone else will read it for you.

Each book in The Library of Unread Books was previously owned as private property and someone has decided to give up that exclusivestatus with the book and donate it into this common pool.

By receiving and revealing that which people choose not to read, The Library of Unread Books is a collective gesture that addresses thedistribution, access and surplus of knowledge.

Umberto Eco famously called for an "antilibrary" made up of unread books. The novelist and scholar claimed that unread books are far more valuable than read ones and that a library should contain as much of what one does not know as finances might allow.

The Library of Unread Books is a traveling public reference library that is hosted within art spaces and museums around the world. It has surfaced in cities such as Manila, Utrecht, Milan, Prague, Dubai and Singapore.

It has now found a home in Penang with Kwong Yee Leong and Blank Canvas.

We insist that our library functions like a epiphyte that grows on the surfaces of other institutions. We hope that it will seduce these institutions into dreaming of producing common space for people to gather, common tools for people to utilise, and ways of working that doesn't exhaust common resources, and in turnexhaust the possibility of community.

Please come by when we're open and donate your unread books to us! Thank you