a. SQUIRE

Ceidra Moon Murphy
PROSPECT Cologne
5–7 November 2026

For the inaugural edition of PROSPECT Cologne, a. SQUIRE presents a single tabletop sculpture by Ceidra Moon Murphy, *Lesson Plans* (2025/2026).

Lesson Plans is a collection of three ring binders which have been artificially unified and contrived into a browsable reference library. The folders contain British Army teaching materials of a para-sensitive nature. In the first, lesson plans for firearms instructors communicate the safe handling and care of military-issue weapons. The entries are technical and incomprehensible to lay readers, and sit at a disjunction with the naïvety of the Microsoft WordArt graphical interludes. The second ring binder contains an Army Equipment Support manual on landmine disposal, published by the UK Ministry of Defence. Its significance is underscored by the recent withdrawal of several European countries from the Ottawa Convention and the subsequent reintroduction of anti-personnel mines into their defence strategies.[1] The third folder, for C-IED training, covers counter-terrorism procedures.

On 7 January 2026, the UK-Germany Treaty on Friendship and Bilateral Cooperation was laid before the UK Parliament. The agreement is premised upon a shared intent between the two nations to respond to "fundamental changes of the geopolitical environment" in the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, which poses "momentous new challenges to Euro-Atlantic security". This partnership follows the February 2022 announcement by former Chancellor Olaf Scholz of Germany's U-turn Zeitenwende (rearmament) policy.

The pedagogical emphasis of Murphy's compendium echoes a sentiment of reciprocal learning conveyed in official UK-DE communications. Originally shown in a modified presentation for the artist's institutional solo exhibition at Galerie für Gegenwartskunst, E-WERK Freiburg (2025), *Lesson Plans* accumulates meaning as a narrative of mutual vulnerabilities unfolds in real time. By virtue of its re-exhibition in Cologne, the work also dialogues with Lutz Bacher's *FIREARMS* (2019), first shown at the Neven-DuMont-Strasse location of Galerie Buchholz. Like that of Bacher, Murphy's work is ultimately suggestive of a multi-volume sales catalogue. War is profitable.

The files are presented in their original states, without modification. Highlights, marginalia and other markings suggest their histories. Viewers can browse their contents. The artist's accompanying essay, 'Ends, Ways, Means', addresses defence spending after the outbreak of Putin's war.

Ceidra Moon Murphy (b. 1998, London) lives and works in London. Her work is the subject of a forthcoming institutional solo exhibition at Peer Gallery, London, in January 2027. Recent solo exhibitions include *Accessories*, Diana, Milan (2025); *Groundwork*, Galerie für Gegenwartskunst, E-WERK Freiburg, Freiburg im Breisgau (2025); *Public Interest*, a. SQUIRE, London (2025); and *Buffer*, a. SQUIRE, London (2023). Forthcoming and recent group exhibitions include *Flowers*, CAN Centre d'art Neuchâtel (2026); *Thoughts in No Particular Order, Given the Circumstances*, Kunstverein Kevin, Vienna (2026); *Illicit Bookshop, Alain Guiraudie, Ceidra Moon Murphy, Anastasia Pavlou, Wade Guyton*, Forde, Geneva (2026); *GMT*, TOSITSA3, Athens (2025); and *118 ½*, Emalin, London (2024). Her work is held in the collection of KADIST, Paris.

[1] The Ottawa Convention is an international agreement that bans anti-personnel landmines.

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Work:

Lesson Plans, 2025/2026 [detail]
Ring binders, book supports
SAA Lesson Plans: 31.5 x 28 cm, 12 3/8 x 11 in
Army Equipment Support Publication: 33 x 29 cm, 13 x 11 3/8 in
C-IED Instructors Course: 32 x 27.5 cm, 12 5/8 x 10 7/8 in
Installed dimensions variable
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