

The work explores how the past might be viewed from the present, and how a ‘time-bridge’ could be constructed. Developed in continuity with earlier works, the project engages with the Tripitaka Koreana, a monumental archive of over 80,000 wooden blocks engraved with Buddhist scriptures. The etymology of the Korean word for poem (시, 詩)–meaning ‘words of the Buddha’–forms a conceptual root of the work.

Two woodblocks, nearly identical in scale to the originals, are engraved with a poem written in Korean and translated into German. Both are enveloped in *chaekbo*, a traditional Korean book cloth, evoking the quiet persistence of a book culture now nearly forgotten.

The works are respectively titled No. 81353 (Korean) and No. 81354 (German). Each volume is bound between two wooden boards, slightly larger than the original blocks, and tied with rope. Inside are twenty intaglio prints, each recording a different impression according to the pressure applied.

Though identical in format, the works vary in texture and legibility. The poem resists linear reading; instead, it invites slow unfolding. The Korean version employs traditional vertical script (top to bottom, right to left), while the German version follows the same structure, requiring readers to search for the poem’s order and flow. This re-encounter with language–through surface, sequence, and form–becomes an act of reading anew.

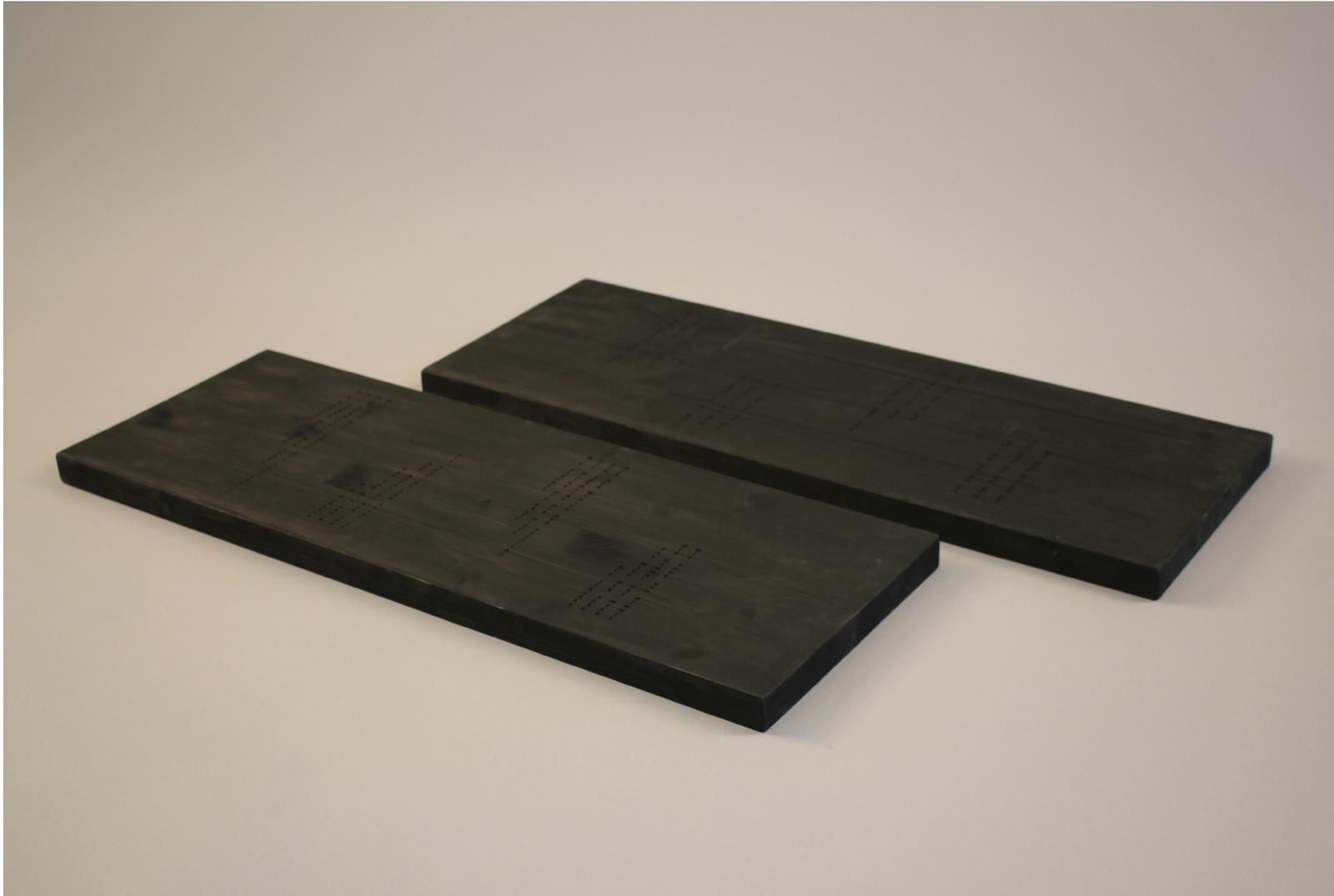
Two woodblocks in spruce

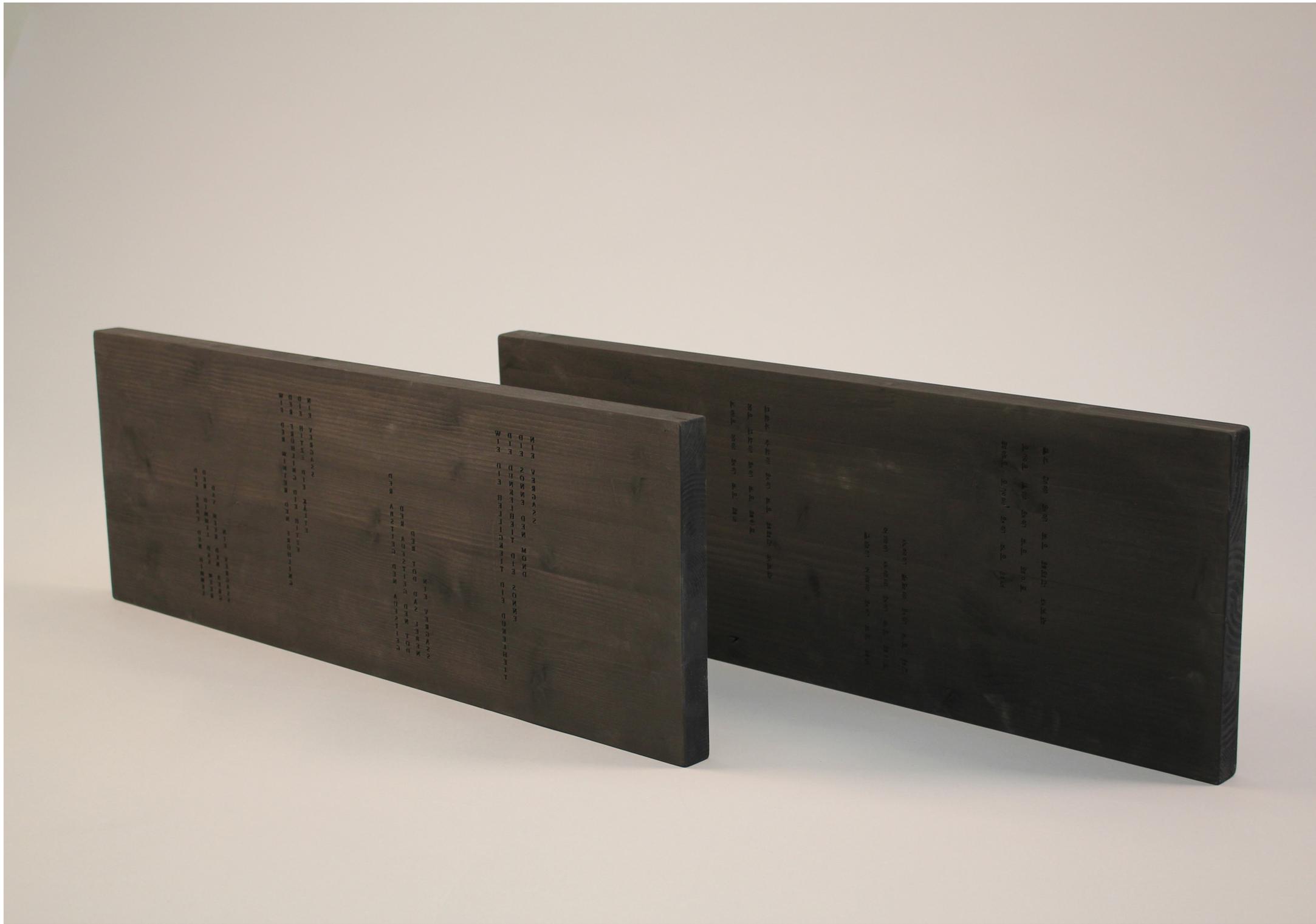
Each block 25h × 70w × 2.8d cm

Orientation variable

Courtesy of Kunstmuseum Reutlingen, Germany

WOODBLOCK

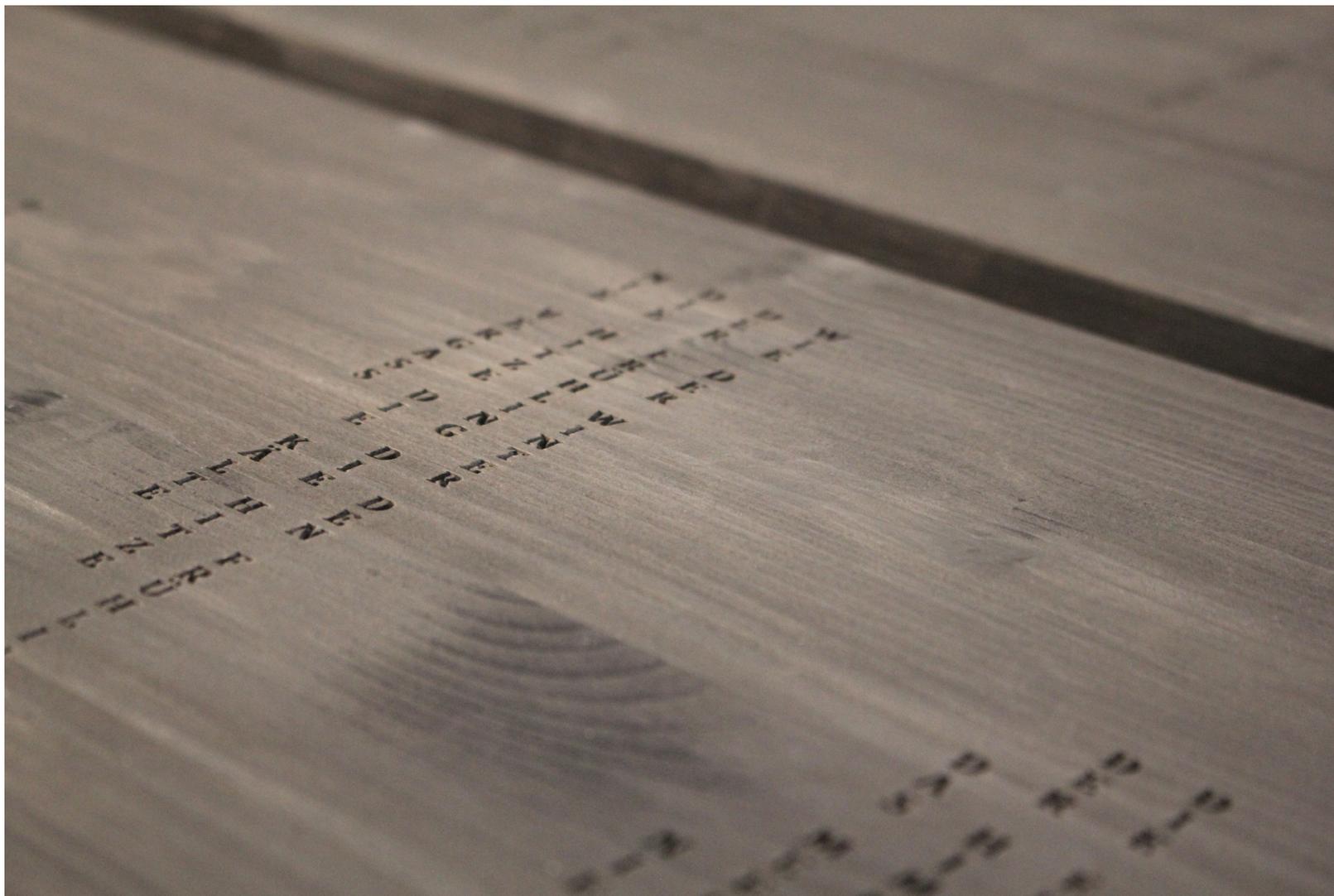




ZZOZ  
KCU E-D T-FCO-  
DZOR

SSAGREV E N DOH RED  
ZRRRI SAD GEHSHCA RED  
DOH ZED GEHSHCA RED  
GEHSHCA ZED GEHSHCA RED

ENHAK E D GEHSHCA RED  
ENH H E D GEHSHCA RED  
GZHHCHRE ZED GEHSHCA RED  
SSAGREV E N DOH RED  
ZRRRI SAD GEHSHCA RED  
DOH ZED GEHSHCA RED  
GEHSHCA ZED GEHSHCA RED



A chaekbo, enveloping the two woodblocks

Cotton

approx. 150 h × 250 w cm

Courtesy of Kunstmuseum Reutlingen, Germany

CHAEKBO



Two books

Wood, rope, paper

Each book approx. 31 h × 76 w × 3 d cm

Courtesy of Kunstmuseum Reutlingen, Germany

BOOK



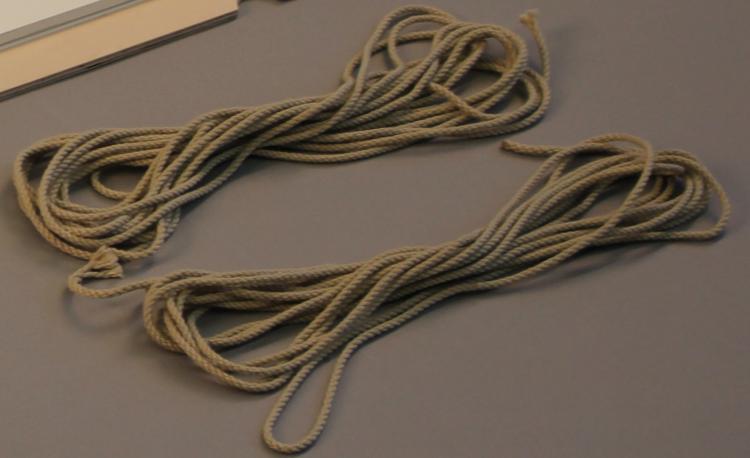
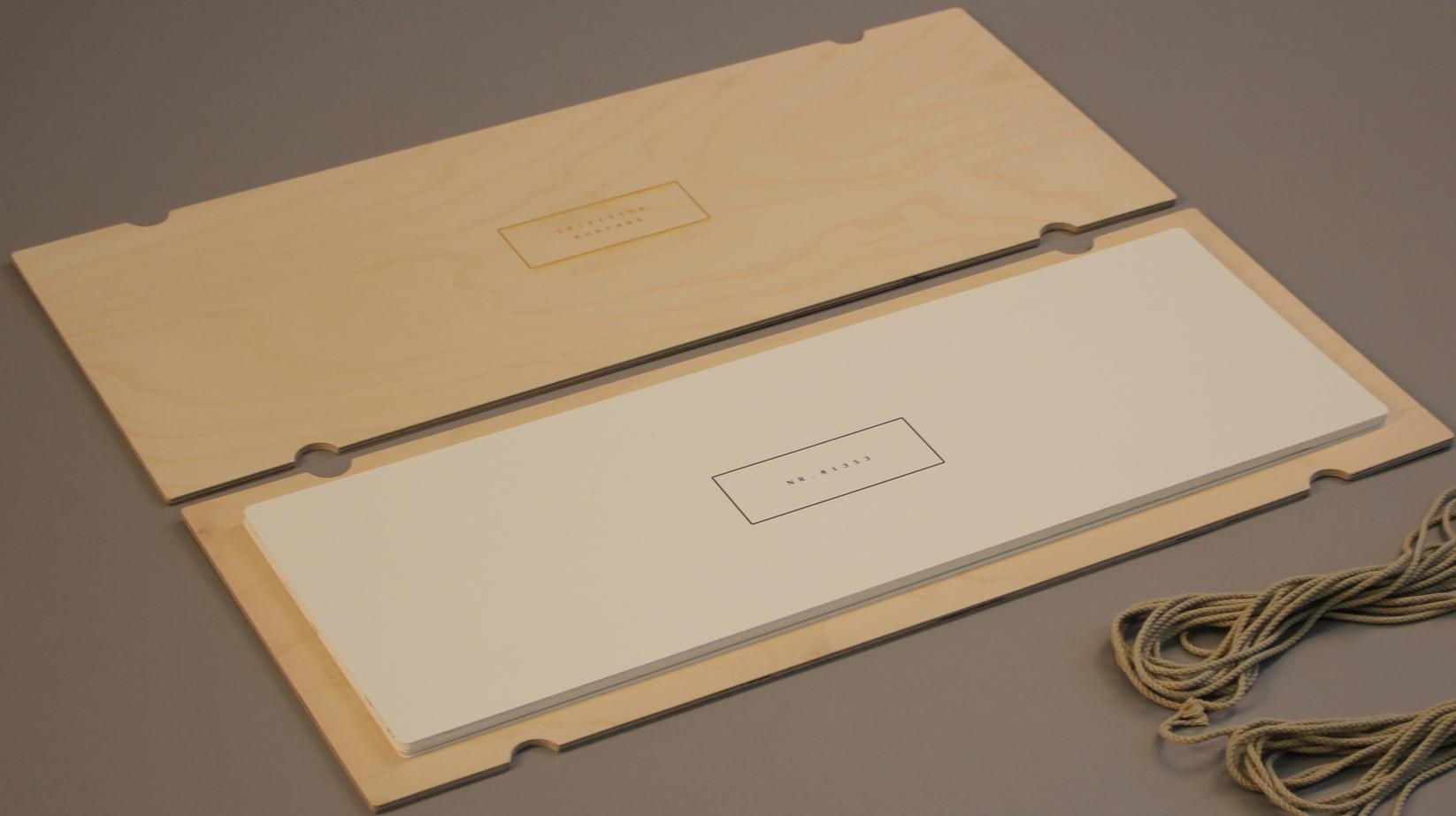




TRIPITAKA  
KOREANA



TRIPITAKA  
KOREANA





40 woodblock prints on paper, 20 pieces in each book

Each piece 25 h × 70 w cm

Courtesy of Kunstmuseum Reutlingen, Germany

