

# The Shut-up series (*the Great to Known to Man series*)

2003, by Peter Deckers

Throughout my life, I received disheartening news about tyrants and politicians who suppress basic liberties like freedom of speech and choice and kill without reason. Dictators tactically shut people up and suppress dissent instantly before it can be heard, spread by fear and distrust.

I downloaded pictures of all the dictators who bothered me in my life; removed their smiles, inserted the smiles into brooches, and locked these brooches away in a cupboard that can only be accessed with one of two keys: one made of pure gold and another of rusty iron. The gold key can only be used once, as it is ultimately destroyed due to its soft composition. The steel one can be used repeatedly. It serves as a reminder for those who remain true to their essence and choose not to succumb to corruption. It remembers the people who resisted these tyrants and fought for their freedoms and human rights.

The artwork highlights how information and media can be used to manipulate people's thoughts and behaviour, prompting questions about our ability to resist such influences. However, the questions remain: Do we choose to be influenced? Do we know that we are influenced? How can we avoid being influenced? Is it possible not to be influenced? What keeps us true?



**Featuring:**

**Franco**  
**Marcos**  
**Castro**  
**Ho**  
**Stalin**  
**Qaddafi**  
**Hitler**  
**Bush**  
**Houssein**  
**Pinochet**  
**Mussoline**  
**Milosevic**  
**Mao**  
**Suharto**  
**Perez**  
**Amin**  
**Khomeini**  
**Pot**

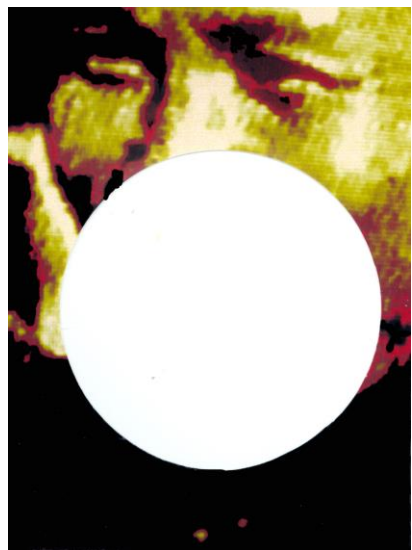
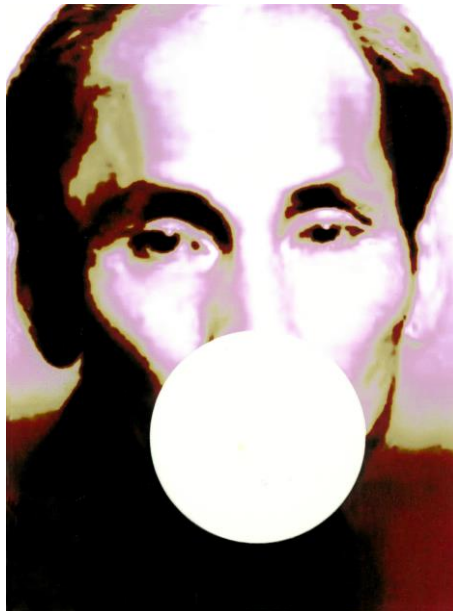
The  
Great  
Known  
to  
MAN  
series

The shut-up version

Memory  
brooches

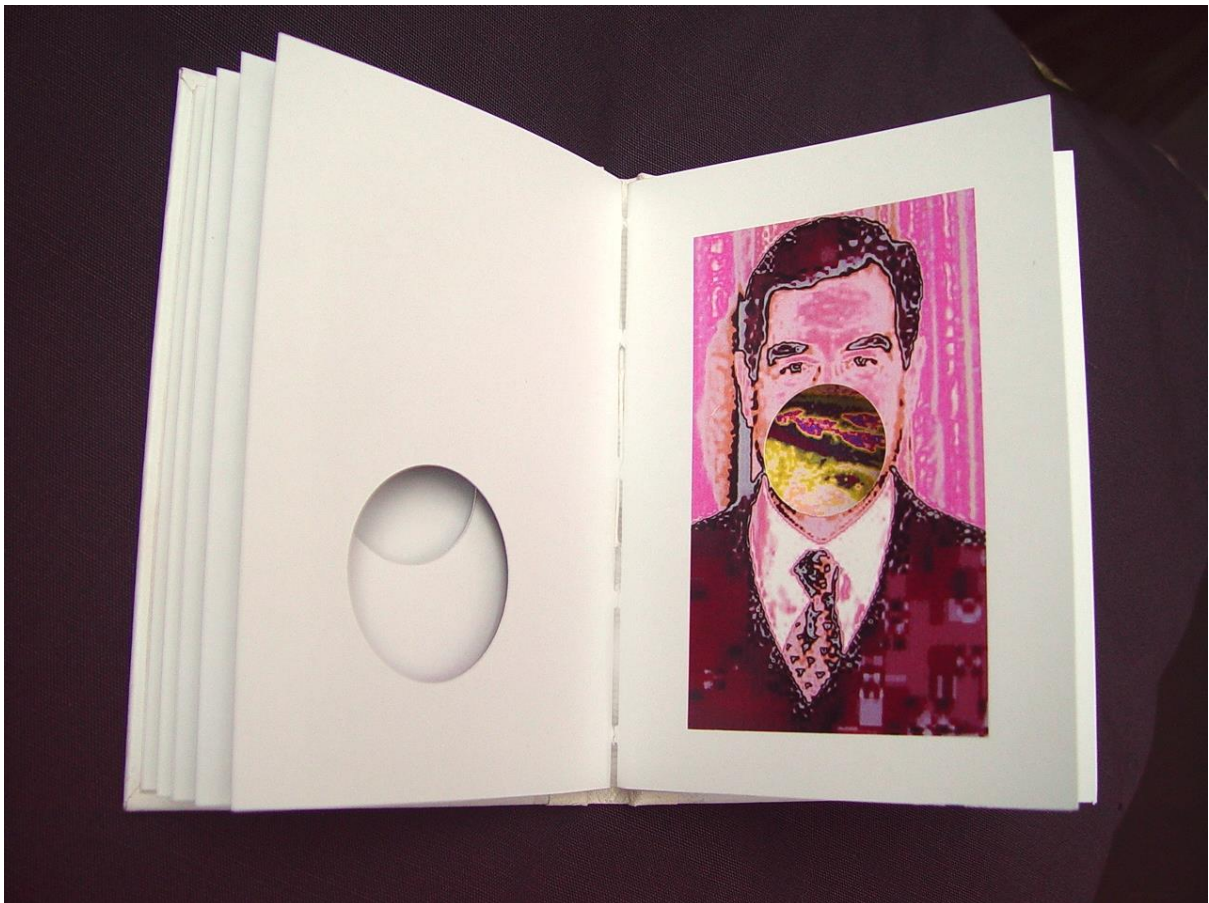
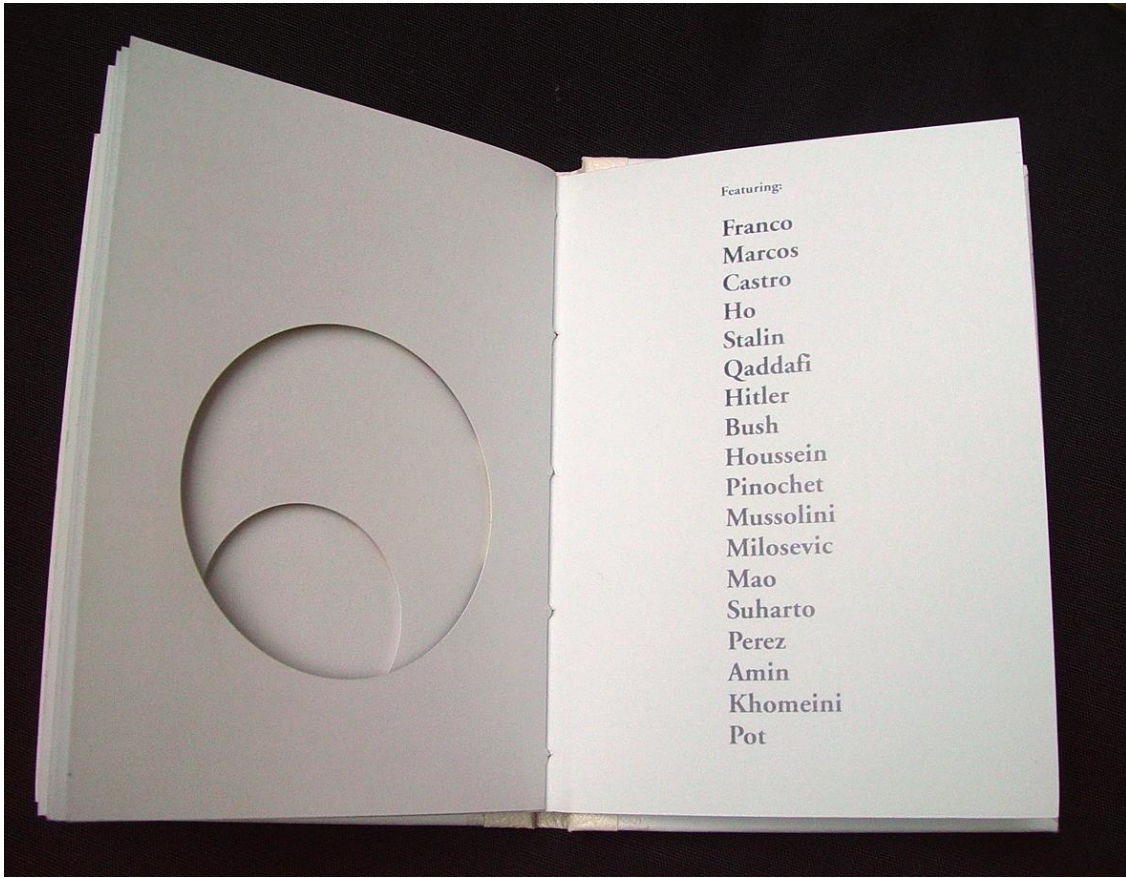
- Deciding Erasmus  
The most distinguished because is better than the most just war

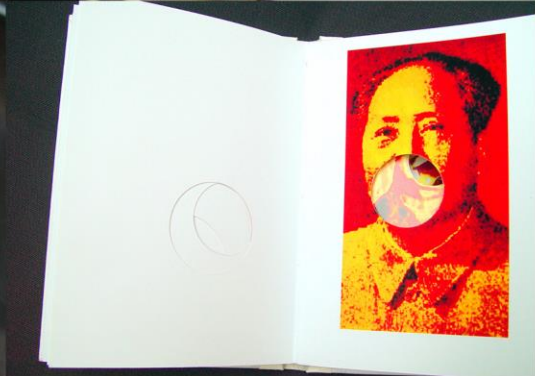
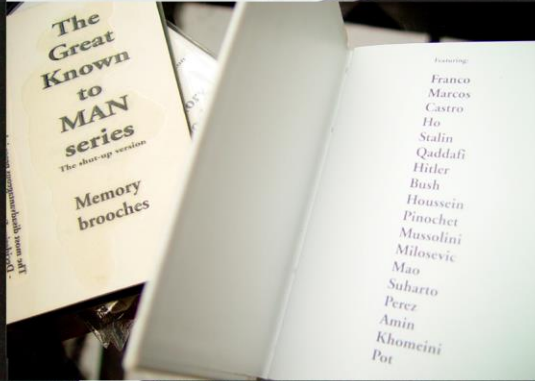
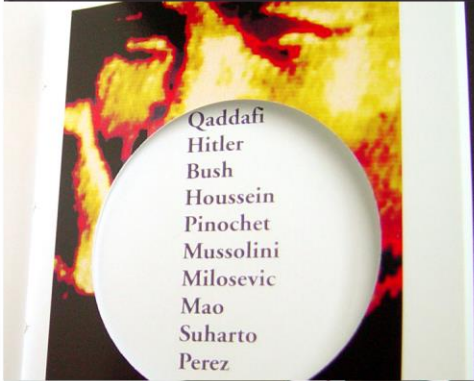
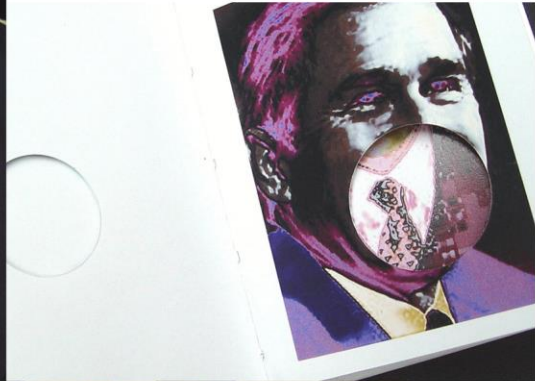














Featuring:  
**Franco**  
**Stalin**  
**Castro**  
**Pot**  
**Hitler**  
**Bush**  
**Houssein**  
**Suharto**  
**Pinochet**  
**Mussoline**  
**Milosevic**  
**Amin**  
**Perez**  
**Marcos**  
**Ho**  
**Mao**