## EMMA HILL FINF ART EAGLE GALLERY

## CAROLYN THOMPSON Black Mirror 2011

13 Book leaves 18cm (h)  $\times$  11cm (w) Archival digital inkjet prints on Hahnemühle Photo Rag edition of 10 (plus 2 artist proofs) set price £1500 plus VAT



"The blackness, the longer one gazes into it, ceases to be black, but becomes a queer silver-blue, the threshold to secret visions".

Truman Capote, Music for Chameleons

Black Mirror uses Truman Capote's short story Music for Chameleons as origin for both concept and material. The original story, which can be found in the publication My Side of the Matter, one of seventy Pocket Penguins created for Penguin's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, details the use of black mirrors by nineteenth century painters "To refresh their vision. Renew their reaction to color, the tonal variations." The story continues to describe these curios as "Soothing, and also disquieting."

Black Mirror consists of the full thirteen pages of Music for Chameleons as it appears in the Penguin pocket edition. Each page has been separated from the book. The block in which the text appears on the page has been replaced with a layer of digitally printed black ink, indicative of the black mirror Capote describes within the text. All that can be seen through the black, other than the tonal qualities created by the process, are small coloured blocks outlining the words where a colour appears in the original text. Whilst some pages are colourful and vibrant, due to the number of colour references in the original, others remain stark and black.