



CARSTEN NICOLAI – Moiré effects are not unlike rainbows: unplanned and essentially useless but fascinating to the eye. Also called “interference patterns”, the phenomenon occurs by accident when two or more gratings, fabrics or screens are superimposed. It can also be recreated graphically by overlaying lines, and then the possibilities are limitless, not to mention repetitive. That did not deter Carsten Nicolai from taking to the task with characteristic scientific precision. In *Moiré Index*, a compendium of every moiré man can make, the artist and musician continues his exploration of patterns and grid systems – from the simplest to the most complex. Over 300 pages contain countless iterations of the effect, created by using varying parameters. Aside from the project’s intellectual rigor and its usefulness as a visual reference, the volume works best on a purely aesthetic level, as lifeless mathematical forms slowly shift shape to reveal a sinuous, pleasurable side.

*Carsten Nicolai, Moiré Index,
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All images courtes of the artist.