

# SPITTING IMAGE

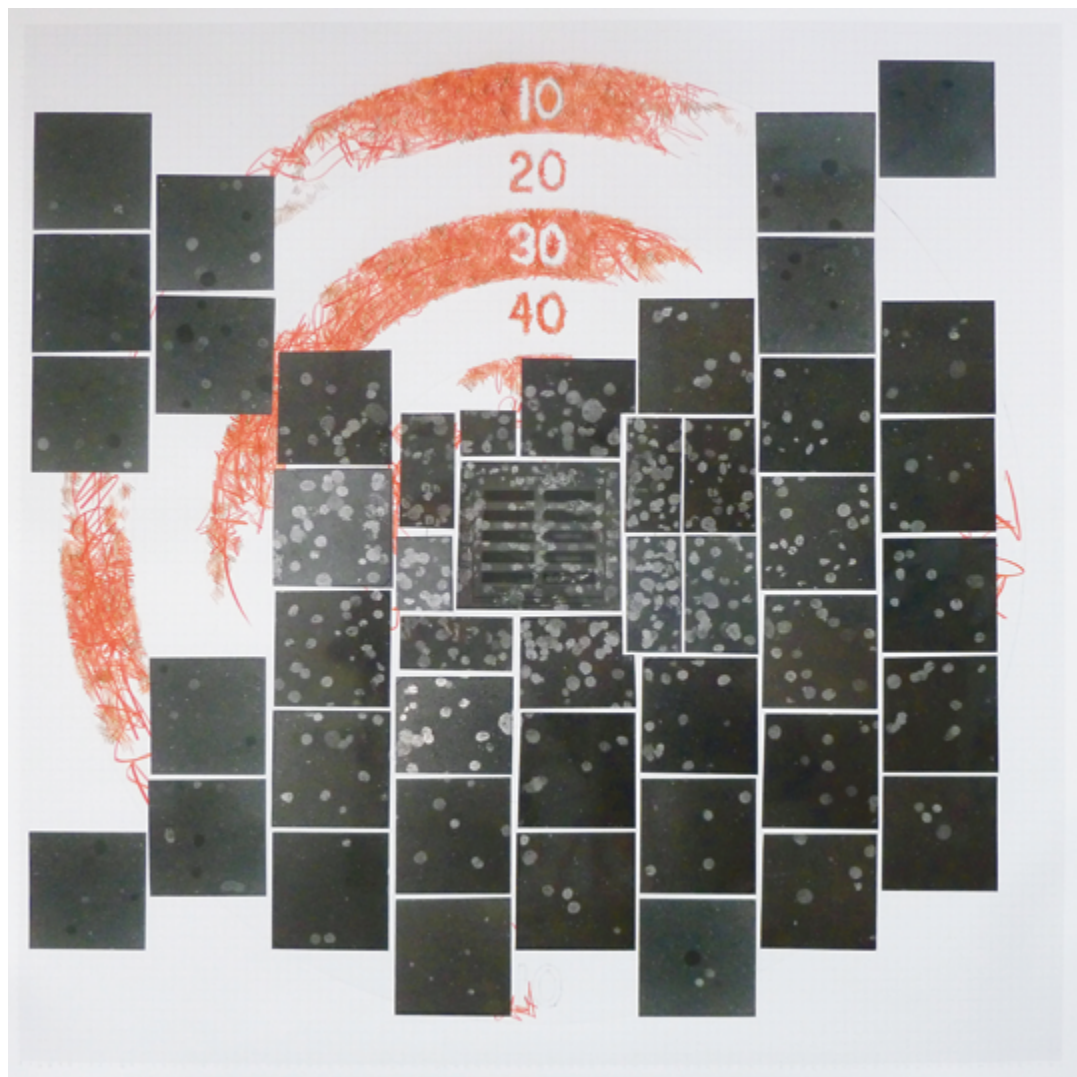
JULIO PASTOR

I recently found these paving stones as I was leaving the Groningen train station. They are covered in gum spots that increase in density, as they get closer to the drain in the centre. I don't understand why it is that some get carpet-bombed with bubble gum and others don't. Could it be that the chewers are just playing some sort of game?

This map shows the distribution of the chewing gum spots around the centre. Reality always evades representation. Capturing it is a utopian

aspiration. Even photography can only scratch the surface. But although these photographs may show the spatial distribution of the gum spots, showing their appearance is not my aim. Actually, what I want is something that can help me see beyond the surface. That is where the real value of a map can be found: in its diagrammatic representation of a space.

Perhaps the hypothetical chewer scored 100 when he finally managed to get his gum inside the drain. Bull's-eye!



Julio Pastor, *Distribution of Chewing Gum Spots Over Paving Stones*, 2013, mixed media on paper, 105 x 105 cm.