Isa Genzken: Works from 1973 to 1983 is dedicated to the artist’s early œuvre. The publication opens with works from her time as a student at the Düsseldorf Academy of Fine Arts (1973–1977) and details the evolution of her art up to 1983.

The works shown include sculptures, computer printouts, extensive series of drawings, photographs and films. The artist blends conceptual approaches with personal themes; many works that initially seem to be exercises in geometric abstraction prove upon closer examination to be traces of her own existence, telling stories of personal relationships and the vagaries of desire. Her work during this period also responds to Minimalism and Conceptual Art, two dominant approaches in America and Western Europe at the time.

Essays by Simon Baier, Jutta Koether, and Griselda Pollock examine various aspects of Genzken’s body of work.