

# ARTIST BOOKS

## NEWS

Michael Joseph recently reported the passing of Stella Waitzkin, whom Guy Trebay called "the doyenne of New York book artists," whose resin cast books and library walls helped to give a sculptural foundation to the book arts movement. There is no catalogue of her works, but Stella Waitzkin was a prolific artist who constantly kept busy, and must have created hundreds, if not thousands of bookworks. She was also a dyed in the wool iconoclast and a great interview. In the course of a career that spanned over half a century she never shrank from the occasion to articulate a point of view that I hope will shock many of the readers of this list, which is to say I hope many of you who don't know her work will somehow find the opportunity to get to know it. Here is an example of Stella Waitzkin in usual form: "Words are lies. I make the books to get away from the word. When I make the books, I feel like I'm telling folk stories; it's all there inside the book. You don't have to necessarily read it, see, because you already know the whole thing by heart."

•An article about the book as art medium and especially the new three-year project of Raymond Pettibon's involving 7 other artists was featured in the Calendar Section of the LA Times for 31 October.

• A new children's book called "Anna the Bookbinder" by Andrea Cheng, illus. By Ted Rand (New York, Walker, 2003, \$16.95) speaks of a daughter's watching her father's bookbinding business slipping away, as customers choose the speedy delivery of the big, new binders and tells how Anna saves the craft.

**Origami Masterworks: Innovative Forms of the Art of Paper Folding** at the Mingei International Museum in Balboa Park is on through 8 February 2004. See [www.mingei.org](http://www.mingei.org)

**Dorothy Goldie** has been named the new Executive Director of the Minnesota Center for Book Arts as of 1 August after a national search.

•"Double-Fronted Books" by Richard Kostelanetz speaks of a technique of combining two titles back to back, including Michael Snow's **Cover to Cover**

(1975), "a more ingenious double-fronted book, offering two sequences of several dozen photographs that follow one another in a roughly associational way until two pictures in the middle portray Snow himself turning over a book in the presence of a cameraman". (Editor's note: one of the tour de force bookworks in the past 35 years!)

**Lisé Melhorn-Boé** and her participation in the exhibition **Family Matters** at the WKP Kennedy Gallery in North Bay, Ontario appears in **Art Papers** for September/October.

**Word Art** is a series of ten poetry broadsides printed by letterpress on handmade paper from the Press at the Palace of the Governors. Poems are by Kim Addonizio, John Brandi, Renée Gregorio, Naomi Shihab Nye, DJ Renegade and poets to be announced. Tom Leech, the printer and papermaker, has done an edition of 70, of which 55 are for sale. Individual prints are \$55.00. The series is \$500 by advanced subscription. Subscribers will receive a protective, handmade portfolio. Write to Tom Leech at the Palace Pres, P.O. Box 2087, Santa Fe, NM 87504. (505)476-5096 or [tleech@mmn.state.nm.us](mailto:tleech@mmn.state.nm.us)

**Claire Jeanine Satin** will be artist of the month at the Center for Book Arts in New York from 1 December - 31 January 2004; is in the Converse College show, the Personalities, Art & the World of the Third Kind show at Artpool traveling to Lithuania, Belgium and France in 2003/4, is in the Beyond Reading show, will appear in the Turning Pages show celebrating South Florida Artist Made Books from 30 October - March 2004; is in the Heavy Metal show at the Jaffe Collection at FAU through 5 October; is in the juried show of Florida Contemporary at the National Museum of Women in the Arts through January 2005 and much more.

**William Harroff** received the 2003 Frank B. Sessa Scholarship of Beta Phi Mu to attend the Future of the Book Conference in Cairns, Australia in April. He is also in the national book art exhibition, **Under Cover**, through 1 November at the St. Louis Artist Guild. He also has an installation in the Wexford show in Ireland and at the **Parallel Realities** show at Artpool in Budapest.

**Turning the Pages**, developed by the British Library as a temporary display for their new building, offered digitized versions of four of the library's treasures. Now marketing its technology as *Turning the Pages 3D*, it incorporates text and music, uncannily detailed animation even simulating the glint of gold leaf as the pages flip. In San Francisco, a special lectern-shaped kiosk topped by a touch-activated screen that was tilted at the angle at which one might hold a book helped one "leaf" through the digital facsimiles of three of Lewis Carroll's surviving albums during an exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art in San Francisco. It certainly makes a book exhibit more engaging. It is something to discuss (see *NYTimes*, *Please Touch the Art*, 2 November 2003).

**JAB (Journal of Artists' Books)** has published its last issue for Fall 2003. We sadly say goodbye, for JAB was an essential part of our lives. Founded by Brad Freeman and Johanna Drucker, this journal (semi-annual) filled the gap in creating critical writing about artist books and all that they involved. This last issue with a smashing cover by Ruth Laxson (inside and out) plus articles from Drucker, Mary Jo Pauly, Betty Bright, Susan Viguers, Brandon Cooper Black, and a review of all the covers of JAB from 1993-2003 is an homage to a beautifully designed, importantly written addition to the bibliography. This issue includes an Index for all issues including artist/authors and by issue. Back issues are still available from Brad Freeman by contacting [jabeditor@earthlink.net](mailto:jabeditor@earthlink.net)

**Artist's Book Yearbook 2003-2005** is now available being distributed by Booklyn at [mweber@booklyn.org](mailto:mweber@booklyn.org) 37 Greenpoint Ave., Brooklyn, NY 12222 for \$30.00 from Impact Press, Centre for Fine Print Research, University of West England, Bristol, UK. The new volume includes essays on Reformations by Susan Johnknecht, *Size Matters* by Dr. Stephn Bury (The British Library); Ron King and the Circle Press; artists and their books in Germany, Italy, New Zealand; Visual Studies Workshop Press and Archive; Eagle Gallery London; Booklyn Artists Alliance; Wexford Artist's Book Collection; a Year of Bookartbookshop, by Tanya Peixoto; and much more. There are listings of new artist books, public and private book arts collections, book arts courses, galleries and bookshops, print studios, services and outlets in the UK, Europe

and USA/Canada. 220 pages, 305 black and white illustrations, paperback.

#### RESOURCES

A new archive of out-of-print artist books is at [www.wsworkshop.org/artistsbooks.html](http://www.wsworkshop.org/artistsbooks.html). Students scholars, collectors, and others can now view and study the more than 150 unique books published by the **Women's Studio Workshop**. The archive will include every page of the out-of-print editions and selected pages of the in-print editions.

**Bookbinding database:** A new bookbinding visual database from the British Library can be viewed at <http://prodigi.bl.uk/bindings/index.asp>

**Book History Online (BHO)**, designed, managed, maintained, and published by the Koninklijke Bibliotheek, National Library of the Netherlands, in cooperation with national committees in more than 30 countries, is a bibliographical database on the history of the printed book and libraries. The databases include bibliographical information on the history of printing and publishing, papermaking, bookbinding, book illustration, type design, and type founding, bibliophilism and book collecting, libraries, and scholars. Visit at <http://www.kb.nl/bho>

**Good Dog/Bon Chien**, an installation piece by Michael Peven of the University of Arkansas, is now available through a CD with a small booklet that features a few installation shots, as well as a slide show of installations at various venues, plus two interviews with the artist, one of which the artist did with the dog. These are not ordinary photographs, but they are approximately 7 feet by 11 feet, mammoth images that want to test photography as architectural elements.

Peven feeds small images into a computer and then blows them up to dramatic proportions. He then has a number of "tiles", which are then reassembled to recreate the original photographs, revealing a grid created by the process. Peven is also trying to force viewers to consider the relationship between space and photography. Includes a QuickTime movie version of the presentation as well. \$5.00 from Primitive Press, 514 N. Mission Blvd., Fayetteville, AR 72701-3519.

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**Printed Matter** has a new Holiday Catalog with suggestions for gifts and acquisitions created by Tom Sachs. Included are artists' records, zines, multiples. **Outside of a Dog: Paperbacks and Other Books by Artists** is the documentation of a diverse overview of books created by artists from 1950 to the present and has been selected by a group of invited artists, critics, historians, curators and collectors from around the world. Guest curated by Clive Phillpot, the exhibition is being shown in BALTIC's Level 2 art space until May 2004. Copies of the exhibition guide and poster are available at a discounted price from BALTIC Bookshop. £1.00 for the exhibition guide, £2.00 for the Dog Poster.

The exhibition catalog includes works selected by Juan Agius, Kaatje Cusse, Simon Cutts, Mirtha Dermisache, Johan Deumens, Leif Eriksson, Gyorgy Galantai, Gary Goldstein, Skuta Helgasson, Martha Hellion, Marton Koppány, Joan Lyons, Hanjorg Mayer, Anne Moeglin-Delcroix, Maurizio Nannucci, Sune Nordgren, Clive Phillpot, Harry Ruhé, Marvin Sackner, Ulrike Stoltz, Jan Voss, Lawrence Weiner Barbara Wien and Mami Yoshimoto.

BALTIC is the Centre for Contemporary Art, South Short Rd., Gateshead NE8 3BA, England. E-mail: [info@balticmill.com](mailto:info@balticmill.com), [www.balticmill.com](http://www.balticmill.com)

•Alice Simpson reports that 5 December, after fifteen productive, courageous years living with cancer, **Martha Hall**, wife, mother to Danielle and Gabrielle, book artist and friend peacefully died at home surrounded by her family. Dedicated to speaking the truth about cancer through her books--some powerful, others gentle, Martha seemed to tirelessly stretch all of her creative muscles. Her books laugh and cry testimony. Testimony to the cruelty of disease and treatment, the preciousness of life and family, and the power of hope.

This past year, despite failing health, with discerning eye and fierce determination, Martha oversaw the completion of a catalog of her books, continued to produce new works and attended the opening of **Holding On. Holding In. The Artist's Books of Martha A.Hall** at the Morgan Gallery and Book Arts Gallery at Smith College. This exhibition will travel to Wellesley, Yale and Bowdoin Colleges. Patrons of Martha Hall's books have made it possible for a second printing of the catalog.

A memorial service is being planned. The family suggests that donations be sent to the place of Martha's inspiration and creativity: Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, PO Box 518, Deer Isle, Maine 04627, Telephone: (207) 348-2306 [havstack@havstack-mtn.org](mailto:havstack@havstack-mtn.org)

#### COURSES

**San Francisco Center for the Book** An amazing array of courses from theory to practice of all kinds, with stellar faculty members. [www.sfc.org](http://www.sfc.org)

**CBA: The Center for Book Arts** in New York City has a new catalog for Winter 2003. [www.centerforbookarts.org](http://www.centerforbookarts.org) Or e-mail: [info@centerforbookarts.org](mailto:info@centerforbookarts.org)

**2004 Schedule of Workshops/Garage Annex School** [www.GarageAnnexSchool](http://www.GarageAnnexSchool). You may easily register online using a charge card, or you may download a PDF of the registration form and mail it with your check.

#### EXHIBITIONS

**Unfolding: Artist's Books of Mindy Belloff & Intima Press** at Rutgers University Newark Campus, John Cotton Dana Library, Main Floor Gallery from 13 November - 15 January 2004.

**Girl Printers: Talented Women Strut Their Stuff** at Union College, Mandeville Gallery, Schenectady, NY through 7 December.

**Love & Joy about Letters: the work of Ben Shahn and Mirella Bentivoglio** through 21 December 2003 at Pomona College Museum of Art, Claremont, CA.

**The Peace Library: Artists Books of War and Peace** Comprised of handmade books by California Artists, the purpose is to provide a venue for dialog to address the issues surrounding the theme of war and peace. The Library will travel and additional books will be added to the exhibition as a reflection of the community it is visiting. In an effort to preserve the essence of each show, an expandable handmade catalog of the entries will be created for the Peace Library.

For information on how to book the exhibit or for Entry forms call or email: Catherine Trujillo 805/756-2305 [ctrujill@calpoly.edu](mailto:ctrujill@calpoly.edu)

**Mining the Lloyd: Artists reveal secrets and treasures from the Lloyd.** December 1, 2003 -

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February 28, 2004, Lloyd Library and Museum, Cincinnati, Ohio. Exhibition of artists' books inspired by rare and unusual scientific texts from the Lloyd Library in Cincinnati, Ohio. Artists included are Carol Barton, Ed Hutchins, Karen Wirth, Diane Stemper, Kate Kern, George Gessert, Diana Duncun Holmes, Timothy Riordan, Carolyn Whitsel, Karen Fuhman, Gabrielle Fox, Rebecca Morton, Susan Brumm, Ellen Sheffield, Beth Bran, Celene Hawkins, Rhonda Gushee and Peg Rhein.

**Writing the Sublime: The Art of Calligraphy in the Religions of Abraham** featuring Karen Gorst, Neil Yerman, & Mohamed Zakariya, three calligrapher / illuminators from the Christian, Jewish and Islamic tradition. At a time when the world has focused its attention on events that drive Muslims, Jewish and Christians into relationships of mistrust and animosity, this exhibition celebrates the threads that which bring these three people and their religions together. The works displayed include collaborative pieces that incorporate two or all three of these traditions. 12 November - 9 January 2004, Interfaith Center of New York, 40 East 30th ST, NYC 10016, (212) 685-4242 [www.interfaithcenter.org](http://www.interfaithcenter.org)

**Ninth Wexford Artists' Book Exhibition** (international) in September/October at Wexford Arts Centre, Cornmarket, Wexford, Ireland. [Wexfordartscentre@eircom.net](mailto:Wexfordartscentre@eircom.net) Will travel.

**Crossroads: The Intersection of Art and Literature**, 6 November - 8 January 2004 at the Marriott Library, University of Utah in Salt Lake City.

**Joyce Cutler Shaw: Library Quartet**, an exhibition of current and retrospective works in four libraries: 1) *The Making of a Book: Conversations with Johannes de Ketham from the Anatomy Lesson* at the Atheneum Music & Arts Library, La Jolla; at the UCSD Geisel Library, "Word Poems and Language Images, 1973-2003", a retrospective of her studio and public works, including drawings, public installations and artist books, inspired by the word as image and calligraphies; "Drawings and Dimensional Drawings" from *The Anatomy Lesson* at the Earl and Birdie Taylor Library, Pacific Beach; and at the Mission Valley Branch Library, "Public Projects: Drawing

Translations for Public Sites, with all exhibitions opening on 20 September and closing on 8 November. This is the first collaboration between membership, university and public libraries in the San Diego area. Catalog available (858)454-5872.

**Turning Pages: South Florida Book Arts**, from 14 January 2004 - 29 February, FAU, Boca Raton, FL.

**Libro Latino: Latin American Book Arts** from 8 March - 24 May 2004 at the Jaffe Atrium book Arts Gallery.

**Italian Futurist bookworks** from the Jaffe Collection including items from FAU's new Rosa Trillo-Clough Futurism Collection, from 11 October - 5 January 2004 in the Wimberly Library, Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida.

**Jane Hammond's *Be Zany Poised Harpist/Be Blue, Little Sparrows*** on exhibit at the San Francisco Public Library. New artist book with poems by Raphael Rubinstein, created at Dieu Donné Papermill.

**Open for Action: An Exhibition of Political Book Art**, co-curated by Sharon Gilbert and Richard Minsky from 25 September - 5 December 2003 at the Center for Book Arts, New York City. [www.centerforbookarts.org](http://www.centerforbookarts.org)

**Design/Construct/Engage** by Ed Hutchins at the Minnesota Center for Book Arts through 1 October. **Paper and Metal** at MCBA from 16 October - 3 January 2004. Paperworks.

**Paul Heimbach: Books and Objects** from 14 November - 13 December 2003, Buchgalerie Mergemeier, Dusseldorf, Germany.

**Josh Smith** at Volume Gallery, 11 November - 13 December 2003. One-of-a-kind bookworks plus paintings, etc. [www.volumegallery.com](http://www.volumegallery.com)

**13X: Kunstlerbucher, Artists' Books from Germany** at the Print Center, 1614 Latimer St., Philadelphia, PA from 21 November - 23 January 2004.

**Beyond the Page: 3-D and the Artists Book**. Curated by Maddy Rosenberg at Kentler International Drawing