

FROM THE EDITOR

This is the first issue of a changed UMBRELLA, one that has reopened as an insider's newsletter on book arts and artists' publications of all kinds. We have not enticed a great crowd of subscribers, but we have a limited list of interested connoisseurs of the book. We have not promised anything except two issues this year, and as you see, I am in-between hardware. Due to the inability to borrow a composer, which has been my custom all these years and the inability of choosing the right computer as yet, UMBRELLA is being produced on an electronic typewriter, which is a compromise, but an expediency. Since this is a newsletter, its currency is dependent upon the quickest way of production. And so UMBRELLA is much less of a "finished" product, but it does have an accumulation of info not found anywhere else.

If you feel this is a pitch, it is not. I am delighted to write this long letter to those interested enough to write and subscribe. What we find now is a burgeoning of exhibitions and less publications printed. More people are making handmade, one-of-a-kind and limited editions. There is, moreover, less money around to help artists publish books, so artists turn toward the handcrafted work. That is fine too.

Since I last published, I have begun to do a column in HIGH PERFORMANCE, the exciting quarterly on performance art and other alternative media. As a result, BOOKS IN MY BAGGAGE appears every three months on a regular basis. I select a few books each issue which stir me to write longer reviews about them. A recent work was FRENCH FRIES by Warren Lehrer and Dennis Bernstein, which has already won accolades by critics and artists alike. This book, printed by Joan Lyons at the Visual Studies Workshop, is a gem, and much thanks is due to Joan's acute art on the press. If you haven't seen this delectable feast, run, don't walk to your nearest artists' book shop or order it from ear/say, P.O. Box 299, Purchase, NY 10577.

If any of you have news about new books by artists, new periodicals,

soundworks, and distributors, exhibitors, etc. of these, then send the news along. If you have found new ways to any of the above, share it with your colleagues. This is an insider's newsletter, yours. And if the spirit moves me and something is of vital importance, I'll send the news on to you all as a service in-between issues. As you all know, THERE IS A COMMITMENT FOR ONLY TWO ISSUES in 1985, so bear with me.

--jah

DISTRIBUTORS & THEIR CATALOGS

MONEY FOR FOOD PRESS has a new chronological listing out. Write to 486 Greenwich St., New York, NY 10013.

REFLUX EDITIONS, 351 West 30th St., New York, NY 10001 has several Fluxus editions available.

THE NEW OVERBROOK PRESS has a limited folio edition THE LOST ONES signed by Samuel Beckett with etchings by master printmaker Charles Klabunde. Write to 356 Riverbank Rd., Stamford, CT 06903.

ART METROPOLE, 217 Richmond St. West, Toronto M5V 1W2, Canada has a new 1985 catalogue available.

MARGINAL DISTRIBUTION is seeking periodicals which have alternative approaches to art, music, political and cultural theory to distribute in Canada. Write to 53 Niagara St., Toronto, Ont. M5V 1C3, Canada.

PRINTED MATTER has an 84-85 BOOKS BY ARTISTS Addendum. \$3.00 + \$1.00 postage to Printed Matter, 7 Lispenard, New York, NY 10013.

KRETSCHMER & GROSSMANN, Postfach 94 02 46, F-6000 Frankfurt am Main 94, West Germany has a new catalog.

VISUAL STUDIES WORKSHOP PRESS has a new Spring Booklist, 31 Prince St., Rochester, NY 14607.

NIGEL GREENWOOD INC. LTD. BOOKS has available two catalogs of Book Art, one is AMERICAN BOOKWORKS IN PRINT from the USIA 1984 show curated by Kevin Osborn for 2 pounds, and LE LIVRE FUTURISTE from Editions Pa-

nini, Modena 1984, for 25 pounds.
Write to 41 Sloane Gardens, London
SW1W 8EB, England.

OTTENHAUSEN VERLAG has a Katalog for
1984/85 from Theaterstrasse 75, D-
5100 Aachen, West Germany.

EDITION HUNDERTMARK, Brusselerstr.
29, D-5000 Koln, West Germany has
lists frequently with remarkable
publications from artists such as
Phil Corner, Gunter Brus, Ben, Joe
Jones, Bernard Heidsieck, etc.

PAULA HOCKS has a new list of limited
edition and unique bookworks, which
she creates. Write P.O. Box 9607,
Santa Fe, NM 87504 for this amazing
Xerox book artist.

AIRLIFT BOOK COMPANY, 14 Baltic St.
London EC1 YOTB, UK is offering two
publications previously unavailable
in the US:

THE FINAL ACADEMY: STATEMENTS OF
A KIND offering essays, criticism and
statements by and on the work of Wil-
liam Burroughs and Brion Gysin. Over
60 B & W photos and illustrations.
\$5.95

VIOLENT SILENCE: A CELEBRATION OF
GEORGES BATAILLE brings together pre-
viously untranslated texts and poems
by Bataille & Laure, with criticism
and essays on the work of Bataille
by leading authorities. \$6.95
They are also looking for bookshop
distribution. Write Roger Ely.

PURGATORY PIE PRESS, 238 Mott St.,
#4B, New York 10012 has a new
price list out for their bookworks
and postcard series.

TANAM PRESS has a new list for Spring
1985, including a new book by Peter
d'Agostino and SATYAGRAHA by Constance
DeJong and Philip Glass. Write to them
at 40 White St., New York, NY 10013.

NEXUS PRESS BOOKS has a new 1985
catalog which is illustrated.
Write to Nexus Press, 608 Ralph
McGill Blvd. NE, Atlanta, GA 30312.

SEGUE DISTRIBUTING has a new cata-
log from 300 Bowery, New York, NY
10012.

NEWS & NOTES

The Minnesota Center for Book Arts
has recently been launched to preserve
and promote the book arts and educate
the public as to the role of book art,
in their aesthetic, social, historic
and commercial contexts. MCBA opened
at 24 North Third St., Minneapolis,
MN 55401, one block from the Minnea-
polis Public Library. David Godine and
Frances Butler were honored guests at
the May activities of the Center.

THE 37th FRANKFURT BOOK FAIR will be
held from 9 - 14 October. Reports about
the Fair will appear in the next issue
of UMBRELLA.

MERCURY AIRFREIGHT INTERNATIONAL LTD.
saves you money on foreign direct
mail. They offer printed matter ex-
press to over 100 countries, Airmail
Printed Matter at a fraction of the
cost. In addition, they serve over
180 foreign countries with surface
mail super saver which offers delivery
time equal to or faster than printed
matter surface mail at a substantially
lower cost. Write to International
M.A.I.L., 105 Chambers St., New York,
NY 10007.

POSTAL CHANGES. Special Fourth Class
"book rate" now applies book status
to books with FEWER than 24 pages,
meaning most bookworks and children's
books too. As of 25 November 1984,
the 24-page limit has now been reduced
to 8 pages, allowing most bookworks to
qualify for the cheaper rate. Previous-
ly publishers paid the higher priced
third-class, parcel post or UPS rates.
In the same action, the Post Office
Board decided that floppy disks also
could be sent at the book rate.

LINE II announced its grant recipients
for 1984-85. Having received \$15,000
to regrant directly to artists from the
NEA and no money from the New York State
Council on the Arts, LINE sees a dangerous
precedent to the field of Artists' Books.
Letters of support for LINE should be
directed to Carlos Solana, NYSCA at 915
Broadway, New York, NY 10010.

Selected by Jerri Allyn, Jean Fisher,
Rebecca Michaels, and Alan Moore, grantees