

# ART PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

**Russell Lee**, whose WPA/FSA photographs of migrant workers, postwar coal miners and industrial scenes made him a key figure in American photography, died at the age of 83 in Austin, Texas.

**William Schade** has a show of bookworks in October at the UCLA Art Library, testamental stories of fractured history combined with street lingo with a bent toward whimsy.

**Laurel Beckman**, known for her offset posters and books, has an installation at LACE Books in Los Angeles, called *Pretty Trees and Good Ideas*, using wood planks, paper, and a flexible narrative to comment on the process by which ideas are made tangible.

**Buzz Spector** had a show called "History Lessons" with drawings, paintings and collages at the Roy Boyd Gallery in Chicago from 20 June to 30 July. He also organized a trip for students of the Art Institute of Chicago School to visit studios of book artists such as Kevin Osborn, Keith Smith, Helgi Skuta, and John Eric Broaddus in New York, Rochester and Washington, DC.

**Timothy C. Ely** and **Hedi Kyle** are showing bookworks at the Center for Book Arts with intricately conceived bindings and inventive new designs for bookworks. The exhibition is through 25 October in New York City.

**Ginny Lloyd** had a signing party for her new book, *Gina Lotta Post*, which she produced at the Visual Studies Workshop with a grant. The signing party was in September at Media, the new space for bookworks and performance, in San Francisco.

**Claire Satin** had an exhibition of her outstanding collection of one-of-a-kind necklaces and earrings made of handmade paper which is handcast. Then the jewelry artworks are treated with a protective strengthening coating that insures their continued use as jewelry. Satin makes bookworks of handmade paper and has been doing this over a long period in Florida.

**John P. Jacob** has exhibited his Second International Portfolio of Artists' Photography (Photography by Eastern European Artists) in Yugoslavia, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, E. Germany, and Poland in April and May.

**Clare Forster** had a booth in the Denver Art Museum's Art of Crafts show and sale in late September with her one-of-a-kind Xerography books. Her books have been placed recently in the Cooper-Hewitt Museum, in the Boston Museum of Fine Arts Library and in the Cleveland Art Institute Library.

Her Book, *There is You and Me*, was included in the travelling exhibition from Ohio State, called Alternatives '86.

**Elena Siff** has curated a Southern California Assemblage Show which is being held at the UCSB campus as well as the Contemporary Arts Forum in Santa Barbara, California. Many mail artists as well as book artists are included in the exhibition which will travel to Santa Cruz.

**Kevin Osborn** received the 6th Annual George Wittenborn Award from ARLIS/NA for his bookwork, *Vector Rev*, the first time an artist's book has been so honored. He

and Anne-Catherine Fallen are serving as consultants to the Book Arts Program at Pyramid Prints and Paperworks in Washington, DC.

**J.H. Lartigue**, one of the most celebrated photographers of the century, recently died in Nice at the age of 92.

**Ernst Haas**, a photographer known both for his photo-journalism and for his innovative use of color, died in New York at the age of 65.

**Barbara Drucker**, known for her bookworks, will be showing her multi-media works (1979-1986) at Bouzianis Gallery in Athens, Greece from 13 - 25 October. Instructor in artists' books, Drucker has also organized many exhibitions of bookworks in the Art Library of UCLA, an ongoing program.

**Bruce Bacon**, bookmaker extraordinaire, died in Quebec on June 26, according to news from London. At 46, this career was certainly nipped in the bud. A memorial scholarship has been established in his name at the School of Visual Arts in New York City for students judged to be "the most innovative, outrageous, rebellious, charming and provocative, and the ones who would normally be bypassed by the usual evaluation procedures." That was Bruce for his books defied comparison. They were largely objects, made of plaster, wood and assemblages. His gallery was Kathryn Markel in New York, and he showed in a touring exhibition generated by Caroline Corre's Paris gallery.

**Brion Gysin** died on 13 July in Paris. The incredible painter, writer, sound-poet, tape-composer, lyricist and analyst of music, magic and folklore became a legend in his own time, hobnobbing with Gertrude Stein, denigrated by Breton. He broke down so many barriers that he really became an art movement unto himself. Many of his books were truly unordered pages, short "routines", whereas he was also a good friend of the Rolling Stones, David Bowie, Iggy Pop, and others. Robert Palmer in the New York Times of 21 August said it better than anyone. Gysin's untimely death did not allow the recognition for all his accomplishments.

**Tommy Mew** had a show of his Island Drawings at the Galerie Kunst & Handwerk in Rosenheim in West Germany in September.

**Barbara Munger** is showing an exhibition of one-of-a-kind books at the UCLA Art Library during the month of November, under the title, "Homage to a Home with Landscape Departing--Quickly." Automatic poems accompany the books.

**Joyce Cutler Shaw** performed in a multi-media presentation of *Messenger: An Odyssey* in October at Sushi in San Diego, and on October 24 at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City.

**Randy Magnus**, a multimedia artist as well as a Xerox bookmaker, celebrates a decade of photography at the Modesto Junior College Art Gallery in California thru 31 October.

Carolyn Berry has bookworks in the Experimental Handmade Books exhibition at the Works in San Jose, California the month of October, as well as books at the WARM Gallery and Dayton's Gallery 12 in Minneapolis through 8 November.

Dennis Walsak, whose books have appeared in several exhibitions curated by the editor of this newsletter, had an installation of wall paintings, found objects, machines, puppets and a variety of other materials, in his Work in Progress exhibition at St. John's Museum of Art in Wilmington, NC.

Adelyn Dohme Breeskin, renowned champion of contemporary art and a leading figure in the museum world, died at the age of 90 near Lake Garda, Italy.

Ralph Steiner, still photographer and cinematographer and one of the last American Modernist photographers, died at the age of 87.

James Johnson Sweeney, famed art critic, historian, exhibition organizer and museum director (the Guggenheim, among others), died at the age of 86.

Richard Diebenkorn, the painter, was inducted into the American Academy, while Jasper Johns received a gold medal in graphic art by the Academy and Institute of Arts & Letters. William Bailey, Varujan Boghosian, Mark di Suvero and Wayne Thiebaud were inducted into the Institute.

## MAIL ART: NEWS & REVIEWS

### NEWS

The Canadian member of Parliament Dan Heap called a meeting recently to discuss trouble with the delivery service of Canada Post, the nation's postal service. But only 17 people showed up. Mr. Heap had mailed more than 6,500 notices to residents of his Toronto constituency on May 23 but they were not delivered until 4 June, the day of the meeting—too late for most people to plan to attend.

■ Poets, Painters, Composers sponsored a show in Seattle of all the avantgarde Japanese mail artists in September.

■ Re the Joseph Beuys Mail Art Show in Philadelphia, John Hudak has informed all his friends in Philadelphia and elsewhere that the Philadelphia Municipal Court cited him for disorderly conduct for entering a burned out building and painting "obscene and pornographic pictures" on the walls, playing loud music and alarming and annoying the neighbors resulting in numerous calls to police. ACTORS DID LEAVE BUILDING IN CUSTODY OF POLICE. That's what happened to the Joseph Beuys Mail Art show.

■ Johan van Geluwe is one of four curators of the Art Museum Museum Art exhibition at de Vleeshal in Middelburg, The Netherlands. Johan is famous for his Museum of Museums.

■ The International Mail-Art Symposium held at the Canadian Correspondence Art Gallery in Calgary, Alberta, Canada has been documented in an amazing catalog, which contains photographs, postcards, announcements, ephemera, postage stamps, and much more. You might want to write to the Canadian Correspondence Art Gallery, Third Floor, 118 - 8th Avenue S.E., Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2G OK6 for more information.

*Networking Currents* by Chuck Welch deals with major issues of Mail Art in over 150 pages of dense text. Included are responses to the Michael Crane *Correspondence Art* book with new issues of the Franklin Furnace stand re mail art, mail art centers and tourism, Fluxus and mail art, networking education, new exhibition strategies, current global Network strategy, mail art on the New York City airwaves with interviews featuring Carlo Pittore, Buster Cleveland, Mark Bloch, John Evans, John P. Jacob and David Cole, Peace Stampsheets distributed at Peace Park in Hiroshima, August 6, 1985, and much more.

This book is of vital interest to anyone interested in what Mail Art is about in the 1980s. It updates and expands Crane's book on Correspondence Art, and makes Mail Art more current in the eyes of any theoretician or critic. What it does not deal with is the documentation of the art form, some important links in the chain that occurred before its publication date such as the importance of this newsletter as a vehicle for networking through 1984, and another viewpoint outside the Northeast Corridor area. But this was a labor of love done by Chuck Welch aka The Cracker Jack Kid, who has done some very important poetic events with Mail Art. This is a serious book, done as a labor of love by a consummate mail artist, and this book must be in all libraries. It is important!

You can order it for \$10.00 (including postage) and add \$3.00 for surface mail or \$6.00 for airmail postage and mailer to Sandbar Willow Press, P.O. Box 883, Brookline, MA 02146.



## NEW ARTISTS' PERIODICALS

**Radium226.05 Magazine** issued its first number in Spring 1986 with contributions by William Burroughs, Brion Gysin, Ben Hecht, Genesis P-Orridge, Terry Wilson, John. Giorno and many others. Included are visuals such as drawings, sculpture, and photographs. Available from Radium, Sodra Allegatan 3, 41301 Goteborg, Sweden.

**Fires** is a new journal from London of burning issues dealing with arts/culture/politics, published by a collective of men and women who aim to promote and discuss all aspects of the arts and culture. Issue 1 includes a survey of alternative comics, interviews with Sandinista artists, a review of British Poetry from 20 years, literary life in Belfast, the strange death of punk and much more. Well designed and with good graphics, **Fires** has a soulmate in **Fuse** in Canada. A quarterly, subscriptions are invited for 8 pounds a year from 3 Bodney Rd., Hackney, London E8 1AY.

**Exit** is an explosive new magazine in oversize with graphics that will haunt you. In collage and montage, the artists involved in this magazine spare you nothing. Politically and socially conscious, the contributors to this magazine are aware of what is happening to this world and make you aware through incredible graphics of where we are. If you read between the lines, there is propaganda here but you must admire it. The Graphic Survey of Science, among other articles, is something that blows your mind. \$6.00 at your newsstand or write 70 Greenwich Ave., Box 594, New York, NY 10011 for a copy.

**Smurfs in Hell** is a new Xerox magazine which is also politically and socially conscious, but has a deep sense of humor. Published by Robert Carr, this liberal accumulation of news synthesized by what only an artist can do with the material, you will buy this for \$5.00 and send some to your friends. Order from 2210 No. 9th, Boise, ID 83702.

**El Djarida aka Art Attack** is a brand new tabloid produced by a group of artists in Norway. Their energy invades each page, and although some of the language is unknown except to those who are born in Norway, the graphics will allow you to understand. Now in the latest issue, No. 3, English translations abound. There is sculpture, painting, great graphics and lots of news about mail art. It is an exquisite publication and one that will add a great deal of understanding of the avantgarde in Scandinavia. Write to Idiotpress, Box 4536 Kalvskinnet, 7001 Trondheim, Norway.

**DODA** is an idiosyncratic publication out of Chicago that is logical, systematic and absurd all at the same time. Illustrated with tipped-in plates, offset drawings and photographs, this little magazine is quite something to read, see and digest. It is well made, has a small object dangling on a chain from its front cover, and is available from Printed Matter, Artworks, Art in Form and the MCA Bookshop in Chicago. \$7.00 per copy or \$25.00 for four issues a year.

**That Maxine**, a neo-Mamaist Journal of the Lovely Life, was issued in May and is numbered and dated in an edition of 100. Submissions are requested for each issue, and the Halloween issue will be limited to 150 copies. Available

where artists' books are sold and from That Maxine, P.O. Box 10828, Baltimore, MD 21234.

**Hand Papermaking** is a new journal devoted to Eastern and Western hand papermaking as both art and craft. This technical resource is also of interest to calligraphers, artists, printers, binders, conservators, printmakers, book and art collectors, and historians. The first issue includes articles on papermaking in Tibet and China, the Renaissance of Linen/Flax Paper, technical watercolor studies with handmade paper by Douglass Morse Howell, and other fascinating contributions. A sample of handmade paper is featured in each issue. Published by Amanda Degener and Michael Durgin, this beautifully designed journal is available for \$10.00 for 2 issues (U.S.) and \$12.00 (outside US) from Hand Papermaking, P.O. Box 10571, Minneapolis, MN 55440. Single issues are \$5.00 (US), \$6.00 (outside US).

## GERMAN ART PERIODICALS

**Fritz** came out in 1985 in a handsomely printed, small but comfortable in the hand periodical, with contributions from a great many artists living in Berlin, who combine visuals and text in a special way. Although entirely in German, this journal is a mirror of the energy and talent of the young artists in Berlin today. For more information, write to Fritz, Frankenstrasse 14, 1000 Berlin 30.

**Veranderlungen fur Alle** is a handsome pamphlet-type periodical with a different graphic on the gray cover for each issue. Whereas the first issue dealt with German words that sound like each other, the second issue deals with "Seven Seconds in 8 Phases" with words and photos; the third issue is by Dietmar Kirves and Herbert Molderings and has to do with graffiti, but always emphasizing the words; the fourth deals with gravitation grotesque. All these are published by plus-minus Presse and are all available from Kretschmer & Grossmann, postfach 94 02 46 D6000 Frankfurt 94, West Germany.

**Wurzburger Blatter**, magazine for communication and gestaltung, first appeared in May 1984 with a finely printed journal dealing with a portfolio of photos about Europe, several articles on German artists, but with a sensitivity that allows for anyone who does or does not know German to appreciate the magazine. The second issue was dedicated to Orwell's 1984 with contributions from many artists. The third issue considers work from many different media artists. Frequency is May and November of each year. Distribution from Kretschmer & Grossmann, but for more details about the magazine, write to WB, Fachbereich Gestaltung, Hans-Loffler-Str.49, 8700 Wurzburg, West Germany.

**Kultuhr** is a marvelous periodical which deals with themes, such as installations, reviews, etc. and sometimes includes a special treat such as an object, or a book. Sometimes the theme is performance, or painting, but always impeccably printed. Each artist is vignettted in the back, always in German. For more information, write to Kretschmer & Grossmann or Norbvert Refleski, Mittenwalder str. 6, D1000 Berlin 61.

## METRONOM FROM SPAIN

There is a Renaissance going on in Spain and if the art is anything to indicate this, the publications are also a bellweather for what seems to be the prognosis for the future of this artscene. *Metronom* comes out of Barcelona from the Center of Documentation of Contemporary Art directed by Rafael Tous and Isabel de Pedro with computer video art, Joseph Beuys, Ralph Gibson in Paris, Robert Wilson, Bill Viola, Barbara Kruger, and many more. This oversize tabloid is beautifully printed and well illustrated, exciting for content and execution. Write to *Metronom*, Carrer de la Fussina 9, 08003 Barcelona, Spain. The July 1985 issue was bilingual, i.e. Spanish/English, documenting the activities of *Metronom* for the season. There is energy, there is art.

## ATLAS FROM ENGLAND

*Atlas 2*, edited by Jake Tilson, includes 4 postcards, a complete sheet of 50 Atlas Postage stamps, has a Wu-Wei Notebook with quotations from Aristotle to Jung, Bucky Fuller to Plato; cover by Tapies, Steven Appleby's Rockets Passing overhead, Adam Levy's Following the B's, 8 maps to Soho Square; drawings of Frank Auerbach, and so much more. Done with flair and taste, this "magazine" is a collector's item upon publication. \$6.00 surface, add \$4.00 for airmail or £2.95 from Woolley Dale Press, 44 Broomwood Rd., London SW11 6HT, England. An exhibition of *Atlas* and the Woolley Dale Press will be on exhibit at Nigel Greenwood Books through 8 November.

## PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

*The Crafts Map*, showing outlets in England where one can buy the best of contemporary crafts. Available from the Crafts Council, 12 Waterloo Place, London SW1Y 4AU, England.

**For More Information: A Guide to Arts Management Information Centers** profiles organizations, programs within organizations, and government agencies that disseminate information about the nonprofit arts or one segment of the nonprofit arts—visual arts, crafts, theater, music, dance, opera, film, video, literature, folk arts, design arts, and more. \$13.95 from the Center for Arts Information, 1285 Avenue of the Americas, 3rd floor, New York, NY 10019.

*Multiculturalism and the Arts* is a new publication of the Australia Council, featuring interviews, biographical details and photographs of a number of artists, arts administrators and organizers of non-English-speaking background discussing their work and views of the Australian arts scene. Free of charge upon request to the Multicultural Arts Officer, Australia Council, P.O. Box 302, North Sydney 2060, Australia.

## MAIL ART

### MAIL ART SHOWS

My Home Town, celebrating the Centennial of Whittier, CA 1887-1987. Exhibition to be held January and February 1987 in the Whittier Museum. No fee, no jury, no returns, everything shown, catalog to all contributors. **Deadline: 19 December 1986.** Send to Creative Thing, 12331 Muir Ct., Whittier, CA 90601 USA.

Anything that has to do with your bank (papers, collages, objects, etc.) **Deadline: 31 December 1986.** Documentation to participants. Send to Ruud Janssen, c/o Tam-Bank, P.O. Box 10388. NL-5000 JJ Tilburg, Holland.

Very Special Arts Postal Art Exhibition, a mail art exhibition for the handicapped. The Very Special Arts is a national organization concerned with making art available to the disabled. **Deadline: 2 March 1987.** Mail to Very Special Arts, 103 Armour, San Antonio, TX 78212, c/o Gene Elder.

Winter in Chicago. Mail Art Installation. Send any size entries by **22 November 1986** to Artists Book Works, 1422 W. Irving Park, Chicago, IL 60613. No returns, all entries exhibited.

*God, Man, Glamour.* No returns, send self-addressed stamped envelope for documentation. Send to CAED Gallery, College of Architecture, Texas A & M Univ., College Station, TX 77843.

You Send Me. **Deadline: 11 November 1986.** Theme: fashion, art biz, animals, sports. No returns. Send to Anderson Gallery, Virginia Commonwealth University, 907½ W. Franklin St., Richmond, VA 23284.

National Mail Art Exhibition. No theme. All art accepted. No fees, no returns **Deadline: 16 Dec. 1986.** Send to Mail Art -C/G, c/o Franke, 1423 Gray Bluff Trail, Chapel Hill, NC 27514.

*Dan Rather Issue.* PhotoStatic Magazine. To examine the role of the network anchor as a media image, how this affects the news and how we perceive it. Any work which is about news reporting or media imaging is acceptable. Also acceptable is hero-worship of Dan or any other network anchor. A copy of this issue will be sent to Dan Rather. Please be as serious or as frivolous as you choose. **Deadline: 15 November 1986.** Recommended format is 8.5 x 7 inches or 8.5 x 14 inches, as usual. Send to photoSTATIC Magazine, 330 S. Linn St., no. 7, Iowa City, IA USA 52240.

*World News Cassette.* This cassette is intended to be a sort of companion piece to the Dan Rather Issue. Any tape or audio work which deals with events in the news or uses news sound effects or somehow comments on the news is good. Also acceptable are pieces of music composed with the news in mind. **Deadline: 15 December 1986.** Recommended format is stereo cassette with Dolby B or C noise reduction. Time limit of 5 minutes.