

## FROM THE EDITOR

It has been a long time between issues, but there have been a few obstacles along the way: problems of health, problems of information overkill, and finally the problem of joining the rest of you in a "real job" which has definitely sobered me to the juggling of time of all of us. It is very difficult to work a full-time job and then come home to work another full-time job. I am so sympathetic with all of us who have succumbed to the system, which does not recognize artistic life as profitable, unless your name is Warhol and the like. As a result, there was a short delay in getting this issue out. I am sorry for the silence, but there was nothing I could do. So here it is. I am sobered by the experience of following the work ethic, since I always thought for the past 16 years that I too was "working", but the avoidance of stress (read rush-hour traffic and a commute in Los Angeles) gave me an added burst of energy each day to do more creative things than just "make money."

There has been much activity in the bookworld in the past six months, especially with regard to artists. Printed Matter in New York City is surpassing all of its previous sales, thanks to the astute talents of its new director, John Goodwin. Exhibitions abound, and I too am curating an exhibition at the Arvada Center for the Arts in Colorado in September, as well as preparing to put the Pacific Rim exhibition and the Men's Visual Diaries Show on the road.

Fluxus has been historicized in the past year to everyone's surprise, and those friends of mine are now well known in certain circles of the art world, where they remained known only to a small circle before the past 18 months.

Even umbrellas are coming into their own. The Fabric Workshop in Philadelphia is presenting Rain of Talent: Umbrella Art, an exhibition of artist-designed umbrellas, guest curated by Patterson Sims, with umbrellas created by Houston Conwill, Viola Frey, Edward Henderson, Robert Kushner, Charmaine Lock, Phillip Maberry, Kim MacConnel, Miralda, Jeffrey Mitchell, Alan Shields, Will

Stokes, Jr., Anita Thacher, Richard Tuttle, Robert Venturi, Betty Woodman, George Woodman, Claire Zeisler, to mention a few.

I wish you a good summer, full of umbrellas and sand and beach. Keep me informed of your bookworks news and exhibitions, please. And remember to keep on booking and looking!

-jah



**BOOKS AND BOOKENDS: SCULPTURED APPROACHES.** Artists are invited to submit slides of artists' books to be considered for this traveling exhibition. Books are sought which have as primary features sculptural parts such as pop-ups, dimensional binding formats as well as functional books made of sculptural materials. Write to the Curators, Henry Barrow and Carol J. Barton, 5209 Wissioming Rd., Bethesda, MD 20816. Be sure to mention that you saw it in Umbrella.

*UMBRELLA* is an occasional newsletter, focusing on artists' publications and twentieth-century art documentation including books by artists as well as artists' periodicals with news and reviews. *UMBRELLA* is published by Umbrella Associates, P.O. Box 3692, Glendale, CA 91201. The Editor is Judith A. Hoffberg, P.O. Box 40100, Pasadena, CA 91104. Phone for Editorial Office is (818)797-0514. Subscriptions are available, payable in American currency, for the calendar year only. © 1989 by Umbrella Associates.

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**WANTED:** Any and all information pertaining to exhibitions of artists' books from 1960 through 1986. The editor of Umbrella is writing a documentary history of artists' books and would like to hear about the obscure exhibitions she is not aware of in public libraries, small alternative spaces, etc. Please send a self-addressed stamped envelope, if you wish the material returned. If there is any documentation such as checklists, exhibition catalogs, etc., please send them along as well. Send to Umbrella, P.O. Box 40100, Pasadena, CA 91104.

**WANTED: MALE VISUAL DIARIES.** The Editor of Umbrella is making a study of visual diaries by male artists. This is a new discourse, and names, dates, and examples would be greatly appreciated if not in actual format, at least with slides. A major exhibition is slated, with a catalog. Send to Umbrella, P.O. Box 40100, Pasadena, CA 91104.

**AVAILABLE FROM UMBRELLA:** A new audiocassette tape, entitled *UMBRELLA SONGS & WORDS*, produced by Tom Nixon, with known and unknown music as well as words about that protection against rain and that shade-giving protection from the sun, namely umbrellas. \$7.50 for subscribers, \$10.00 for non-subscribers.

**AVAILABLE IN 1989: TWO EXHIBITS** curated by Judith A. Hoffberg. The first, *MEN'S VISUAL DIARIES*, an exhibition of ca. 50 visual diaries by male artists. Also available for Pacific Rim venues, including Australia, New Zealand, Japan and the West Coast of the U.S., *BOOKWORKS FROM THE PACIFIC RIM*. The exhibitions require curatorial travel for installation and lecture, plus an honorarium. For more information, contact *UMBRELLA*, P.O. Box 40100, Pasadena, CA 91104, (818)797-0514.

**AVAILABLE FROM UMBRELLA:** List of retail outlets all over the world for bookworks. If you are an artist making bookworks who needs distribution outlets for your work, then send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Umbrella, P.O. Box 40100, Pasadena, CA 91104.

COVER BY ROBERT C. MORGAN

SOFTWARE PROBLEMS BY JUDITH A. HOFFBERG, pp. 13 - 16.