### ARTIST BOOKS NEWS

# •PYRAMID ATLANTIC'S BOOK ARTS FAIR & CONFERENCE

Pyramid Atlantic will host the 8<sup>th</sup> biannual 2004 Washington Book Arts Fair and Conference on 19 - 21 November. During the Fair, over 40 booksellers from all over the United States will be offering contemporary examples of limited edition handcrafted fine press books, cutting edge artist books, antiquarian books, handmade papers, marbled papers and much more. Everyone from the serious collector to the general art-loving public, as well as newcomers to the field, will discover new and exciting books during the three days of the Fair.

A Book Arts Conference will also be held, with 10 speaks including Johanna Drucker, Mary Lum, Karen Wirth, Tom Trusky, Craig Dworkin speaking on the Artist Book as an Intermedia device. Another group such as Buzz Spector, Emily McVarish, Phil Zimmermann, Ruth Laxson and Joan Lyons will speak on the Conception, Production and Distribution of Artist Books.

Other special events include a booksigning by Carol Barton for her new book on how to make pop-up books. Many demonstrations of letterpress, silkscreen, bookbinding, intaglio and papermaking will also be featured. The Book Arts Fair and Conference will take place at the convention space and auditorium of the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Agency in downtown Silver Spring, Maryland, conveniently located on the DC Metro system's red line. Admission to the Fair for the 3 days is \$12; admission to the Fair, Conference and events at Pyramid Atlantic is \$75.00 (students pay \$35.00). For more information, www.bookartsfair.org or contact Pyramid Atlantic, 8230 Georgia Ave., Silver Springs, MD 20910, <u>tharris@yramid-</u> atlantic.org

<sup>°</sup>300 ancient clay tablets that help provide information on languages and daily life in the Persian empire are back in Iran in what University of Chicago officials have described as the first U.S. return of loaned Iranian artifacts since the Islamic Revolution.

The clay tablets are 2,500 years old and have provided historians with details about everyday life then, down to the daily ration of barley and beer for workers. • Library of Unwritten Books. Imaginary novels and incredible stories are being collected for posterity in an unconventional UK arts project. You won't find these titles on bookshelves or bestseller lists, since they have not been written. This is a traveling art project in the UK, whereby this library is collecting stories and ideas for books people would like to write, but never have, and probably never will. . Its two librarians, Sam Brown and Caroline Jupp, have collected more than 400 stories over the last two years, and are aiming for a total of 1,000.

Armed with a "mobile recording unit", a converted shopping trolley-they have been generating stories from strangers before turning each tale into its own mini-book, a kind of pamphlet with the barest bones of an idea and then distributed to libraries, pubs, community centers and doctor's waiting rooms. The origin of this comes form Richard Brautigan's novel, *The Abortion*. (See BBC News for 2 August 2004)

Lost & Found Times 52 was issued in June by Luna Bisonte Prods, 137 Leland Ave., Columbus, OH 43214. Included are more than 100 artists and poets. A bargain at \$7.00.

Art Metropole is launching the Canadian premier of EN/OF, the collaborative series of editions by contemporary visual artists with experimental musicians, published in Germany. The series includes works by Stan Douglas, Doug Aitken, Liam Gillick, David Shrigley, Dan Graham, and Jonathon Monk, among others. Musicians include Tim Hecker, Steve Roden, Rob Mazurek, Terre Thaemlitz, Mark Nelson (aka Pan-American), David Grubbs and many more. The editions are packaged in a traditional double-LP gatefold jacket, and hold a 12" vinyl recording in one pocket, and an artwork in the other. They are signed and numbered by both artists in a limited edition of 100. Both the visual works and the audio works are created expressly for EN/OF, who is Robert Meijer of Bottrop Boy, Germany. The show is from 14 August - 2 October 2004. Contact Art Metropole, 788 King St. West, Toronto, ON, Canada M5V 1N6. http://www.artmetropole.com

#### RESOURCES

A new archive of out-of-print artist books is at <u>www.wsworkshop.org/artistsbooks.html</u>. 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 outof-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 <u>http://www.kb.nl/bho</u>

•Karen Hanmer of Chicago has a new brochure on her flagbooks and their structure, because it reflects the subject and theme of many of her works. She credits Hedi Kyle for this flag book structure, which reflects the humor, joy, and tension.

• Transformer Press (Lise Melhorn-Boe) has a new Book List for 2004 along with a new website, www.lisemelhornboe.ca

• Liver & Lights celebrates its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in September with the publication of Liver & Lights #20: Thirty People, which covers writings about inoffensively ordinary objects such as spoon, jug, kettle, candle, radio. Cloth bound, hardback, 40 pages, 20 full-page illustrations in an edition of 120. For further information, or to pre-order a copy, contact <u>johnbently @hotmail.com</u> Happy Birthday, John!

The Pure Products of America: 3 new multiples by Ligorano/Reese can be seen at www.pureproductsusa.com • Line Upis a series of seven political postcards, which show mugshots of political figures responsible for the Patriot Act and other political crimes. Produced by Pure Products of America, these black and white dual mugshots of Bush, Cheney, Rice, Rumsfeld, Powell, Ashcroft and Rove are bound as a fold-out book, and perforated on the edges, so that the postcards fan out in a long line-up. They are printed in New York City (site of the Republican 2004 convention) on high-quality coated stock. This is a perfect keepsake in book form, or send those extra sets to your pals as postcards. All they need is a stamp, and they're ready to send. 6.95 + 1.00 for shipping and handling. To order, www.pureproductsusa.com

•Robbin Ami Silverberg has issued two catalogs: Dobbin Books: Soloworks and Dobbin Books: Selected Collaborations, which gives a good picture of her production over these recent years. 505-52 Dobbin St., Brooklyn, NY 11222.

•Exhibition Catalogs available from Urawa Art Museum in Japan: Viewing Book ed. By Mami Yoshimoto (Urawa Art Museum, Tokyo, 2003. Bilingual catalog (combined with catalog of Reading Landscape). And "Selected Bookworks in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century" in SD (Space Design), a special feature in August 2000 issue of this monthly journal of art and a r c h i t e c t u r e . 2 3 0 0 y e n f r o m http://www.kajima.co.jp/group/publish/index.htm or 6-5-13 Akasaka, Minato-ku, Tokyo 107-8345, Japan.

#### COURSES

San Francisco Center for the Book An amazing array of courses from theory to practice of all kinds, with stellar faculty members. www.sfcb.org

**CBA:** The Center for Book Arts in New York City has a new catalog for Fall 2004. www.centerforbookarts.org Or e-mail: info@centerforbookats.org There is a tuition-free seminar for emerging writers on letterpress printing and fine press publishing in 2005, a 2005 Workspace Grant for NY Emerging Artists (deadlines: 1 October 2004) among other programs.

#### 2004 Schedule of Workshops/Garage Annex School

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.

Minnesota Center for Book Arts announces its new Fall 2004 set of courses. http://www.mnbookarts.org

#### **EXHIBITIONS JUST PAST**

#### 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

**Book Keepers:** Katie Varney, Victoria Scott, Alison Rositer and Balint Zsako at Gallery TPW in Toronto with photobased and new media works highlighting the book as both an aesthetic and symbolic object.

Corporal Identity: Body Language: 8th Triennial for Form and Content, USA and Germany. 14 November - 4 June 2004. Museum of Art & Design, New York City. Artists with book-related work in the show include: Americans: Harriet Bart, Susan Bee, Johanna Drucker, Maureen Cummins, Fly, Ann Lovett, Carolee Schneeman, Miriam Schaer, Clarissa Sligh, Tamar Stone, Pamela Spitzmuller, Marshall Webber, Christopher Wilde. German Artists: Hartmut Andryzuk, Oscar Heym and Fritz Best, Hans Christoph Buch, Barbara Fahrner, Cornelia Gross and Heide Neumann, Karen Innerling, Ines von Ketelhodt, Veronika Schapers, Robert Schwarz, Anton Wurth and Ottfried Zielke. The exhibition was in Germany from June-August 2003 in two locations: Museum für Angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt and Klingspor Museum, Offenbach.

2004 Artist Members Show at the Center for Book Arts in New York City, juried by Mindell Dubinsky & Milan Hughston. 17 June - 20 August 2004.

MA degree Show at Camberwell College of Arts, London from 7-10 July 2004. Called "Opening the Book" it has a one-sheet catalog in color, along with essays by Clive Phillpot entitled "Pagination and Imagination" and another, "20 Books I would have Made If I had been on the Course" by Stephen Bury. www.camberwell.arts.ac.uk

**Benedict Phillips** from 7 June - 11 July 2004 at the Library, Faculty of Art, University of the West of England, Bristol, UK.

**Bookmarks: Infiltrating the Library System** created by 50 contributing artists producing bookmarks over the one-year period. Part I involves 25 artists with venues such as the UK, Venice, Italy, London, Toronto, Chicago, New Haven,

the Netherlands, Australia and the US (usually at schools that teach book arts, shops that sell them, or collections that preserve and exhibit them). Source is the University of West England, Bristol, UK.

Themes & Variations: artist books by Ian Tyson and Julia Farrer at the Eagle Gallery in London from 28 May -21 June.

Artists' Books & So....an exhibition of artist books and related materials at Graham Galleries + Editions in Brisbane, Australia. 22 May - 19 June 2004.

**Insight Out: Reversing Vandalism** at the Center for Contemporary Arts in Santa Fe from 4 June - 5 July. 96page, full color catalog available from CCA, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, Santa Fe, NJ 87505.

Artists' Books, an exhibition of American and European Works, curated by Thorsten Dennerline, at the Silkeborg Bad Art Centre in Denmark through 29 August. www.silkeborgbad.dk

**Biennale du Livre d'artiste**, 7 - 8 August 2004 at Monflanquin, Lot et Garonne.

Gallery A in Amsterdam has been resurrected after almost 20 years. From 12 June - 15 July, there was an exhibition of artists books by Anselmo, Boetti, Calzolari, Chiari, Costa, De Maria, Fonana, Merz, Munari, Pistoletto, and others. The address is Galerie A/Harry Ruhé, Joh. Verhulststraat 53, 1071 MS Amsterdam, open 2 - 5 p.m. Tuesday -Saturday. www.multiples.nl

•A small exhibit of artist's books at the Pollard Memorial Library in Lowell, MA during August.

#### **EXHIBITS**

Collection of Artist Books from the Collection of Reinhad Gruner at the Stadtmuseum Furstenfeldbruck, Germany through 10 October 2004. For further info, go to www.buchkunst.info which includes all the books in the exhibition plus all the article written by Reinhard Gruner on the subject of artist books and collecting them. The museum is about 25 minutes by train from Munich.

•Turning Pages: A Collection of Artists' Books in The Living Room of the Wichita Art Museum, where 12 book artists have been commissioned to do work which will be on exhibit through April 2005. Included are artists such as Karen Hanmer, Roberta Lavadour, Stephen Murphy of Calgary, Elena Siff from Santa Monica, Donna & Peter Thomas of Santa Cruz, Frances Watson of San Diego plus a number of Wichita artists. See www.wichitaartmuseum.org

• San Francisco Museum of Modern Art showcases Experimental Type Play in Belles Lettres: The Art of Typography, opening 30 October 2004 to 17 April 2005. 26 design visionaries from around the world will be featured from their collection, including Saul Bass, Rebeca Mendez, Makoto Saito, Martin Venezky and others.

**Isabell Buenz: New Works** at the Library, Faculty of Art, Media & Design, University of the West of England, Bristol, UK from 1 September - 3 October.

Imagine That, a book arts exhibition at La Jolla FiberArts, October 1 - November 20, 2004. The exhibition coincides with other book art events in San Diego. Catalog. www.lajollafiberarts.com

Argonauts - an exhibition of the limited edition book art work Argonauts and the original works published in June in the English and German versions by four renowned German painters and writers Hans-Hendrik Grimmling, Jürgen K Hultenreich, Harald-Alexander Klimek and Hasan Özdemir at Dean Clough Galleries in Halifax, West Yorkshire, United Kingdom from 19 June - 7 September 2004. Translations of the German version Argonauten are by the New Zealander Dr Stan Jones.

Additional information: Argonauts, published by H-A Klimek, Rhineland-Palatinate and Corvinus Presse Friedrichhagen, Berlin, is the result of a long dialogue between the painters Grimmling and writers Hultenreich in part one and Klimek and Özdemir in part two. The printmaker Klimek, renowned for previous book art publications such as *Ich heb ein Bein und bin auf einmal Hund* together with J K Hultenreich published by Edition Deschamp in Berlin or *Iggy und der große Ben* with Thomas Günther published by Edition Savod Progress will also be giving talks on book art in the UK around late October, e.g. at the V&A on 1 November. Argonauts, published in June, is limited to 50 numbered copies and signed by all four artists. **One-Off**, a show of unique books by Bonnie Cohen, Betsy Davids, Alisa Golden, Alistair Johnston, Howard Munson, Judith Serebrin, and Marcia Weisbrot at the Paul Sunderholm Gallery, San Francisco from 3- 29 August 2004.

**Transformations: Artists' Books** at the University of Judaism, Platt & Borstein Galleries, Los Angeles. 12 September - 24 November, including Terry Braunstein, Gloria Helfgott, Pia Pizzo, Sue Ann Robinson, Genie Shenk, Elena Siff and Beth Thielen.

Painted Prayers: Books of Hours from the Morgan Library, at St. Louis Art Museum, 8 October 2004 - 9 January 2005. http://www.slam.org

Stand & Deliver at San Diego Mesa College, sponsored by San Diego Book Arts, from 7 September - 7 October.

What's in a Book: Works by Five Book Artists, 29 May -3 October 2004 at Katonah Museum of Art, in Katonah, NY. Includes work of Ed Hutchins, Roberta Lavadour, , Barbara Mauriello, Richad Minsky and curated by Tracy Strong, who is also in the show. www.katonahmuseum.org

Artists' Books: No Reading Required, A collaborative exhibit featuring the expansive artists' book collection housed at the Walker Art Center Library at the Minnesota Center for Book Arts gallery from 28 August - 6 November. www.mnbookarts.org

Ninja Press at Twenty: a retrospective exhibition of books, broadsides & ephemera produced by Carolee Campbell at the William Andrews Clark Memorial Library in Los Angeles (part of UCLA) through 24 September.

Book as Art XV at the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, DC through 28 November. Publication. Turning Pages: A Collection of Artists' Books at the Wichita Art Museum through April 2005 in the Living Room gallery with the participation of Clark Britton, Patrick Duegaw, Karen Hanmer, Ezma Hanshchka, Carol Hill, Roberta Lavadour, Stephen Murphy, Lisa Olson, Elena Mary Siff, Donna and Peter Thomas and Frances Watson. Catalog. www.wichitaartmuseum.org Shows at Book Arts Program, Marriott Library University of Utah: Why I love Books: The Artworks of Charles Hobson, 6 August - 1 October

Counterform: 8 October - 19 November

Pursuit of Reading: Private People, Private Presses, 26 November - 7 January www.lib.utah.edu/rare

Stand & Deliver: Engineering Sculpture into a Book Format, organized by Ed Hutchins and the Brookfield Craft Center and the Movable Book Society. Interactive CD, catalog

10<sup>th</sup> Wexford Artist Book Exhibition from 10 - 30 September in Wexford, Ireland.

A Retrospective of Otto Muehl. September 2004. Galerie A, Amsterdam.

Third Annual North American Juried Book Arts Exhibition at Bright Hill Center's Word & Image Gallery in Treadwell, NY from 3- 29 October. Jurors were: Nancy Callahan and Louise Neaderland. For more information, see www.http://www.brighthillpress.org.

#### **OPPORTUNITIES**

Call for Entries: Fifth Biennial Artists' Books Juried Exhibition to be on view 8 January - 12 February 2005. Deadline to submit: 10 November 2004. The Athenaeum is noted for its outstanding artist book collection, as well as for its equally prestigious biennial juried exhibition. Open to all California artists. Media is limited to unique and one-ofa-kind books or editions to no more than 50. This year's juror is Carolee Campbell, proprietor of Ninja Press. Maximum of 3 pieces per artist, 3 slides per piece, and the entry fee is \$15 (\$10 for Athenaeum members). For a prospective, please call the Athenaeum at 858-454-5872.

#### CONFERENCES

University of Delaware. Sunday, 3 October, 10-11am. "Picturing the Future: The Illustrated Book in the 21st Century" with moderator, Breon Mitchell of Lilly Library and panelists: Johanna Drucker, Jae Rossman and Martin Antonetti.

**Pyramid Atlantic Book Arts Fair and Conference**, 19-21 November, Silver Springs, MD. www.bookartsfair.org

Movable Book Society Conference, 1-2 October including the Stand & Deliver Exhibition 7 September - 7 October with reception on 30 September, 5-7 p.m. Mesa College Art Gallery, San Diego, CA. Lecture: Ambar Past will give a talk entitled Mayan Books: Talking Gourds and Magic Spells on 28 September at the Athenaeum in La Jolla, CA. She is director of the graphic arts collective Taller Lenateros in the highlands of Chipas. She is the founder and director of the prize-winning journal for art and literature, La Jicara, known as "the most beautiful magazine in Mexico".

#### ARTIST BOOK DEALERS (selection)

Art Metropole,788 King St. West, Toronto, Ont. M5V 1N6, Canada http://www.artmetropole.com

Artimo A - Z at Elandsgracht 8 in Amsterdam. Www.artimo.net or bookshop@artimo.net

Bookartbookshop, 17 Pitfield St., London N1 6HB, England.

Bookstorming, 24 rue de Penthièvre (angle av. Matignon) 75008 Paris, France. Tel: (331)4225 1558, fax: (331)4225 1072. Métro: Champs Elysées Clémenceau/Miromesnil www.bookstorming.com Boekie Woekie, books by artists, Berenstraat 16,NL 1016 GH Amsterdam, The Netherlandsboewoe@xs4all.nl,internet catalogue: http://www.boekiewoekie.com

Juan Agius, Books & Multiples, features art zines, alternative publications, art magazines, mail art, ephemera, available online at agius.books!@netsurfer.ch or P.O. Box 5243, CH 1211 Geneva, Switzerland.

Julia Diamond, Book & Livre, 2230 Camino del Rosario, Montecito, CA 93108. (805)565-1904. Bookandlivre@cox.net20<sup>th</sup> c. decorative arts, fashion, architecture and photography

**Paul Robertson** is known as Heart Fine Art and can be reached for amazing catalogs at mail@heartfineart.com

Ink Tree, Seestrasse 21, CH-8700, Kusnacht, Switzerland www.inktree.ch

Hotel des Bains Editions, 28 rue du Pont percé, 27130 Verneuil sur Avre, France

AaZbooks.com - BP N°°1 - La grande Bruyèère - F72320 St-Maixent, France www.aazbooks.com

Malcolm Campbell, 43 Holland St., London SE1 9JRlab@marcuscampbell.co.uk

Nexus Press. www.nexuspress.org

Editions & Artists' Books Johan Deumens has issued a new Catalogue no. 24 in February 2003. http://www.artistsbooks.com or Dr. N.G. Piersonstraat 1, 2104 VG Heemstede, Netherlands.

Paul Léon Bisson-Millet, Edelmannsweg 4, D-71717 Beilstein, Germany. Fax: (49)7062-978549

Revolver, Archiv für aktuelle Kunst ,Christoph Keller, Jacobystraße 28, D - 60385 Frankfurt am Main, Germany Edition Hundertmark, Av. Touroperador Finnmantkat 10, Tinguaro #21, E-35100 Maspalomas Gran Canaria, Espana. Vamps & Tramps LLC +CalifiaBooks 1951 Hoover Court, Suite 105,Birmingham, Alabama 35226-3606

## **ARTIST BOOKS**

Most of the books reviewed here are available at Printed Matter, 535 West 22<sup>nd</sup> St., New York City, unless otherwise indicated.

#### REFERENCE

James Castle: His Life & Art by Tom Trusky (Boise, Idaho Center for the Book, 2004, \$19.95 paper) is the story of Castle (1899-1977) who was born deaf, never learned to speak, read or write and really did not want to use any accepted forms of signing. He expressed himself, however, in a different way: by drawing the domestic scenes of his home within or the rustic architecture and pastoral views of rural Idaho. He tried to go to the School for the Deaf, but it didn't work out after six months, so he stayed within the confines of his family home from which his parents ran the local post office and general store. Isolated and basically house-bound. Castle experimented with drawing in perspective just from observation. He had a sense of humor and whimsy and used it in his work. Using stove soot mixed with his own saliva on the tips of sharpened sticks, Castle invented a unique substitute for graphite or ink to create beautifully shaded linear drawings. He also used hand-mashed scraps of colored tissue papers, mixing colored paper pulp to cardboard, fashioning intricate collage constructions depicting birds and people in the same way as doors, books, or even "dreamhouses", which he created out of empty ice cream, milk, or butter cartons. Being an "outsider artist", his family saw the potential of sales, so they purchased a small mobile home where Castle could create works of art which even today are mind-blowing! It seems that although he was treated as a deaf mute, illiterate and "mentally challenged" throughout his life, it is now thought that Castle was actually autistic.

Trusky, the head of the Idaho Center for the Book, has written the definitive critical biography of Castle, integrating images with the text both in color and in black and white, appendix, selected bibliography and index. This is a great read about a great artist!

#### SMALL BOOKWORKS

Abandon fields & castles by Jasper Sebastian Stürup (Copenhagen, Fluens Forlag, 2004, \$9.00 paper) is a small book of red paper with fragments of faceless people overlapping and interpenetrating in these ghostly line drawings by the artist. The half-gestures of the long-limbed, long-haired players in this play seem driven by a mute urgency to communicate-both with each other and with the reader.

I'm only sleeping by Jasper Sebastian Stürup (Copenhagen, Fluens Forlag, 2004, \$9.00 paper) has the artist's signature faceless line-drawn people drifting through the pages of this book like ghosts or actors in a dream. The backdrops are photographs of mist-covered rock formations juxtaposed with giant anonymous apartment complexes and rocks mysteriously festooned with human hair, adding to an overall surrealism.

The New Tourism, vol. 1 by Brad Phalin (Bowling Green, OH, 2003, \$15.00) is a series of color photos of blighted America, but the color makes these dead rats, vacant lots, rotten apples and nuclear reactors look strangely alluring.

**Cover Version** by Jonathan Monk (London, Book Works, 2004, 15euros) photographs the covers of a selection of seminal publications form his artist book collection including work by Sol LeWitt, Ed Ruscha and Lawrence Weiner-largely conceptual artists whom he emulates by creating another conceptual work in itself. He is in this book presenting a contemporary investigation into materiality and the problems of signification in conceptual art publishing.

An integral part of the book is a transcribed telephone conversation between Monk and Seth Siegelaub, which unfolds and discusses their mutual obsession with book making and collecting while expounding on the nature of the object itself. This is an important discussion not only for the subject matter, but because Seth Siegelaub was there at the beginning and the insightful perceptions of those times are fresh and immediate on the phone, rather than edited remarks. Seth was a publisher of books, and this is "from the horse's mouth." This is an important bookwork, one which makes one smile but also makes one think about the whole movement of bookmaking, its problems of distribution, and it solutions of actually creating works of art in book form and then talking about them 30 years later.

NTNTNT, edited by Jason Brown and Zoe Crosher (Valencia, California Institute of the Arts, 2003, \$12.00 paper) is the culmination of a conference called "Net.Net.Net" with participants Natalie Bookchin, Vuk Cosic, Critical Arts Ensemble, Fiambera, Irational, I/O/D, Olia Liliani with Florian Cramer, Geert Lovink with Sarah Diamond and Dee De Halleck, Jenny Marketon, Mongrel, Rimark, Alexei Shulgin and Cornelia Sollfrank. The 339page book has threads and fragments from the original conversations woven together with techno-utopian ruins and associatively cross-indexed with fragments form the distant age of "Browser Wars," creating a stuttering paper-based constellation. The resulting book is not so much a document as an artifact-a puzzled, puzzling, mnemonic object marked by the passage of a particular time. There is much to ponder, great passages about books and much, much more. Includes bibliography. Has 200 fragments, more than 50 illustrations, 37 topical sections, and 6 indexical divisions, Melancholy to Mapping, Utopia to Decay, Filthy Lucre to machine langauge, and much, much more.

Untitled (The Party Book) by Robbie Guertin and Dasha Shishkin (Brooklyn, BB&PPInc, 2004, \$15.00) is a charming book with a cast of characters that includes oyster cat, baby bear, pezya (a sausage dog in a turtleneck), stevie (monkey), teddy, several lithe cats and two apples getting together to have a really good time. With a sophisticated child-like drawing technique, the gang poses for a group photo at the end which is a tear-out postcard that you can send to a friend. Each book is handbound with a blue linocut cover.

Untitled (The Bird Book) by Robbie Guertin and Dasha Shishkin (Brooklyn, BB & PPInc, 2004, \$15.00) shows how Baby Bear and Pezya come across some unruly birds in this full-color book. Like BB&PPInc's Party Book, with detachable postcard, there is reader participation in this book with cut-out paper puppets to insert into a page and make up your own story. Each cover is a handprinted linocut, and each book is handmade. A rather wonderful whimsy!

26 Drawings by Mark Williams (Storrs, CT, 2003, \$15.00 paper) is the result of Mark Williams sitting down to draw

toy soldiers as the country was heading off to war with Iraq. The book enumerates 26 different toy soldier poses, in simple forthright line drawings. Alone on a field of white paper, the soldiers live in an abstract world fighting imaginary wars. In their deadpan presentation (the book's cover is made from office hanging files), the drawings suggest the way in which toy soldiers de-sensitize children to war at an early age, and the way this de-sensitization can last long into adulthood.

**Greetings from Germany** by Birgit Vogel (Munich, 2003, \$10.00 paper) is a series of ten color views of German countryside, roadside and lakeside attractions with a blue palette predominating, sewn together with a delicate pink thread I this elegant bookwork.

Monterey Trailer Park by Juliane Eirich (Munich, 2003, \$10.00 paper) is a series of photographs illuminated by those unearthly floodlights of the Monterey trailer park that casts turquoise color over everything.

...(dad)...is an artist book/exhibition catalog by Dwayne Blackaller, a May 2004 Boise State English graduate who grew up knowing his biological father, David Marcum, only as the man in California who would send him cards, audiotapes and letters. Blackaller knew this, but felt a close kinship with is adoptive father. In 1988, Marcum died of AIDS, when Dwayne was 12 years old. A few years later Blackaller received a package from San Francisco-a battered, light blue box filled with a hodgepodge of his father's possessions. A diary. Letters written to and received from his mother when she and Marcum were in high school. A map of the stars showing one Marcum had named for his son. Bits and pieces of a life Blackaller wasn't yet ready to examine. He put the box away, not ready to deal with it until last year when his wife was expecting their first child. He found out that he and his Dad were graphic designers, had the same painting by Maxfield Parrish, and they also are writers. The catalog has a tie-dyed cover and a binding scented with patchouli oil, available for \$5.00 plus shipping and handling from the Boise State bookstore,, 1910 University Dr., Boise, ID 83725-1030.

#### **NEW BOOKWORKS**

A is Not a Patch on B by Mette Winckelman (Copenhagen, Space Poetry, 2002, \$15.00 paper) is a book of collaged photographs which are both literally and thematically woven together. Wool is spun out into thread which is woven into doilies whose repetitive geometric patterns are echoed by quilts and drawings of interlocking geometric forms. Cut strips of photographs of grass and concrete hold together like the woven reeds of the basket depicted on the facing page. This is a book of relationships and continual echoes. Folded, creased paper creates a field of three-dimensional lines reminiscent of the sculpted drapery on an earlier page. Correspondences such as these run across the pages and throughout the book.

Grid Sewing (Raster nähen) by Lizzie Finn (Zurich, Nieves, 2004, \$6.00 paper) is somewhere between a patchwork quilt and a map of the urban grid in black and white (how much more effective it would have been in color). This book shows stitched drawings bringing the sewing circle to the drafting table and makes floral fabric a surprisingly expressive and nuanced medium.

Kodak Gold by Bleu Cease (Rochester, 2003, \$10 paper) is the result of a 2001 trip to the People's Republic of China for work on an independent project documenting the phenomenon of globalization. Bleu Cease was interested in the ways that snapshot photography and image-culture contribute to the homogenization of experiences and lifestyles. Two years later, he found himself in Rochester during the period when Kodak was laying off workers and transferring operations overseas-to the People's Republic of China.

Kodak Gold uses both of these experiences to examine globalization from a local versus global perspective. The book contrasts images form a 1938 Kodak Employee Handbook with photographs the artist took of Asian tourists recording their vacation in China. Texts taken from the Eastman Kodak Company's Letter to Shareholders and Annual Reports are played off of Chinese and US newspaper reports on Kodak's recent deeds and misdeeds. The overall structure of the project intends to bring collective history and local experience together to tell the story of two globalizing forces, namely the oversimplified and indifferent language of the mainstream print media and the inhuman, profitobsessed internal strategizing of today's transnational corporations. This is a remarkable bookwork, a penetrating study of a corporation by using their own techniques. Now with the end of film as we know it, as dictated by this very corporation, we can look into this study with fresh eyes.

**Dedications** by Alejandro Cesarco (Montevideo, Uruguay, A.R.T. Press, 2003, \$15.00 paper) brings together the dedication pages from the artist's collection of books whose titles and contents are never revealed. More than 30 years ago, Gary Kennedy, then director of Nova Scotia College of Art & Design, had done the same thing in large format. It was one of my favorite bookworks.

To Cesarco, those details of titles and contents are not important to his project, which concerns itself instead with the collective effect of authors' affections for their muses, mentors, and motivators. Everyone from a "lord" to "The Memory of an Era" gets a mention in these pages that mediate between and private and public lives of books. The book itself is dedicated to *his* family and *his* parents.

**Perverted Science** by Andrew Rae (London, Peepshow, 2004, \$18.00 paper) is the result of advertisements in the form of flyers and posters to promote nights of hip hop, afro beat, funk latin, etc. over the period of four years until March 2003. Some of the images have been altered, others added, but the collection is terrific. Chris Ware, beware! There's competition here. Most are in full color, beautifully drawn, with lots of humor and ingenuity. Meaver, a creature created by slicing Moose with Beaver, is the hero of these pages. Bloodthirsty, vicious, but delightfully cute, this beast runs wild throughout the drawings and collages. Rae can be seen on websites such as <u>www.andrewrae.org.uk</u> or <u>www.peepshow.org.uk</u>

**Cabana Mundo** by Laerke Lauta (Copenhagen, Space Poetry, 2003, \$17.00 paper) are a series of color photographs of the insides and outsides of dwellings, which the artist is famous for, since she has created a practice of developing dwellings as installations. The photographs are extraordinary, since they seem realistic, but with a sense of installation art as well. Surreal and yet real.

**Tsang Kin-wah: Interior** (Hong Kong, 2003, \$20.00 paper) is a stunning example of a bookwork that has a traditional basis, but is of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, discussing Image, Text and Foul Language. Here visual poetry takes over in a decorative way even though the words are four-letter and beyond. It becomes wallpaper, it becomes visually exciting, it moves and dances across the page and across the wall.

The artist took William Morris as his matrix and creates a decorative visual text which became an installation at the Camberwell College of Arts London Institute, translating it later into a bookwork with discussion of what he did. From a hand silkscreened wallpaper, the book gives closer and closer views of the text, which reveals itself as four-letter words and obscenities.

The discussion in the book reveals how the combination of foul language (text) with Morris' floral pattern (image) and arranging the text in the form of flowers and plants, which are swirling and running throughout the space, helps to link up their organic force which undergirds both Nature and humanity. He quotes Hal Foster: "The artist becomes a manipulator of signs more than a producer of art object, and the viewer an active reader of messages rather than a passive contemplator of the aesthetic or consumer of the spectacular." Tsang graduated with an M.A. in Book Arts from Camberwell. This is a stunning work, showing the artist at work knowing his ethnic roots and traditions, the finished installation in the room (a fold-out) and has a biography at the back.

Social Studies by Jonathan Gitelson (Chicago, 2004, \$22.50 paper) emulates a black and white composition notebook that all of us have used in public school so many years ago (except this one was "Made in India" and we know ours were made in the USA. Amazing how much outsourcing is done even for standard U.S. items! The book is the result of five different performances carried out by the artist in 2003.

The first performance is called "The Scavenger Hunt" and is the result of having found a list on the sidewalk in Chicago. Each chapter is a series of photographs and digital collages which follow the performance for the viewer. The second is "I Wave in Front of Every Apartment That I've Ever Lived in Except for One" showing the artist doing just that. The third is "Spelling Def" with photos overlaid over dictionary collaged pages; the fourth is "The Ballad of Carl Wilson" which comes with a CD which involves the itinerary Wilson took with photos and maps. The fifth was the "Dream Job" with appropriate definitions of jobs and those who hold them. Hilarious, whimsical, honest and offthe-wall as well.

**Portable Memorial** by Jeremiah Day (Amsterdam, 2003, \$15.00) is the result of the artist's pilgrimages made between 1997 and 2004 and its photographic documentation. Day goes to places which have public significance and recognition, i.e. physically symbolic or geo-political or culturally important. So he goes to the opening night of the Bellagio Hotel/Casino/Gallery as an opener. Then to the former site of the Murrah building in Oklahoma City, which was bombed. He also went to the ruin of the Memorial for the International Brigades of the Spanish Civil War; then to

the preparations for Founder's Day in Celebration, Florida, right outside of Orlando, FL created by Walt Disney Corporation, and finally to Inflancka Street in Warsaw, formerly the Jewish Ghetto and the site of Kieslowski's *Decalogue*.

Each one of these sites, whether celebratory or cataclysmic, is compellingly real to Jeremiah Day. He tries to overcome the objective reason into a real, documented experience of the place. It is a stunning, moving book and should be read by those who are involved in creating "Memorials" for events, let alone places. It is a book which has resonance not only at the first reading, but for readings to come, since "places" seem to be involved in our current history as we progress through the chaos of the  $21^{st}$  century.

In Xteriors by Lance Boge (Niagara Falls, 2003, \$20.00 paper) is introduced by the artist who discusses photography from its inception to this volume in crisp, carefully honed sentences. This is a collection of black and white photographs of the living inventions of those who have had to set up some kind of shelter on the street. The chapters are called: Person, Things, Place, Seat, Seat with Back, Seats, Long Seat, Day Bed, Closet, Area, Room, House and ends with Art + Politics. The system of categories lends itself to collating these stunning and moving photographs. The choice of black paper and a black X superimposed on the front cover make for a striking presentation.

**Early Bird Exercise Book** by Avni Patel (London, 2003, \$7.00 paper) tests the reader's eye for subtlety-at first, it's a lined notebook with a few missed lines and you ask yourself, so what? But if you take the time, you get a very, very delicate flipbook animation of a bird in flight. The pages in this lined notebook are actually host to the ghost of a bird that appears as the blue lines break down. The left hand margin acts as the horizon line, transforming the page into open air. Tucked into the back of the book, an origami bird made from a piece of the book's lined paper takes the flight full into 3-D. Probably one of the most subtle bookworks I have ever seen!

New Embrace Mrs. Dead and Mrs. Free, vol. 2 by Evren Tekinoktay (Copenhagen, Space Poetry, 2004, \$11.00 paper) is a full-sized black and white magazine published by the discreet Danish publisher, Space Poetry. It includes highcontrast negative images of its original. Drawn from a wild range of found source materials such as ballerinas, toilet paper, sofas and printed fabrics creating a ghostly kind of world which seems to come together in one's mind as well as in one's vision.

Now it's a Party by Harrell Fletcher (Hartford, CT, Real Art Ways, 2003. \$12.00 paper) is the result of a public art project done by the students from the Hartford Art School directed by Harrell Fletcher for Real Art Ways. Now It's A Party is a series of seven projects undertaken in the community of Parkville-seven parties form small personal ones to more outward-bound blowouts! Many of these projects are group participation and hilarious too! Elongated sofas, or a senior citizens group doing James Joyce's Ulysses, an indoor singing performance, a "feel good" newspaper, paper-cast busts of Steve, the taxi driver; and so much more. Katie Hawkins, one of the students, writes an incisive essay at the end. A wonderful project done in color photographs and deep-seated joy!

The Trouble I Had by Scott Macleod (Oyster Bay, WA/Charlottesville, VA, anabasis.xtant, 2004, \$15) is the result of a falling out with a girl with whom the artist/author fell in love and had an affair for a year before leaving for Bangkok to see his father. Upon his return, she had become involved with someone else. To vent his feelings, he started collecting scraps of paper detritus and clippings from magazines, arranging them into collages creating little scenarios. He pasted them on little index cards and started giving them to his friends. Upon collecting these short scenarios, he found he had a chapbook. But he also had his first show because of a cancellation in the gallery in 1982. And in each phase of the next years, he created a chapbook in reaction to life and living.. The collages grow bigger, life becomes more complex, and this book will keep you busy trying to psyche out the situations for months to come. Funny, complex, incisive, and right on! Order from Scott, 884 Aileen St., Oakland, CA 94608.

Landfall by Lukas Felzmann (Baden, Switzerland, Lars Müller and Winterthur, Fotostiftung Schweiz, 2004, \$35.00 hardcover) is the result of a long and arduous photographic project to see the relationship of nature and civilization. The title itself, "Landfall", originates from the language of seafarers, an acknowledgment of the magic moment when the first land appears on the horizon. This photographic journey takes us through three continents but centers on the Western United States. The gorgeous duotone images are the whole book, a small compact book with no text. The images are poetic, ambivalent, strong with the flight of a bird, or a fossil of a snail shell, or the flight of a flock of birds. A double page of barbed wire samples makes for a remarkable pattern of an almost new kind of script. All of these images are strong, evocative of significance and mystery. As soon as we grovel in earth, Felzmann takes us aloft on the flight of birds. We never grovel, but dwell on such common things as the buttons of a mattress or a small house tilted over, or a gorgeous abstract black and white design created from a target for shooting practice. And such textures. The printing is divine, and Lars Müller is a master at fine printing.

The images are an essay in silence on the detritus of civilization, of lost dwellings and deserted places, yet showing promise of hope in the flight of birds or the texture of sky. Although these images are visual, their message is like a poetic essay on the environment, on the hope that this civilization needs to save the earth (notwithstanding the politics of the U.S. government today).

With a short essay by the artist and a poetic extension of thoughts by Peter Pfrunder, this book should be at beck and call for anyone who gets depressed about what civilization is doing to the earth. There is hope here, there is discovery here, there is longing here.

Lyle Ashton Harris with essay by Anna Deavere Smith (New York, Gregory R. Miller, 2004, 19.95 paper) is the first publication from a new publishing house. Harris is a pioneering artist with an international reputation for his photography, which over 20 years has explored issues of performance, representation, identity, family, gender masculinity, ethnicity, and race. This book is a collaboration between an arresting photographer and a longtime friend, Anna Deavere Smith, who has written a moving literary text to accompany these gorgeous photographs. Her text is powerful, showing not only her empathy for Harris' photographs, but for his feelings, thoughts, gripping force of his new series of 20 x 24" Polaroids featuring Harris in a variety of culturally, racially, and historically loaded guises such as Billy Holiday, Josephine Baker, and the "Boxer". These images are unlike any you can imagine, for they get under your skin and reading Smith's words, they enhance the power of the image. Includes 19 color pages. (Available from CRG Gallery in New York City or from the publisher, 62 Cooper Sq., New York, NY 10003).

I Love My India: Stories for a City by Avinash Veeraraghavan (Chennai, India, Tarabooks, 2004, \$29.95), an ironic and poetic visual journey through urban India from the large cities to the small town, confounds the imagination with an almost surreal approach to our social arrangements. With the eye of an insider and that of a curious traveler, this is an original approach to street life, kitsch and popular culture. It is an oversize book, with intense colors to stimulate the palate and the imagination. Each page takes time to see and understand all the details. This is an exciting book, one to stimulate anyone to see India with new eyes. Distributed by Consortium Books in St. Paul, MN. www.tarabooks.com

**Farrago 3/4** by Reed Altemus is an Assembling, a gathering of copy art from artists all over the world, in the tradition of Richard Kostelanetz's *Assemblings*. Visual poems from Baroni, Bennett, Burgaud, Blurr, Fierens, Kostelanetz himself, Lipman, Nakamura, Random, Selby, Simone, Sutherland, Vassilakis and many, many more. In the tradition of these Gatherings, a list of all participants and their addresses is in the back cover. A wonderful collation.

#### TWO FROM KOSTELANETZ

**35** Years of Visible Writing: a memoir by Richard Kostelanetz (New York, Koja Press, 2004, \$12.00 paper plus \$2.00 shipping) In this striking collection, Kostelanetz, known as a leader in promoting all facets of visible writing, is presented in 15 different visual presentations, which produce a visual literary biography which is dynamic and enhanced with many examples of visual poetry such as the interposition of different sizes of text, numbers, in a visual autobiography, designed by Igor Satanovsky. As Kosti says, "perhaps this life is ultimately about the discovery of possibilities, first in available media, and then in art and, by extension, in oneself as a creative initiator." Order online from kojapress.com or send payment to Koja Press, P.O. Box 140083, Brooklyn, NY 11214.

Ecce Kosti: Published Encomia, 1967-1995 (New York, Archae Editions, 1996, \$5.00 paper) is a compendium of all the criticism of Kostelanez' work over a period of almost 30 years. Each item is printed in a different typeface making each page much more interesting, if one is to read these passages of criticism and review. To order, contact Archae Editions, P.O. Box 73, , Canal St., New York, NY 10013.

#### **EXHIBITION CATALOGS**

 $1^{ST}$  Seoul International Book Arts Fair Exhibition Catalog is a miracle created by Narae Kim, the head organizer of the Book Arts Fair, and a graduate of Camberwell, because it was printed in short weeks before the Book Fair opened with very little lead-time to celebrate the 20 artists who were invited to come to Seoul or 20 who participated from Korea. The catalog itself resembles a hand-sewn volume, but instead, opens into a bi-lingual two volume set in one set of covers: the first, a Korean collection in which each artist has at least two to four pages in full color with descriptions of each book in two languages. The photos are spread across the double pages at times, and the book itself is a treasure box of ideas about bookworks from around the world.

Participants came from Australia, New Zealand, the U.S., Japan, Germany, Hungary, Ireland. Denmark, the United Kingdom and Scotland. There is an essay by the organizer, Narae Kim; an essay on the collection of artist books at the Brooklyn Museum by D.E. Lawrence, the librarian; an essay by Diane Fogwell of the Australian National Gallery and an essay by Helen Douglas of Weproductions, Scotland. The catalog is a tribute to Narae Kim, who deserves a great tribute for pulling this off. Glossary of terms \$30.00 plus shipping from Bookpress, 5225 N. Riversedge Terr., Apt. 302, Chicago, IL 60630 or from Bookpress, 1685-3, Acrovista A-809, Seochodong Seochagu Seoul, Korea.

Artists' Books: No Reading Required includes selections from the Walker Art Center Library Collection, has multiple printed material and a list of activities to celebrate the exhibition at the Minnesota Center for Book Arts at Open Book in Minneapolis through 6 November. Write to MCBA, 1011 Washington Ave. South, Suite 100, Minneapolis, MN 55415.

Stand & Deliver Catalog, which accompanies a traveling show of movable and kinetic bookworks, is a dynamic bookwork in itself. When the catalog is opened, a pop-up explodes from the center surrounded by the itinerary for the show, and two booklets are pushed out from each side. The Show Booklet includes an introduction, background stories, and an interactive CD showing the work of 52 artists. The Gallery Booklet includes color photos and short descriptions for all 52 books in the show. The subtitle of this exhibition is "engineering sculpture into a book format." There is an essay by Werner Pfeiffer entitled, "Curiosity Builds a Book", another by Roberta Lavadour called "Mechanics Elevated to Magic"; John DiLorenzo designed this amazing catalog.

Julie Sadler designed the interactive CD that is included in the Stand & Deliver catalog. It features additional photographs, artist statements, sound effects, several short movie clips, and animations anad visual surprises provided by the designer. To order the catalog, the show's venues will be selling it, but you can order it directly by sending a check to Ed Hutchins, P.O. Box 624, Fleetwood, NY 10552 for \$26.29. The venues will be San Diego Mesa College, The Jaffe Collection at Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton; Denver Public Library; and Columbia College Chicago Center later in 2005. This is a must, not only as a documentation of an exhibition, but also as an artifact!

#### AUDIOWORKS

Kaddish and Other Audio Writings, a limited edition chapbook with two compact disks of Richard Kostelanetz's shorter electro-acoustic compositions. These are called "Audio Writings" because all these compositions depend upon a text or at least, the implication of a text. The chapbook consists mostly of his program notes on the individual works.\$40 postpaid from Archae Editions, P.O. Box 444, Prince St., New York, NY 10012-0008.

