

ARTIST BOOK NEWS

A New Bible - A \$3 million dollar illuminated, handwritten Bible will be executed by Donald Jackson, scribe to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's Crown Office at the House of Lords, along with a team of artists and theologians to interpret and illustrate Scripture from a contemporary perspective. Sponsored by St. John's Abbey, a Benedictine monastery, and its associate, St. John's University, both in Collegeville, Minnesota, the translation used will be the New Revised Standard Version, written at Jackson's scriptorium in Monmouth, Wales and at his artist-in-residence studio at St. John's. He has developed a unique lettering for the Bible that will involve using goose quills and handmade ink on vellum. His only concession to modern technology is his use of a computer to estimate the number of letters on a page and other layout details. Ancillary activities will be a collector's edition, eventually a shortened facsimile, as well as a Web site where pages will be presented as they are completed. (NY Times)

Book Arts Web by Peter Verheyen is <http://www.dreamscape.com/pdverhey/>, one of the best sources for links to book arts-related sites including galleries of images.

Book Arts Classified available for \$16.00 a year or 2 years for \$30 from Page Two, Inc., P.O. Box 77167, Washington, DC 20013-7167.

Rare Books in Electronic Format in the form of CD-ROMs is being produced by Octavo, which is producing rare books such as *Alice in Wonderland* with the original Tenniel drawings, Chaucer, Shakespeare's Sonnets, a Book of Hours by Geoffrey Tory, and much more.

Volumes of Vulnerability. 20 artists from a wide range of disciplines are asked to contribute a work loosely interpreting, with image and/or text, the concept of vulnerability. Organized by Susan Johanknecht of Camberwell College in London, this show is the antithesis of a glorious and monumental statement of the new millennium, rather it is something within personal control, as opposed to state glory. The work is to become part of a series of artist books (volumes) which will be exhibited at The Shopfront Gallery in London and then tour internationally. The show will include exhibition copies, handling copies, copies to sell (priced at ca. £12 each) and a reasonably priced catalogue. Some books will hang, some fold out, and some will be sculptural enough to stand. A series of readings and performances profiling various volumes will take place as a season of events during the London show. Exhibition will be November 1999 - January 2000 and touring. Participating artists thus far are from the U.K., Germany, Japan, Poland, Scotland and the U.S.: Sophie Artemis, Helen Douglas, Cate Elwes, Joanna

Hoffmann, Susan Johanknecht, Liliane Lijn, Lily Markiewicz, Katharine Meynell, Johnny Miller, Jim Mooney, Shariff Musoon, Hayley Newman, Alistair Skinner, Gary Stevens, David Thome, Ulrike Stoltz, Claire Van Vliet, Elaine Worth.

Love Letter to Gutenberg. An international students' competition for the millennium, organized by Ulrike Stoltz. This competition is part of the events for the millennium in Mainz, Germany under the rubric "Gutenberg 2000". There will be exhibitions in the Gutenberg Museum and other museums in Mainz, as well as a series of exhibitions which will take place in a pavilion which will be put up in the center of town.

Keep reading to learn more about this in the next issues of *Umbrella*.

Hello! Here's a project you might find interesting. I'm asking people to **xerox the first page** (opening paragraph) of their favorite book (or least favorite). All the submissions will be put together to form a book, and displayed at a Mail Art Show at Expressions Graphics Gallery in Oak Park, IL. Expressions Graphics is a not-for-profit printmaking and art cooperative. Please pass the word along to anyone who might be interested in participating. Everyone who sends a page will receive documentation of the show. The deadline for this project is **May 15, 1999**. Thanks! Send to: Polly Smith /1047 North Lombard Avenue / Oak Park, IL / 60302 USA. E-mail: Pilpol@aol.com

Boekie Woekie, the Amsterdam store for books by artists, is pleased to announce that it has opened a gallery section on its site. Currently exhibiting is Ann Noel with a gif animation of part of one of her books. Ann will be doing a "copying event" in the shop/gallery on 17 April. Come along if you're in Amsterdam or visit them at <http://www.xs4all.nl/~boewoe>

Traces: A Book of Years is a great book (140 x 160cm when closed) to be created by artists, to be the object and metaphor at the heart of an ambitious art project involving the visual arts, performance, installation, theater and music in 1999. Dates are 22 May - 22 August 1999. [Http://www.nesa-efau.de](http://www.nesa-efau.de) or send address label and postal order to Riesa Efau Cultural Association, Adlergasse 14, 01067 Dresden, Germany. Tel: (49)351-8-66-02-16 or fax: (49)351-8-66-0212. Deadline for written proposals: **12 May 99**.

The 20th Anniversary of the Graphic Novel was recently celebrated at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, with the guest of honor Will Eisner, the 82-year-old creator of the comic book hero "The Spirit" and the author of "A Contract with God", the first graphic novel written in 1978.

Buzz Spector has written an illuminating review of the both the **Artist/Author** exhibition curated by Cornelia Lauf and Clive Phillpot, and **Die Bücher der Künstler: Artists' Books from 1920-1990**, curated by Michael Glasmeier for the Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen (mostly of Germany book artists, but also artists active in Germany). The review, entitled "Getting a Shelf Life" appears in the March/April issue of *afterimage*, VSW, 31 Prince St., Rochester, NY 14607.

Livres d'Enfances is an amazing exhibition of artist books for children or about childhood in one way or another, and a catalog published by Pays-Paysage - Centre national du Livre d'Artiste (Saint-Yrieix-la-Perche, Haute-Vienne) and on exhibit at ENAD, Aubusson in 1998, had more than 200 books by artists from all over the world, all curated by **Anne Mocglin-Delcroix**. The catalog is in two parts, one "historical", beginning with 1900, the other being more contemporary since a dozen of the artists were commissioned to create a book on the subject, the dummies of which were exhibited. One by Peter Downsbrough has already been published. The artists commissioned include Claude Closky, Roberto Martinez, Peter Downsbrough, Milos Cvach, Jean Le Gac, Jean-Michel Othoniel, Jan Voss, Henriette van Egten and Simon Cutts, among others. The catalog includes an index, essays by the curator, Patricia Railing, Elisabeth Lortic, Annie Pissard Mirabel who asks the questions, What use a book? And the answer is made by Bruno Munari, just before his death.

The catalog includes an index and gorgeous color illustrations.

Didier Matthieu has been named head of the Center for the Artist Book, Pays Paysage, 17 rue Jules Ferry, 87500 Saint-Yrieix-La-Perche, France.

5th Conference of the Council of Book Arts Programs, held at the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa in February included a show-and-tell session by Ed Hutchins, in which he laid out some of the books on bookmaking he distributes through Book Central, P.O. Box 895, Cairo, NY 12413: tel: (518)622-0113, or bookcentral@artistbooks.com

Ed said: "One of the best and affordable ways to learn is from well-written and clearly illustrated instructional manuals. A good how-to book is like a patient, resident instructor; it is just an arm's reach away and always available to solve a technical problem or to help learn a new technique. The problem has been in finding the best books to purchase. At Book Central we have searched out and tracked down the best instructional manuals. Most are from small publishers and all are written by professionals in the book arts. From traditional bookbinding to contemporary book structures, papermaking, gocco printing, rubber stamping, pop-ups and creating books with children, here is your single source for information on how to design and create your own books."

Wanted: John M. Bennett has become the Curator of the Avant-Writing Collection at Ohio State University Libraries. The collection focuses on North American and International avant-garde and innovative writing, visual poetry, trans-generic writing, and related phenomena. Donations of materials are actively being sought. Write to John M. Bennett, Ohio State University, Rare Books, 1858 Neil Ave., Mall, Columbus, OH 43210-1286.

EXHIBITION CATALOGS

Kunstenaarsboeken: Artists' Books/Livres d'Artistes/Kunstlerbücher is the catalog of an exhibition curated by Guy Bleus (42.292) at the Literair Museum Hasselt from 9 September - 7 November 1998. The catalog is in black and white, in Flemish, and illustrated. 26 pages, essay by Guy Bleus. Available from P.O. Box 43, 3830 Wellen, Belgium.

v+v: Verbal and Visual in Uruguayan Art at the Centro Cultural Mec, curated by Clemente Padin, is a wonderful cross-section of an important segment of art practice in Uruguay. Included is an essay by Padin, black and white illustrations, biographies of all artists, a bibliography. For more information, contact clepadin@adinet.com.uy

Album: Thirty Years at the Lower East Side Printshop, 1968-1998 is the catalog of a thirty-year history of what a children's workshop can become. The catalog, thus, has been designed like a family album with essay written by Nancy Princenthal, including images of each artist's work and an index of works. Prints, posters and artist books are documented. A "real" two-color, 68-page catalog produced at the Printshop is \$15 from 59-61 E. 4th St., 6th flr., New York, NY 10003. The price includes shipping and handling. The entire exhibition catalog and Nancy's essay is now on-line in full color for free at <http://www.printshop.org> The title is "Album".

ARTIST BOOK COURSES & LECTURES

Finding Your Own Story: Labyrinthine Garden & Forbidden Fruit at Ghost Ranch, Abiquiu, NM from 15 - 21 May 1999. A week of stories, poetry, brush practice, painting, writing and two books: *A Book of Days* and *A Visual Journal*. To reserve a space, send \$175.00 non-refundable deposit to Laurie Doctor, 2873 Sixth St., Boulder, CO 80304. \$395.00 workshop fee, \$45.00 materials fee, \$405.00 room and board.

For more information, telephone Laurie Doctor at (303)447-9852 or fax: (303)786-8765.

The Windowpane Press has classes in letterpress printing, workshops on book arts and paper crafts, books printed by hand and bookbinding by hand. For more information, contact the Press at 4243 N.E. 92nd St., Seattle, WA 98115.

Planetary Collage (Timothy Ely) in Portland, Oregon has a new series of workshops for Winter-Spring with courses in Book Structures, Archival Presentation Structures, the Vellum Book and the Making of Manuscript Inks. For more information, contact Planetary Collage, Timothy C. Ely, 1306 NW Hoyt, #407, Portland, OR 97209. (503)243-6812 or e-mail: axt1221@aol.com

The Pforzheimer Lectures on Printing and the Book Arts at the New York Public Library are dedicated to Reading Art: Contemporary Artists' Books with Lawrence Weiner: Learn to Read Art (30 March), Edward Ruscha: Various Small Books (7 April), Anne Moeglin-Delcroix: An Approach to French Artists' Books (19 April), Richard Tuttle, interviewed by Robert Rainwater (3 May), and Clive Phillpot: Rosebud: Books into Art (10 May). A Conversation with Barbara Bloom and Roni Horn will be held on 19 May. All lectures are at 6 p.m. at the 5th Avenue at 42nd St. main New York Public Library.

The Master of Fine Arts in Book Arts/Printmaking at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia is celebrating its 10th anniversary with an exhibition of work by alumni from the Book Arts Program, 16 April - 9 May. Lectures by Marvin Sackner, *The Collector as a Performer*, on 15 April at 5:30 p.m. and a lecture by Buzz Spector on *The Art of Buzz Spector: An Archive of Forgetting* on 17 April at 3:00 pm. For more information contact Mary Phelan, University of the Arts, 320 S. Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19102 (215)875-1119 or MaryPhelan@aol.com, or mphelan@uarts.edu

The Future is the Book: Third Annual Summer Book Arts Symposium, Whitman College, Walla Walla, WA from 21 - 26 June 1999. What will books look like in the fast-paced electronic world of the future? How will book arts evolve in the 21st century? Join an invited panel of guest artists, printers and conservators to explore new approaches to the printing, illustrating and binding of books in a summer program sponsored annually by Whitman College in Walla Walla, WA. This five-day program features lectures and hands-on workshops of interest to both novice book arts enthusiasts and professionals.

Morning presentations will feature **Gary Frost**, a leading figure in the field of book arts, and **Barbara Henry**, an accomplished letterpress printer and book binder, as well as curator of New York's South Street Seaport Printing Museum.

Afternoon sessions will be led by **Kathy Kuehn** and **Barbara Tetenbaum**. Studio facilities will be available outside of class for completion of projects. Enrollment is limited. Call at (509)527-5255 or e-mail: harak@whitman.com

ARTIST BOOK WORKSHOPS

RISD Bookworks: A two-week intensive artist book workshop with a focus in pop-up books at the Rhode Island School of Design, 7-19 June with RISD faculty and guest book artist, Carol Barton, \$1100, 3 college credits. Call (401)454-6200 for more information.

Eccentric Contemporary Bookbinding Structures at the Naropa Institute in Boulder, CO conducted by Pat Baldwin from 5 June - 24 July 1999. Appropriate for beginning bookmakers to express individuality with practicality and the experience binder to develop variations on traditionally structured book forms. For more information, contact Kristine Kowalsky, Program Manager, Naropa Institute, 3285 30th St., Boulder, CO 80301 or Pat Baldwin, P.O. Box 1711, Bisbee, AZ 85603, (520)432-5924, fax: (520)432-3065, patbooks@primenet.com

Book Arts Jamboree is having three sessions of bookmaking activities: 18 - 23 July: Bookmaking Adventures in the Classroom; 25-30 July, Exploring Structure and Content; 1-6 August: Making Better Books. For more information, send to 1999 Book Arts Jamboree, P.O. Box 895, Cairo, NY 12413.

Visual Studies Workshop offers 23 intensive week-long workshops in photography, artists' books, film and video, and computer imaging and multimedia. Beginning 28 June, a visiting national faculty leads small intensive classes limited to 8 - 12 participants. Graduate or undergraduate college credit is available. To receive a catalog, contact VSW, 31 Prince St., Rochester, NY 14607. Faculty for artists' books includes Joan Lyons, Scott McCarney, and Susan Share. Phone: (716)442-8687, fax: (716)442-1992, and e-mail: vsw@rpa.net

Anderson Ranch Arts Center features workshops for artists who make books: Susan kae Grant will be teaching "Mapping the Unconscious: Zen & the Art of Bookmaking", Susan King will be teaching "Inspiration on the Road: Developing ideas for artist's travel books". Jim Goldberg and Philip Brooman will be teaching, "Photography storytelling". For more information, contact Anderson Ranch Arts Center, P.O. Box 5598, Snowmass Village, CO 81615.

Women's Studio Workshop summer Arts Institute for 1999 has been announced with courses in Papermaking, Printmaking, Book Arts including structures, editioned books, thematic books, sculptural books, decorative papers, photography, clay and much more. For more information, contact WSW, P.O. Box 489, Rosendale, NY 12472. E-mail at wsw@ulster.net or <http://www.wsworkshop.org>

The Dream & The Book: workshop with Genie Shenk on 15 May from 10 - 3:30 p.m. at the Long Beach Museum of Art in Long Beach, CA. For more information, contact Sue Ann Robinson at (562)439-2119, ext. 35 or send check for \$50 before 8 May to LBMA Foundation, att: Sue Ann Robinson, Long Beach Museum of Art, 2300 E. Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90803.

Studio in the Sky features *Sas Colby: Art as Offering*, a mixed media workshop in Taos, New Mexico 22 - 27 August 1999 located in the Mabel Dodge Luhan House and classes are limited to 12. For more information, contact Colby at sascalby@earthlink.net or (510)841-8827.

Artist Book Dealers

Women's Studio Workshop has a new catalog which commemorates the 25th anniversary of WSW and its services to all persons interested in the arts. Write to WSW, P.O. Box 489, Rosendale, NY 12472.

Collant-art book, Via Trinchera 10, 80138 Napoli, Italy has a new catalog with almost 800 items listed.

Volatile, P.O. Box 3274, Cincinnati, OH 45201 has a new catalog of artists' books, graphics, multiples, visual poetry, and documents of Alternative culture. E-mail: volatile@one.net

Juan J. Agius has a new catalog on rubberstamps and art multiples, as well as artist postcards. Write to P.O. Box 5243, CH-1211 Geneva 11, Switzerland.

Book Central: 1998-99 Winter Supplement: Your source for instructional manuals about the Book Arts including bookbinding & book structures, papermaking, pop-ups, printing & decorating the page, and teaching the book arts, available from P.O. Box 895, Cairo, NY 12413.

Art Metropole has a 1998 catalog no. 20. Write to 788 King St. West, Toronto M5V 1N6 Canada. E-mail: artmet@interlog.com

McPherson & Co., P.O. Box 1126, Kingston, NY 12402 has a Summer Catalog and a Fall Catalog.

Sara Ranchose Publishing Catalog 1998 is available from P.O. Box 47687, Chicago, IL 60647.

Book Works, 19 Holywell Row, London EC2A 4JB, England has a new 1998 list of publications, including two new publications: **The Palaver** by Gad Hollander and Andrew Bick, and **Shup**, a screenplay by Jordan Baseman. **The Palaver** functions as a story board for an imaginary movie, conceived as "photo roman", a pocket sized book unfolding as a sequence of 50 short texts each accompanied by a corresponding image. There are a series of line

drawings in blue marker pen superimposed over each image. £9.95

Shup is a speculative screenplay that depicts a true story that took place on Saturday 13 March 1976 in Jenkintown, Pennsylvania. It is an investigation into the cruelties and powerlessness of youth: a study of mutual oppression. £7.95

Joshua Heller Rare Books has issued its Catalogue #20 in the Fall 1998 which features "The Book as Art" with modern illustrated books, fine printing and contemporary designer bindings. For more information, contact P.O. Box 39114, Washington, DC 20016-9114.

20th Century Art Archives has issued Catalogue 15. Write to Flendyshe House, High St., Fen Ditton, Cambridge CB5 8ST, United Kingdom or phone and fax: (0044)1-223-294-096, or e-mail: 101724.2704@compuserve.com

Never Mind the Press (Alisa Golden) announces a new fax line to order Book Arts (510)291-2202, and has a new Spring 1999 newsletter with new titles, 1998 titles still available and how-to and interview books available.

Barbara Rosenthal Publications has a new list of books, available at local stores, through Printed Matter and from the artist at 463 West St., #A-628, New York, NY 10014-2035.

Western Front in Vancouver has published bookworks over the years and has a list of books, videos, multiples, catalogs which can be ordered by phone or e-mail at: front@smartt.com or (604)876-9343.

BOOK FAIRS

The Artist's Book Fair Brussels '99 takes place at the Salle de la Madeleine situated in the heart of Brussels from 23 April - 25 April.

The Alliance for Contemporary Book Arts will hold its **2nd Annual Book Arts Fair** at Dawson's Book Shop, 535 No. Larchmont Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90004 on **15 May 1999**. Fine press printers and book artists will show and sell their books, featuring "The Southern California Tradition: An Exhibition of Finely Printed Books & Printed Ephemera and demonstrations of Japanese papermaking by Hiromi Katayama of Hiromi Paper International.

BookExpo America at the Los Angeles Convention Center from 30 April - 2 May 1999.

ARTIST BOOK EXHIBITS

Takako Saito: Bookworks including the launch of her new Chessplay No. 1, including 96 booklets in black and white, each one with quotations and phrases related to the chess figures in which there is a wooden box with rules of the game. Edition of 30. At Buchgalerie Mergemeier,

Luisenstrasse 7, 40215 Dusseldorf, Germany. Book can be ordered for \$400/DM 680 during exhibition.

New York, New York: Artists' Books and Works on Paper, 5 April - 22 May 1999 at HarperCollins Exhibition Space, 10 #. 53rd St., New York, curated by Stephanie Later. Includes 43 works by 21 artists such as Robbin Ami Silverberg, Ed Hutchins, Mindell Lubansky, Alice Simpson, and Later herself, among others.

X: The First Decade, The Next Page, work by Alumni from the Book Arts/Printmaking Program, University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA. 16 April - 9 May 1999 at the Rosenwald-Wolf Gallery, 333 Broad St., Philadelphia.

Art as Book, Book as Art: Works by 4 Long Beach Artists at the Long Beach Public Library, 101 Pacific Ave., Long Beach, CA from 1 March - 30 April. Sue Ann Robinson, Pia Pizzo, Terry Braunstein, Slater Barron.

Book Arts: Images & Words, 4 March - 1 April. 31 local and nationally recognized artists at Cambridge Artists Cooperative, 59A Church St., Cambridge, MA. Includes work of Laura Davidson.

Boundaries of the Universe: Twenty-two Letters by Lynne Avadenka, 17 March - 27 June 1999 at the Detroit Institute of Arts in Detroit, MI.

A Book is Not a Book is Not a Book: Selections from the Joan Flasch Artists' Book Collection - a well known repository of books, multiples and mail art - as well as a juried exhibition of artists' books made by students, faculty and staff at the Betty Rymer Gallery, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, 16 April - 9 June. (Brochure available through the gallery).

Abecedarium features the collaborative work of members of the Guild of Book Workers at The Newberry Library, Chicago, IL, 13 March - 17 April; Ohio University Library, Athens, 7 June - 14 August; Denver Public Library, 6 September - 17 October; Denison Library, Scripps College, Claremont, CA, 3 November - 17 December. Online site: <http://palimpsest.stanford.edu/byorg/gbw> An innovative and exciting catalog has been published for \$20.00 plus \$4.00 s/h from the Guild's website. For more information, contact Barbara Lazarus Metz, Exhibitions Chair, at blazarmetz@nwu.edu. Metz was organizer of the show and the catalog design was by William Drendel.

The Grolier Club's exhibition schedule for 1999 is "Treasures from the Libraries of the National Trust which closes on 17 April. 3 May - 31 July: 19th Century American Color Plate Books; 13 September - 13 November: Century for a Century. . The Grolier Club is located at 47 E. 60th St., New York, NY.

Unbound featuring work by Jan Gilbert, Scott McCarney and Sarah Webb at Gallery: untitled, 33603 Parry Ave., Dallas, TX 75226 from 17 April - 29 May 1999. <http://www.untitled.net>

Reading Art features *Die Bucher der Kunstler*, organized by Michael Glasmeier of Stuttgart; *desire and the importance of failure* by Shelagh Keeley; *God Dolls* by Ruth Laxson; *Loose Ends* by Karen Rifas all at Nexus Contemporary Art Center, 535 Means St., NW, Atlanta, GA 30318. The exhibition opened on 12 March and closes on 24 April.

Robert Morris: L'oeuvre multiplié at Maison Levanneur, Centre National de l'estampe e de l'art imprimé in Chatour, France 17 April - 20 June. Includes the publication of a catalog with contributions by Rainer Michael Mason, Valerie Mavridorakis, Robert Morris and Hans Ulrich Obrist (204) pages, French/English, 157 illustrations).

RECENT EXHIBITIONS

Joan Hall: Box Constructions at Mary Delahoyd Gallery, 426 Broome St., New York from 9 March - 10 April.

Livres uniques et Collages, an exhibition of Books and works on paper by Lise Poirier at HarperCollins Exhibition Space, New York City from 3 - 31 March.

Glen Baxter: Una ame en tourment at the Maison Levanneur, Centre National de l'Estampe e de l'art imprimé from 11 February - 11 April, Chatou, France.

Hans-Peter Feldmann, a selection of 30 years of artists' books and editions, 4 February - 3 April 1999 at Art Metropole in Toronto. A new bookwork by the artist entitled *All the Clothes of a Woman*, co-published by Art Metropole and Feldmann Verlag, now available from Art Metropole, 788 King St. West, Toronto, Canada M5V 1N6 artmet@interlog.com

VS. Books & Paintings by Heidi Pollard and Cynthia Laureen Vogt at the Harwood Art Center, Albuquerque, NM from 4 - 27 February.

Eighteen by Martin Brief at the Texas Woman's University, Department of Visual Arts, 25 January - 29 February 1999.

This is an Original Piece of Evidence: Jurgen Olbrich's Collaborative Artists' Periodicals (*Zeitschrift fur Tiegel Er Tumult/Non News*) from 10 October - 14 November 1998 at Bound & Unbound, New York City.

Marilyn R. Rosenberg: Visual Poems/Artists' Books from 1 - 30 March at John Jay Gallery, New York.

Book Arts in the Pioneer Valley to inaugurate the Center for Books at Hampshire college, Amherst, MA at the Film & Photography Gallery through 31 March. Included a symposium.

Book Explorations '99 opened 5 March - 14 March including second juried exhibit of unique handmade artists' books, held in the 1908 Yankee Barn 35 miles south of Boston in Kingston, MA.

ARTIST BOOK REVIEWS

Most of these books can be ordered directly from Printed Matter, 77 Wooster St., New York, NY 10012.

REFERENCE

Figuring the Word: Essays on Books, Writing, and Visual Poetics by Johanna Drucker (New York, Granary Books, 1998, \$24.95 paper) is an anthology of Drucker's diverse writings previously published in literary and scholarly journals. The book reflects the fascinating coalescence of the practitioner-critic which gives a new slant not only on Writing and the Word, Visual Poetics and Artists' Books, but also on the mind of this extraordinary thinker. Not only a printer, a critic, an artist, a poet, a novelist and an essayist, this professor at the State University of New York at Purchase has driven the literature machine which has enhanced the bibliography and visual poetry to new standards and new heights.

Students and teachers alike will grasp onto new ideas of thinking about typography, about concrete poetry, about the alphabet and the use of language in the landscape, but now she adds a new take on the use of language in the new electronic frontier of cyberspace. This is essential reading, by far the best to inform the reader about what has gone on in the past and what is going forward into the new millennium. A wonderful anecdotal checklist of Drucker's artist books completes this important book, which has an incisive foreword by poet Charles Bernstein. Must reading.

Speaking of Book Art: Interviews with British and American Book Artists by Cathy Courtney (Los Altos Hills, CA, Anderson-Lovelace, 1999, \$29.95 paper) is the result of Courtney's position as Research Assistant for the Project in Book Art, 1995-97, "The Art of the Book 1960 to the Present" at Camberwell College of Arts in London. Interviewed are Ron King, Ian Tyson, Joan Lyons, Betsy Davids, Sas Colby, Telfer Stokes, Kathy Walkup, Susan King, Helen Douglas, Johanna Drucker, Paul Coldwell, Susan Johanknecht, Alisa Golden, Julie Chen and Karen Bleitz. All these artists represent presses, institutions, or workshops/programs to teach artist books or book arts.

Courtney, who has spent the past 15 years, writing distinguished essays about book arts and artist books in *Art Monthly*, catalog essays, as well as a recent book on The Circle Press, has been intimately involved in the growth and evolution of the book arts from the 1970s to the 1990s. She

feels that trying to find a definition for "artist's book" has avoided deeper issues which are more relevant. The interviews of British artists are included in "Artists' Lives" recordings which are part of the National Life Story Collection housed at the British Library National Sound Archive in London.

These interviews are part of the warp and woof of the field of artists who make books. Insightful and subtle, Courtney gets information from her artists in a fascinating manner. A must! (Order from Anderson-Lovelace, 13040 Alta Tierra Rd., Los Altos Hills, CA 94022 or from your local book dealer.)

do it is the exhibition catalog of an exhibition curated by Hans-Ulrich Obrist, circulated by Independent Curators Inc. Included are pages of performance scores by Christian Boltanski, Joan Brossa, Critical Art Ensemble, Jimmie Durham, Hans-Peter Feldmann, Ilya Kabokov, Mike Kelley, Alison Knowles, Chris Marker, Yoko Ono, Jason Rhoades, Rirkrit Tiravanija, Lawrence Weiner, Marina Abramovic, John Baldessari, Dan Graham, Allan Kaprow, Jiri Kolar, Annette Messenger, Nancy Spero and Franz West, among many others. Essay by Bruce Altshuler. \$12.00

John Cage (ex)plain(ed) by Richard Kostelanetz (New York, Schirmer Books/Simon & Schuster, 1996, \$18) is divided into The Man, The Works, The Legacy. This is a tribute to a man whose defense has been the lifework of Richard Kostelanetz, who has been writing about Cage since 1964. Perhaps misunderstood by many, Cage has found his Boswell, one who listened, learned, explored, explained and expounded. Here we have Cage for the neophyte as well as Cage for the seasoned listener, reader, follower. Compact, but wide-ranging, **John Cage** is indeed plainly explained with the enthusiasm and the personal engagement that is so much part of being John Cage. Kosty has it right. With a CageChrono, a Bibliography-Discography and an index, this is essential Cage for all artists, readers, philosophers, musicians, poets, avantgardists, and lovers of life. Is there anyone else?

Stars Don't Stand Still in the Sky: Music and Myth, edited by Karen Kelly and Evelyn McDonnell with an introduction by Greil Marcus (New York, New York University Press, 1999, \$19.95) is the first multidisciplinary book to discuss both popular music and the process by which it has been mythologized by its audience, its chroniclers, and its analysts. Included are essays by Anthony DeCurtis, Paul Gilroy, Lawrence Grossberg, Jessica Hagedorn, Dave Hickey, Greil Marcus, Paul D. Miller (aka DJ Spooky), Toshi Reagon, Ralph Rugoff, Jon Savage, Denna Weinstein and Ellen Willis, among others. Published in collaboration with Dia Center for the Arts, New York. Includes bibliography.