

ARTISTS' BOOKS: news and reviews

NEWS

Cubist Prints/Cubist Books by Donna Stein is the exhibition catalog of the recent show at Franklin Furnace. The catalog serves as Volume 4, nos. 1 & 2 of *Flue*, the journal published by the Furnace, but know that this is truly an important exhibition catalog which is a real contribution to the literature. There are contributions by Stein, who organized the exhibition, Ron Padgett and George Peck. There are many illustrations, an index to artists, an index to writers, and the catalog is a handsome one too. Write to Franklin Furnace, 112 Franklin St., New York, NY 10013 for membership information.

• The first exhibition about Swedish art magazines has been held at the Moderna Museet, in Stockholm, curated by Leif Eriksson of Wedgepress & Cheese and the Swedish Archive of Artists' Books. On the large poster which advertised the exhibition of Svenska Konsttidskrifter (5 Nov. - 31 December 1983) there was an example of "Flamman", one of the most distinctive examples which introduced the avant-garde in Sweden from 1917 through 1921. On the catalog cover are all the art magazines published in Sweden since 1682, the first being *Relationes Curiosae*. The Swedish Archive of Artists' Books has recently exhibited its postponed show "Artists' Books/Booked Art" of which there is a catalog and poster.

• **New Wilderness Letter 11** is dedicated to The Book, Spiritual Instrument. Edited by Jerome Rothenberg and David Guss, in December 1983, there is a translation of Mallarme's *The Book, Spiritual Instrument* by Michael Gibbs, Karl Young's Bookforms, Becky Cohen's "The Book as an Instrument of Performance" (photo insert), Alison Knowles' "On the Book of Bean," Dick Higgins' *A Book* and contributions by Herbert Blau, David Guss, David Meltzer, George Quasha, Jed Rasula and more. Write to NWL, 325 Spring St., no. 208, New York, NY 10013. \$4.00 at your local bookstore too.

• The Second Story Gallery is showing an exhibit of Artists' Books from the Writer's Center through 29 January at 3236 P St., N.W., Washington, DC. The artists include Carol Barton, Helen Brunner, Pat Dubroof, Anne-Catherin Fallen, Nancy Garruba, Sue Hoth, Kevin MacDonald, Kevin Osborn, Lyle Rosbotham, Marilyn Rosenberg, Barbara Shaw, Daphne Shuttleworth, Alan Stone, Joan Wolbier and Ann Zahn. The Writer's Center is located in Glen Echo, Maryland and the book project is directed by Kevin Osborn.

• **Buzz Spector** is represented in New York City by Tony Zwicker. He was included in a show at Semaphore Gallery in New York City, "N.A.M.E. at Semaphore (Other Images from Chicago)" during December. He will be opening in an exhibition in Los Angeles at the Roy Boyd Gallery on 18 January.

• **Janet Maher** is showing recent photography collages and handmade books at Photogenesis Gallery, Albuquerque, New Mexico through 28 January.

Michael J. Dennis is showing bookworks at the Gelman Library of George Washington University through 24 February.

Rumor has it that Kathryn Markel Gallery's Third Annual Artists' Books was the best yet, held in the month of December. Kathryn Markel Gallery is located in New York City at 50 West 57th St.

Eddie Ellis is showing her handmade books at Los Angeles Valley College. Ellis makes books in the shape of hands, legs, foldout long accordion books, in which her poetry is incorporated into the pages, all typed on her by now famous typewriter.

Skuta Helgason is the new Bookshop Manager at Bookworks at WPA in Washington, DC, where **Axel Heibel** and **Warja Lavater** open in a display in the windows of the bookshop on 27 January.

The Second Coming, the blockbuster show at the Franklin Furnace through 4 February has an "Adult Bookstore" on the First Floor, where many book artists are displaying their wares

Marilyn Rosenberg is one of the participants in "You Can't Tell a Book By Its Cover" which appears through 22 January at the Thorpe Intermedia Gallery in Sparkill, New York.

Kathleen Derzipilski, book artist, appeared in a show at Art Galaxy on Mott Street in New York City through 19 January.

Kretschmer & Grossmann, publishers and distributors, had a show of artists' books, graphic art, paintings and photography representing 12 artists at Galerie Loehr in Frankfurt. The same exhibit traveled to Produzentengalerie in Munich through 28 January.

More than 120 artists are represented in **California Bookworks: The Last Five Years** at Otis/Parsons Exhibition Center, which opened on 3 January and will continue through 15 February 1984. The show in Los Angeles is curated by Joan Hugo, and is available for loan and exhibition by contacting the Otis/Parsons Exhibition Center, 2401 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90057.

• **The National Artists' Books Contest of Canada** was recently held in Montreal, with three categories of bookworks involved: the illustrated book in limited edition, the multiple artist's book, and the book-object. The three artists who won are: Louis-Pierre Bougie, first prize for limited edition book; prizes for book objects went to Denyse Gerin and Lise Landry. No prize was given for multiple bookworks. There were 42 finalists who submitted 49 books.

This Contest was sponsored by the Government of Canada, who subsidized the salaries of personnel who administered the exhibition and competition, another subsidy from the Minister of Cultural Affairs of Quebec to cover the prize money. The exhibition took place at the sponsoring organization, Aubes 3935, a gallery of bookworks, which was established in 1981 in Montreal. According to Gallery director, Annie Molin-Vasseur, there is hope to travel the exhibition throughout Canada and if possible outside that country so write to Aubes 3935, Annie Molin-Vasseur, 3935 rue St-Denis, Montreal, Quebec H2W 2M4, Canada.

• "Two Decades of Book Art" by Clive Phillpot appeared in the Fall 1983 issue of *Views: The Journal of Photography in New England*, published by the Photographic Resource Center, 1019 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA

02215. This article is a reprint from the *Arts in Virginia*, Vol. 23, Nos. 1 & 2, 1983. The article was published to draw attention to New Works: Artists' Books grant program sponsored by the PRC.

"New York artists' books" appeared in the October issue of *Art Monthly*, by Cathy Courtney, who writes often on bookworks. *Art Monthly* is published in London at 36 Great Russell St., London WC1B 3PP.

• **SERVICES:** The Institute for the Book Arts, a component of Library Service at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa is sponsoring three workshops in June 1984 that deal with Japanese Papermaking, Printing on Japanese Papers, and Oriental and Non-Adhesive Bindings with distinguished instructors. For more information, write Richard-Gabriel Rummonds, P.O. Box 6242, University, AL 35486.

Lage Eric Carlson directs a C.A.W. Bookbinding Training Program at C.A.W. Bindery, 80 Audubon St., New Haven, CT 06511. For more information, write them.

The Maine Book Catalogue/Sampler has been issued by The Maine Writers & Publishers Alliance for Fall 1983. This is a catalog of books distributed by the Alliance, and there are many of them. Write MWPA, P.O. Box 7542 dts, Portland, ME 04112.

Bookworks is a new book centre in London, set up by Pella Erskine-Tulloch, Vanessa Marshall, Rob Hadrill and Jane Rolo, in a railway arch overlooking Southwark Cathedral.

At the outset, they will concentrate on developing a program of exhibitions, lectures, seminars and workshops on all aspects of book arts, as well as building up a collection of reference material including slides, tapes, books and catalogues. The next step on the program is to set up a studio and service bindery. The gallery will be open to the general public, but first they need money for start-up conversion and general operating costs. They are therefore offering membership to anyone interested in Book Works and using their facilities in England. Write to Book Works, 1 Green Dragon Court, Borough Market, London S.E.1, England, tel. 01-407-1692. The model for Book Works is the Center for Book Arts in New York City.

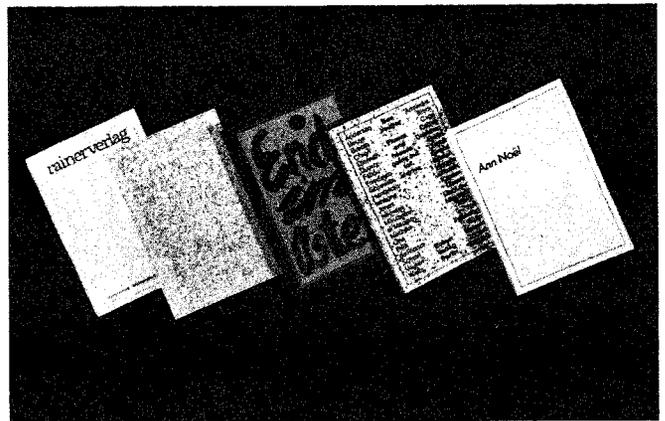
• Available titles: **Text-Sound Texts** is available from RK Editions, P.O. Box 73, Canal Street Station, New York, NY 10013 for \$5.00 paperback, \$10.00 hardback, plus a dollar for postage. This is an important text by Richard Kostelanetz.

• *Macedoine* is a new book by Chester Kasnowski in a limited edition of 100, published by the Bertha Urdang Gallery in New York City at 23 E. 74th St., NYC 10021. This second bookwork by Kasnowski has all hand-colored pages and uses a combination of words and images to emphasize the differences between human behavior and a constantly shifting environment. \$30 in a signed edition, where the images are always produced in watercolor.

• In March, there will be an international exhibition of artists' books at the Centre d'Art Contemporaine in curated by Maurizio Nannucci, Fulvio Salvadori and Rafael Sanchez.

• Art in Form in Seattle along with 911, the alternative artists' space, are sponsoring an exhibition in four public spaces throughout the city. What is innovative about this exhibition is that it involves only 10 books, which will be in a senior citizens' center in the center of the city, a welfare office, a bar frequented by many artists. Buster Simpson, well-known Seattle artist, has devised a bin for these books which is a showcase. A catalog will be also be published with an essay by Clive Phillpot. For more information, contact Art in Form, P.O. Box 2567, Seattle, WA 98111.

WANTED: Artists who make books. Please send black and white photos and/or slides for inclusion in a forthcoming book to be published in late 1984 authored by Axel Heibel, Aachenerstr. 118, 4000 Dusseldorf 1, West Germany. Photos should show the open book. Biographical information is also requested. Inclusion in the Heibel archive for future exhibitions, publications, etc.



RAINER VERLAG has a certain dimension to their press-compact—because most of their books are the same size, and so is their catalog—15 x 10 cm. If you see that size on the shelf, it is almost automatically Rainerverlag, a marvelous artist press in Berlin, discovered by this report in Frankfurt. Started in 1963 by doing etchings of German artists in Berlin, there were other editions done near Frankfurt. Famed for typesetting and book production, they settled in Berlin and seem to have been thriving ever since. They are now doing books by such artists as Emmett Williams, Ann Noel, Ben Vautier, Endre Tot, Lourdes Castro, Henriette van Egten, Raimund Girke, K. H. Hodicke, Dorothy Iannone, A. R. Penck, Markus Raetz, Bernd Zimmer, and many books by Diter Rot. This is not to say that Rainer Verlag has not done larger books than 15 x 10 cm. But the size of the book in the hand, the superb offset printing, the dedication to fine production merit all my readers dealing with the book arts to send for their catalog and order. Most of the prices for the small books range from 12 - 30 DM, not very much with the strong dollar right now. This is a must for 1984: Rainer Verlag, Kortestrasse 10, D-1000 Berlin 61. You will be delighted, and every librarian, be sure to order one for yourself, and one for the library! Contemporary artists really do make books, and Rainer Verlag makes them make their multiples well!