521 Fifth Avenue

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Number 180

October 2008

27th Seminar on Standards of Excellence in Hand Bookbinding

Toronto, Ontario, Canada October 16-18, 2008

Co-sponsored by the Guild of Book Workers and the Canadian Bookbinders and Book Artists Guild



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Last Minute Standards Seminar Information:

We plan to have a UPS agent at the Standards Seminar on Saturday to service the shipping of items to the U.S. or Canada. UPS will accept VISA, Mastercard and Amex for payment.

**

At press time, the U.S. and Canadian dollar exchange rate is quite good at nearly a one-to-one ratio. U.S. residents may want to obtain Canadian currency prior to travel. For U.S. residents that do not bring Canadian currency, most bank and credit cards will work at ATMs to obtain Canadian cash.

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The Guild of Book Workers Newsletter

Number 180 — October 2008

Guild News

FROM THE PRESIDENT

With the publication of the August newsletter, Jody Beenk stepped down as newsletter editor. Jody has done a wonderful job ensuring that the newsletter reaches members six times per year. Everyone on the board will miss Jody.

The Guild is fortunate that Cindy Haller volunteered to take over as editor as of the October issue, because Cindy has extensive experience editing publications. Cindy was elected to this position in the Guild elections this past June.

Cindy lives on the gulf coast of Texas near Galveston, and just as the newsletter deadline approached, Hurricane Ike forced Cindy to evacuate her home and relocate to higher ground. As I write this, she has been out of her house and living in an area without electricity for over a week. She had to find someone with a generator in order to charge her cell phone and one of her first calls was to inform me of the difficulty of editing the newsletter under such circumstances. When I last spoke to her, the authorities had allowed residents to go back into her town for a short visit. She reported that her house wasn't flooded, only slightly damaged by wind, which is good news. We wish her all the best during this trying time.

Because of the disruption of the hurricane and its aftermath, Cindy really couldn't be expected to edit the October newsletter, so Julie Sullivan and Catherine Burkhard volunteered to help. They contacted all of the members who had promised articles or text. They then edited the contributions, and gathered announcements and advertisements, and formatted the newsletter. All this was done in only a few days, and you are holding the results in your hands. It may not look exactly like former newsletters (there were, for example, font conflicts between PC and Mac platforms) but the mere fact of its

appearance is a result of the heroic efforts of Julie and Catherine. They deserve our thanks.

Thanks too in advance to Mercedes Walton and her committee in Toronto who are putting the final touches on the Standards Seminar a few weeks hence. Having been site host for Standards, I understand the enormous commitment of time and energy that the seminar demands. It is shaping up to be a splendid event, and I look forward to seeing all of you in Toronto.

Jim Reid-Cunningham President

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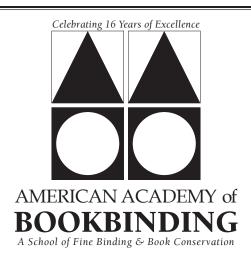
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Apply for the Carolyn Horton Fund Award

This award, administered by the Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (FAIC), is offered annually to support continuing education or training for professional book and paper conservators. You must be a member of AIC's Book and Paper Group in order to qualify. The amount of the award varies with need. Funds may be applied to attendance at professional meetings, seminars, workshops, and other educational events.

Deadline for applications February 1, 2009

To obtain an application, write to: Carolyn Horton Fund, FAIC, 1717 K Street, NW, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20006 or visit the AIC website at http://aic.stanford.edu



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Noteworthy

"Accordion and Tunnel Books: 20 Years of Exploration," by Randolph Huebsch, Parrhasia Press, appears in the September issue of *Book Arts Newsletter* (pgs. 17-19), edited by Sarah Bodman of the University of the West of England, Bristol.

www.bookarts.uwe.ac.uk/newspdfs/44.pdf

Membership Report

The September 2008 Membership Directory is at the printers and you should be receiving it shortly. Please report any changes or corrections to the Membership Chair, Cris Takacs, 112 Park Avenue, Chardon, OH 44024. Or Membership @ guildofbookworkers.allmail.net

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The **2009 Kerrytown BookFest**, featuring bookbinding and book related events, will be held Sunday, September 13.

For more information regarding our products, workshops, & events, visit our website at www.hollanders.com

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Exhibition News

The deadline has passed for filing an Intent to Enter form for the *Marking Time* exhibition. Of the 199 forms submitted, only four were sent by US Mail, all others were submitted online.

Digital images may be submitted online for jurying January 1 through March 1, 2009. Only those who filed an Intent to Enter form may submit work for jurying. Accepted work will be due May 1, 2009.

The show will open at the Minnesota Center for Book Arts in Minneapolis in May 2009, travel to San Francisco concurrent with Standards 2009, and travel through March 2011. Venues include a mix of book arts centers and public and university libraries. Detailed information on submitting work for jury, making a donation to support the *Marking Time* exhibition catalog, and a complete tour schedule are posted on the Guild's website.

Marbling News

Iris Nevins

British Marbler, Ann Muir passed away on Monday, July 21st at Salisbury Hospice, following a battle with cancer. Services were held July 30th at The Parish Church of St. Michael the Archangel in Wiltshire. Donations in her name are being accepted by The University of Southampton, Cancer Sciences Development



Fund, c/o Bracher Brothers, Newberry Street, Gillingham, Dorset, UK SP84QL.

I had the pleasure of a good many email conversations with Ann Muir, though we never met in person, both about marbling and life in general. She was a delight, and had a very good outlook on life and enjoyed her work immensely. I think that she would love those of you who have not seen her work to have a look at it now, so as a final gift and remembrance of Ann I would love to share her work with all of you. Her website is still up, with samples of her wonderful marbling, the address is: http://www.ammarbling.com

Advertisements and views expressed in articles should not be construed as endorsements by the Guild of Book Workers.

The Guild of Book Workers Newsletter is published bimonthly by the Guild of Book Workers, Inc., 521 Fifth Ave., New York NY 10175. Claims for issues paid for but not received will be honored without question. Back issues and copies of all Newsletters are available for \$5.00 per copy, postage included.

Items for publication should be sent to

Cindy Haller / PO Box 703 Seabrook, TX 77586-0703 newsletter@guildofbookworkers.allmail.net

Deadline for the December Issue: November 1, 2008

Items for the Calendar should be sent to

Catherine Burkhard 6660 Santa Anita Dr. Dallas, TX 75214 secretary@guildofbookworkers.allmail.net

Authors of articles and other contributions accepted for publication in the Guild of Book Workers Newsletter assign to the GBW Newsletter the right to publish their work in both print and electronic form and to archive it and make it permanently retrievable electronically. Authors retain copyright and may republish their work in any way they wish.

Executive Editor: Cindy Haller Book Review Editor: Sandy Cohen Marbling Correspondent: Iris Nevins Calligraphy Correspondent: Nancy Leavitt

The Guild of Book Workers is a national organization, with Chapters in New England, New York, the Delaware Valley, Washington DC, the Midwest, California, the Rocky Mountains, Texas, the Northwest and the Southeast representing the hand book crafts. Membership is open to all interested persons. Annual membership includes the Journal, the Newsletter and Membership Directory. Supply lists and Study Opportunities are available on the website (below.) For information and application for membership, write to the Membership Chairman, Guild of Book Workers, 521 Fifth Avenue, New York NY 10175.

THE GUILD OF BOOK WORKERS ON THE WEB

Newsletter:

http://palimpsest.stanford.edu/byorg/gbw/news.shtml
Library Listings:
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This issue of The Guild of Book Workers Newsletter has been set in Dante, Impact and Gill Sans.





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Calendar

EXHIBITIONS

Call for Entries

Call for Entries by October 24 for Maternal Legends: A Juried Exhibition of Contemporary Artist Books. Mothers, grandmothers, sisters, stories, histories, legends, legacies. What did we learn from our mothers and their mothers and their mothers? What are the stories that have been passed down through the generations? How did the women in our family shape who we are today? Explore and celebrate our Maternal Legends through the magic of artist books. This exhibit is open to book art related artworks created as either edition or one-of-a-kind. Artist books, sculptural books, book objects, altered books, zines, or broadsides are encouraged—any medium, any style. Entries will be juried by Cara List, artist books librarian, Art and Architecture Library at the University of Oregon. One artwork chosen by the jury will be awarded a purchase prize. That work will be purchased and donated to the artist book collection at the University of Oregon. The exhibit will be from December 5, 2008–January 3, 2009, at 23 Sandy Gallery in Portland, Oregon. For info and entry forms: www.23Sandy.com/MaternalLegends/ CallForEntries.html.

Call for Entries by January 31, 2009 for 2009 Helen Warren DeGolyer Triennial Competition for American Bookbinding. Bridwell Library of Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas, is pleased to announce this competition. The book for which designs are to be submitted for the competition is John Graves' Goodbye to a River: A Narrative, Austin: Book Club of Texas, 1989. First prize: \$6,000 commission. Awards will be announced at the DeGolyer Bookbinding Conference in June 2009. See the Bridwell Library Website for general information and how to enter: <www.smu.edu/bridwell/events/2009degolyer.html> or call 214-768-3483 for more information.



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Current and Upcoming Exhibitions

September 20-October 31: San Diego Book Arts presents its *Second National San Diego Book Arts Juried Show*, at the University of California San Diego, Geisel Library. For more information: <www.sandiegobookarts.org>.

GBW October 08-June 09: The Rocky Mountain Chapter of GBW is sponsoring a members show, *West of the Plains: Contemporary Book Works* by Members of the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Guild of Book Workers. The first venue will be in Denver, CO, October-December of 2008. The show will travel through June, 2009. An online catalog will be posted on the Rocky Mountain Website.

November 3, 2008, to January 5, 2009: *The Hand Bookbinders of California 36th Anniversary Members' Exhibition* at The Book Club of California, 312 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA. Reception to be on November 3, 6:00-8:00 pm. A second venue will be the Doyle Library, Santa Rosa, January 10-February 28, 2009.

Through December 20: *Inspired Design: The Mentoring Stamp* - a set-book exhibition based on Lance Hidy's Designing the Mentoring Stamp, published by Kat Ran Press and bound by members of the New England Chapter of the Guild of Book Workers. Opening reception is September 28; lectures by Lance Hidy and Michael Russem at 4:00 pm, reception at 5:00 pm at Book Arts Gallery, Neilson Library, Smith College, Northampton, MA. More details at http://www.smith.edu/libraries/libs/rarebook/exhibitions.html. Catalog available for sale from Barbara B. Blumenthal

bblument@email.smith.edu

April 11-May 4, 2009: An international exhibition will be in Chartres, France, at the Collegiale Saint Andre, *Delives de Livre Biennale.*



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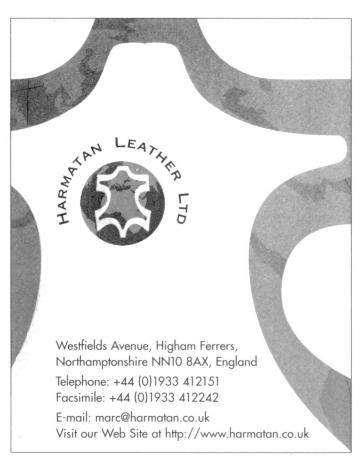
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Workshops, Lectures & Other Events

September 15-December 12: North Bennet Street School's Workshop Program announces its first-ever *Three Month Bookbinding Intensive.* Classes are Mon-Fri, 8:30-2:30, with studio time until 4:30 and no classes Oct 13, Nov 3-10, Nov. 27-28. Instructor: Stacie Dolin. See http://www.nbss.org/workshops/schedule.asp.

This class is designed for those who want to receive a solid foundation in bookbinding in a short time period. Participation in this intensive will also help students to be more well prepared in anticipation of attending the School's full-time Bookbinding program.

This class is suitable for a true beginner, or the moderately experienced binder who wishes to practice and hone skills. Topics covered in this class are the same as the foundational content of two of our workshops, "Introduction to Non-Adhesive Bookbinding" and "Cloth Case Bookbinding". Specific structures include: Coptic, historic longstitch, long stitch with wrapper, crossed structure, flat back and rounded and backed cloth case, full, half, and quarter cloth case, a cloth case production project, onset, modified split, and simplified boards, basic enclosures, including four flap, slipcase, and clamshell, case binding variants, including endpaper attachment variations, headbands, album structures, foil stamping

and more, as time allows. Field trips and other topics will be part of the curriculum depending on student interest. *Please note: this is not a fine binding/leather binding class.*

The tuition includes a materials fee for paper and other basic supplies; students are expected to provide their own special materials and hand tools. If bookbinding tools are not already owned, expect to spend approximately \$200 on tools for this course, in addition to tuition. Additional materials will range from \$200 and up, depending on what is chosen by the student. A deposit of \$1800 is required to hold a spot; balance due one week before classes begin.



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September-November, 2008: Workshops offered at Maine Media Workshops, Rockport, Maine, are as follows:

Sept 28 - Oct 4 - "The Embellished Page" - Explore the creative world of words on a page with Jan Owen.

Oct 5-11 - "Introductory Letterpress" - Learn to print like Johannes Gutenberg and Ben Franklin with David Wall.

Oct 12-18 - "Letterpress Projects" - Print an individual personal project with David Wall.

Oct 12-18 - "Introduction to Bookbinding" - Learn a variety of methods to bind books.

Oct 26 - Nov 1 - "Photographic Portfolio Box Making" - Create a custom presentation case to house a special portfolio or work.

For more information, visit the Book Arts & Design section at: http://www.theworkshops.com/designbook/index.asp?SchoolID=33>

Monthly "Saturday Lecture Day": Designer Bookbinders is hosting a series of one-hour lectures at The Art Workers Guild, 6 Queen Square, London WC1. Details available from Julia Dummett & Rachel Ward-Sale 01273 486718; <www.designerbookbinders.org.uk>; <lectures@designerbookbinders.org.uk>. These "Saturday Lecture Days" start at 10:30 am; others at 12 noon, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm. There is no lecture in December, but will resume in 2009. The October 7 one will be Sebastian Carter: Bound for Higher Things: The experience of the Rampant Lions Press in designing edition bindings for fine books.

GBW October 16-18: Toronto, Canada: 27th Annual Guild of Book Workers Standards of Excellence Seminar in Hand Bookbinding will be held at the Holiday Inn on King Street, Toronto, Canada, hosted by both the Guild and the Canadian Bookbinders and Book Artists Guild. Standards updates will be posted at: http://web.mac.com/mcafee1/iWeb/Standards2008Toronto/. Passports will be necessary for U.S. citizens. For more information, visit: http://travel.state.gov/passport.

October 20, 2008, to January 9, 2009: The Rare Book School, Charlottesville, VA, offers six courses this fall/winter. Check their website for details: http://www.rarebookschool.org/applications/ - the applica-

tion form for the October and November courses are on the website: January will appear later. The offerings are:

Oct 20-24, in Washington DC - "The Art of the Book in Edo and Meiji, Japan, 1615-1912" (I-90) with Ellis Tinios.

Oct 20-24, in New York City - "Introduction to Illuminated Manuscripts" (M-50) with Roger S. Wieck.

Nov 3-7, in Baltimore - "Introduction to Western Codicology" (M-20) with Albert Derolez. Also "Book Illustration Processes to 1900" (I-20) with Terry Belanger.

Jan 5-9, in Baltimore - "C15 Books in Print and Manuscript" (H-25) with Paul Needham and William Noel. Also "Seminar in the History of Bookbinding" (B-50) with Jan Storm van Leeuwen.

October 23–26: Kona, Hawaii: The 27th gathering of the Friends of Dard Hunter. Details and registration forms can be found at: www.friendsofdardhunter.org.

October 25 and November 8: Workshops as coordinated by the Book Arts Program at the J. Willard Marriott Library at the University of Utah are available. For more information on the events, see http://bookartsprogram.org or contact bookartsprogram@utah.edu or 801-585-9191. The workshops are:

Oct 25 - Chris McAfee - Posh Portfolios & Classy Clamshells - 9:00-5:00, \$75 and materials fee of \$25.00.

Nov 8: Marnie Powers-Torrey - Press to Post: A Card in a Day.

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For inclusion in the December Newsletter, send camera-ready artwork or electronic files (inquire for electronic specifications) by November I, along with payment (made out to the Guild of Book Workers, through a U.S. bank) to Constance Wozny, 8216 Princeton-Glendale Rd. # 167, West Chester, OH 45069-1675 (p) 513-874-2665; booksbycw@fuse.net

GBW solicits advertisements but reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Advertisers must warrant that ads are legal, truthful, not fraudulent, do not violate copyright, and are not defamatory, and that all permissions to quote and use likenesses and trademarks must have been obtained. Advertisers must indemnify GBW against any claims or actions that should arise.

October 25, 2008, to March 22, 2009: A new series of weekend workshops are being offered by Designer Bookbinders and the Society of Bookbinders in England. The workshops are UKP120 plus a materials fee. Go to either of the websites for registration form and details: http://www.designerbookbinders.org.uk/teaching/teaching.html>...or...http://www.societyofbookbinders.com/events/events_frames.html. The offerings are:

Oct 25-26 - "Creative Printmaking with a Difference" with Janine Pope, on Kelly Street in London, NW1.

Nov 8-9 - "Rebacking Leather Bindings" with Lester Capon, at Birmingham University Bindery, Edgbaston. Jan 24-25 - "Long and Link Stitch Binding" with Adam Larsson, on Kelly Street, in London, NWI.

Feb 14-15 - "A Fresh Look at Stub Binding" with Lori Sauer at York Minster Library.

Mar 21-22 - "Forwarding Techniques: From Tradition to Innovation" with Mark Cockram at Conway Bindery, Halifax.

November 7 and November 8-9: *The* 2008 *Brodsky Series for Library Conservation.* For lodging info, see: http://parents.syr.edu/hotels2007.pdf. For registration form and other info, see: http://library.syr.edu/information/preservation/brodsky/ or contact Peter Verheyen at 315/443-9756 or <pd>pdverhey@syr.edu. The offerings are:

Nov 7: Lecture by Consuela Metzger, "Rare Skills for Rare Books: Book conservation education", at 4:00 pm in the Peter Graham Scholarly Commons, Syracuse University Library.

Nov 8-9: Workshop with Consuela Metzer, "Structure as Decoration: an exploration of early Stationery Bindings made with lacing and ticketing", 10:00 am-5:00 pm, Syracuse University Library Preservation Department, Syracuse, NY., \$125 plus \$55 materials fee.

November 7-8: North Bennet Street School Open House. Aspiring bookbinders—and those who are merely curious about the process, are invited to a rare, behind-the-scenes look at one of the America's oldest schools of craftsmanship during a special two-day open house to be held at the North Bennet Street School (www.nbss.org).

The event will be held on Friday, November 7, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturday, November 8, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission to the event is free.

Visitors may also watch and interact with students and instructors at work in seven additional areas of concentration—from cabinet and furniture making to piano restoration and repair. A free shuttle bus on Friday will provide rides to the school's Arlington, MA, campus to view its preservation carpentry training program.

Serious amateurs looking into short workshop courses, as well as aspiring artisans considering full-time programs will find this annual fall tradition an informative look at the school's working studios and training methods.

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Visitors also may take home finished crafts pieces by purchasing the work of students and alumni, available in the school's Gallery on the ground floor.

A fully accredited, post-secondary institution of learning, North Bennet Street School has been training individuals in the trades since 1885. The school is internationally renowned for excellence in teaching, and for its role in promoting the preservation of traditional craftsmanship.

The school is located at 39 North Bennet Street, at the corner of North Bennet and Salem Streets, in Boston's historic North End. The event is accessible via public transportation (Orange line via Haymarket; Green line via Haymarket or North Station). Visit www.nbss.org or call 617-227-0155 for more information.

November 8-9: Pyramid Atlantic Book Arts Fair and Conference, Cafritz Foundation Art Center, Montgomery College, Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus, 930 King Street, Silver Spring, MD 20910. For the Fair Exhibitors and to register for the event, see http://www.bookartsfair.org/index.html. For the blog to preview books at the Fair, see http://bookartsfair.blogspot.com/

February 8-11, 2009: The Second Biennial Codex International Book Fair, University of California, Berkeley, CA. and The Codex Symposium, "Considering the Book as a Work of Art", at the University's Berkeley Art Museum. For details and registration info, see http://www.codexfoundation.org/ (There are only a few seats left for the Symposium!)

January 8–10, 2009: College Book Art Association Biennial Conference, *Art, Fact, and Artifact: The Book in Time and Place,*" hosted by the University of Iowa Center for the Book. Keynote speakers: Randall McLeod and Tate Shaw. This first biennial conference of the College Book Art Association seeks to bridge the worlds of book art, book history, cultural criticism, and curatorial work through appreciation of the book as an aesthetic sensorium. For details: http://www.uiowa.edu/~ctrbook/events/CBAA_conference.shtml.

October 28–31, 2009: San Francisco, CA: Guild of Book Workers 28th Annual Seminar on Standards of Excellence in Hand Bookbinding.

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Book Reviews

500 Handmade Books: Inspiring Interpretations of a Timeless Form by Suzanne J. E. Tourtillott editor Lark Books 2008 ISBN-13: 978-1-57990-877-5c

Review by A. Lapidow

This work is the most recent in the Lark's 500 picture book series, which started in 2002 with 500 Teapots. Each book in the series shows a range of items within a particular theme. This volume is the first to cover books or the paper arts. The Lark publishing staff invited artists to submit entries. From that pool, Steve Miller, coordinator of the Book Arts Program, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, along with the Lark Publishing staff juried the submissions. The intent was to include works that were finely crafted and reflected the maker. Diptychs with a painting or drawing inside or solid sculptures in a book form were not accepted, since the entries, like my own, had to have a quality of "bookness" (meaning it must operate like a traditional book, open and have a sequence.)

500 Handmade Books certainly attains that goal. There are a wide range of books here, from blank books in traditional structures, to design bindings, to pop-ups, to letterpress, to artist books. These books come in all



shapes, sizes, colors and covering materials. It is a bit overwhelming to look at such a quantity of work. It will take a while with several passes to really look at and absorb everything. Too bad each book cannot be picked up, opened or read.

The arrangement of the works seems, perhaps somewhat random. They are not alphabetical. Multiple works by the same person are not on adjoining pages. They are not arranged by structure or theme, or geographically. A friend suggested they were arranged by color, but I have my doubts. Does it matter? Probably not. Perhaps some sense of order might have given the work a cohesiveness instead of a "here ya' go" feeling. The random arrangement, however, encourages one to take each piece for itself without trying to compare this Coptic binding to that one.

The layout is impressive. Almost every page has a large image of the work with the name of the artist, dimensions, photo credits, materials and sometimes information about the binding technique . The quality of the images is impressive, too. Some details or larger views are included, if needed. This quality of image speaks to the attentiveness of the artists in obtaining images of their work. Unlike juried shows where the catalog is made of images taken by the catalog producers (which gives a consistency), these images are reproduced from the submissions alone and not the physical objects. Some artists took their own photographs, others were professionally done. But no matter how the image was taken, there is no disparity in quality.

There is no text other than the Introduction, acknowledgements, and an author index. So the works must stand for themselves. They do. It is great to see so many visions of "the book". I hope this is not the last work of this type.

Notes for ABC by Arthur W. Johnson, (New Zealand), n.d. [2007], Wyvern Bindery.

Review by Sandy Cohen

Notes for ABC began as a series of talks the late Arthur Johnson gave to the Association of Book Crafts of New Zealand on various aspects of the crafts a hand book worker must master, or try to master (sewing, backing, endpaper and doublure design, use of trindles, leather, vellum, joints, linings, tooling, design, decoration, titling, etc.) Typically, he does not simply tell how it is done, or show how it is done with his clear line drawings, but goes one important step further: he gives us the reasoning behind his choosing this endpaper design or that choice of joint, or this type of paper for any particular binding he describes. A few of these notes were written some 20 years ago, and we can overlook the one instance in which he advocates a practice now considered unsafe (removing grease marks with carbon

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tetrachloride.) Certainly the wealth of good judgement about design and technique and his emphasis on sound forwarding as the first principle of good book binding have stood the test of time. These notes will serve you well as an introduction (or refresher course) to many aspects of the book worker's trade. What's more, they are lively and well-written.

For those of us who were never privileged to meet and learn from Arthur Johnson in person but only through his books, Chapter One, "An Autobiography," acquaints us better with this man who rose above the poverty and depravation of his youth to become such an extraordinary teacher and world advocate of the crafts we love.

Despite the fine notes and reminiscences by the late Arthur Johnson contained in this slim volume, one is almost tempted to judge this book solely by its cover: published as a collaboration between his widow, Pam Johnson, and Mark Winstanley, and bound by Mr. Winstanley's Wyvern Bindery, *Notes for ABC* is obviously a labor of love and admiration for the late author and a desire to preserve and disseminate these valuable notes for future book workers in an edition worthy of their author. Mission accomplished. The bound version is a model of what the good cased edition binding should be, and well worth the extra money. The spine and front cover are blocked in Johnson's own "Trajan" type face, his lively version of the lettering on Trajan's column in Rome.

To order the book, write or email Mark Winstanley at wyvernbindery.com. Sewn book @ £15.00, bound book @ £20.00 (credit card or check)

Decorated Book Papers: Being an Account of their Designs and Fashions by Rosamund Loring, 4th Edition, ed. by Hope Mayo Cambridge, Houghton Library, Harvard College Library 2007 0-9765472-6-0

and

Marbled and Paste Papers, Rosamund Loring's Recipe Book, Houghton Library, Harvard College Library 2007 0-9765472-5-2. First published in 1942 (reprinted, 1952, 1973).

Review by A. Lapidow

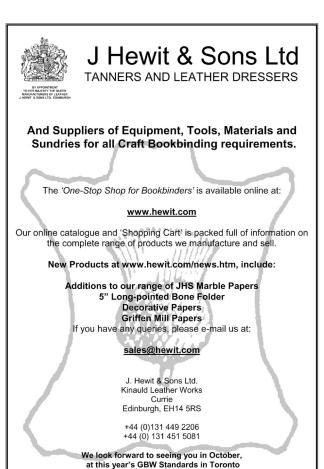
This second edition, with additional text, this is a great new reworking of this classic. The entire contents of the all the previous editions in the original format are included, plus new essays and new digital photographs of all the original papers that were tipped into the 1st edition. Also included in this volume is a list of books for which Rosamund Loring made the paste papers by Hope Mayo.

Concentrating on the history of decorated end sheets in Western Europe, it covers the various techniques of end sheet decoration, starting with the plain papers of the sixteenth century and ending with the more elaborate pictorial endpapers.

As in the first edition, this book begins with a nice biography of Rosamund Loring. She was born in 1889 in Jamaica Plain Massachusetts. Subsequently, she moved between Boston, Jamaica Plain and North Haven, Maine depending on the season Like many upper class 19th century women, she took up bookbinding and eventually became immersed in the making, collecting, and studying of decorated papers. She knew and trained many well known people in the field. Essays on her and her influence by Dard Hunter and Veronika Ruzicka are included as part of the second edition. Hope Mayo adds a new Preface, and an essay to this edition. Rosamund Loring's collection of decorated papers is housed at the Houghton Library, Harvard University. She died in 1950.

The majority of the book is divided into nine chapters, each of which covers the history of a decorative technique for endsheets (with two for marbling). Each category (early; marbled; dutch gilt; paste; 19th century; publisher's and pictorial) describes the technique; the types of patterns within the technique and the place or person of origin or use. The newly scanned samples add an excellent visual reference.

Finally the appendices give an overview of how to marble and make paste papers (where Loring excelled) as well as a list of early papermakers with identification information.



~ The Guild of Book Workers Newsletter

This is a fine overview of decorated papers and a great insight into a time and place of bookbinding history.

As a companion piece, Rosamund Loring's recipe book has also been published. Half of the book is in facsimile. The other half is a transcription of her notes from when she learned how to marble and make paste papers with Charles Saflund in 1928. Also included are an introduction by Hope Mayo and an essay by Sidney Berger on the significance of this helpful little, book.

Technical note: page 70 is missing but can be downloaded at: http://www.hup.harvard.edu/catalog/LORDEC.html

Review DVD: *Ridolfi, Frankie, The Book Binding Guy Video Workshop* (90 min) \$39.99 www.BookBindingGuy.com

Review by Sandy Cohen

What to make of a someone who calls himself (and trademarks) "the Book Binding Guy"? Much, as it turns out. In this lively DVD, Frankie Ridolfi sets out to show the basics of making a quarter-bound leather book (in this case a blank-book journal) sewn on raised cords, and with real headbands. The instruction is not meant for the professional, advanced, or even intermediate amateur, but for someone new to the craft, or someone who may want to try bookbinding for the first time without investing in expensive materials or specialized tools. To be sure, there are a few practices professionals might find bit unsightly or unsound, such as extending the raised bands

around the sides of the book and not hammering the cords down, thereby making the leather and the hinges much too vulnerable to premature wear, or sawing deep cuts in all the folds for sewing instead of simply stabbing holes with an awl, or pasting down the first and last white leaves as end papers instead of tipping on decorative ones. But these few faults are easy overlooked because the methods demonstrated on this DVD are so straight forward and so easy to follow they will inspire the novice to make a first, and perhaps a second and third book and begin the process of learning the basic steps of our complex craft.

The camera work is quite good; one can see what's going on and follow the steps easily. In addition, there are cheat-sheets, templates and a 25-page booklet to download, plus lists of materials and supplies, and a quick-start guide. The resulting blank-book journal Mr. Ridolfi and his first-time student make on this DVD while handsome enough to give as a gift, is nevertheless accomplished using for the most part ordinary household tools and affordable, easy-to-obtain materials. The first-time binder will find Mr. Ridolfi's techniques and instruction not simply undaunting, but inspiring. Keep in mind that your brother Vinnie, your Aunt Nell and your eleven-year-old niece, what's-her-name, have birthdays coming up next month. As a first introduction to a complex craft, this DVD will make a great gift.

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For information on events and courses, see listings under the "Workshops, Lectures, and Other Events" section of the Newsletter or contact Amber Heaton at amber.heaton@utah.edu; 801-585-9191; www.lib.utah.edu/rare/BAP_Page/BAP.html.

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The Fall 2008 and Winter 2009 Bookbinding classes are online at http://www.nbss.org/workshops/schedule.asp. Classes include: "Leather Decoration and Surfacing" with Peter Geraty; "Basic Paper Conservation for Bookbinders" with Heather Hamilton and

Debra Cuoco; Chena River Marblers Marbling Classes; and "Paste Papers" with Julia Rabin. 617/227-0155 x.102.

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