

QUARTO

»» Guild of Book Workers »» «« Midwest Chapter »» «« Quarterly Newsletter »»
«« January 2014 ««

Save the Date: Midwest Chapter Annual Meeting

This year, we will bring our Midwest members together in the Windy City! Save the weekend of April 25-27, 2014 for a trip to Chicago to catch up with fellow Midwest members, take a workshop and so much more! Activities will be centered around the Newberry Library, where our very own traveling exhibit Plainly Spoken will be on display! I am working with our Chicago hosts on the rest of the weekend's events, so there will be more information distributed once it becomes available. This is going to be a wonderful weekend so please join us!

Mary Uthupuru
Vice Chair/Programs Chair

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To everyone in the Midwest Chapter:

I am writing to say thank you to the Midwest Chapter of the Guild of Book Workers, to all the membership for supporting the Chapter and its projects, and to everyone involved with selecting and organizing the set-piece exhibit Plainly Spoken using copies of my book, *Books Will Speak Plain: A Handbook for Identifying and Describing Historical Bindings* published by The Legacy Press in 2010. It is such an honor to have my book chosen, and I know it has taken a huge amount of time and work by busy people to accomplish the exhibit. Thank you Mary Uthupuru for organizing, thank you jury for your work, thank you exhibit site hosts and institutions, and thank you thank you, to all the binders who took on binding this monster of a book, whether your binding was chosen for the exhibit or not. For those whose bindings were chosen, I get to see the bindings here in Ann Arbor in a very short time, and having 'seen' them already in photographs, I am looking forward so much to seeing and handling the real bindings!
Julia Miller

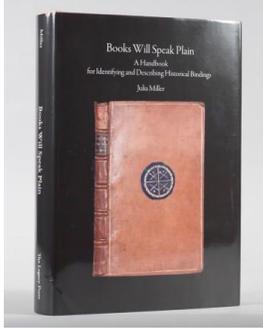
Chapter Member Interviews

Two Midwest Chapter members have been featured on Erin Fletcher's Flash of the Hand blog.

- Karen Hanmer
<http://www.herringbonebindery.com/blog/?s=hanmer+>
 - Mary Uthupuru
<http://tinyurl.com/n4h6jgv> or
<http://www.herringbonebindery.com/blog/2014/01/02/january-book-artist-of-the-month-mary-uthupuru/>
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Plainly Spoken : a juried traveling exhibit

by Mary Uthappuru, Programs Chair



The Midwest Guild of Book Workers traveling exhibit Plainly Spoken opened in Lawrence, Kansas on November 11, 2013 at the Kenneth Spencer Research Library at the University of Kansas. (See article on p. 3) There have been great positive responses to the wonderful selection of books gathered there. If you are in the area, stop in to see some of the great work produced by our chapter members! Please check the schedule below to see when it will be in your area.

In the meantime, please enjoy the wonderful Online Catalog put together by our webmaster Eric Alstrom. There you will find beautiful photographs and descriptions of each binding.

<http://midwestgbw.wordpress.com/exhibits/plainly-spoken/>

Exhibit Timeline

- January 31, 2014 – April 10, 2014
University of Michigan Library, Ann Arbor, MI
- April 22, 2014 – July 8, 2014
Newberry Library, Chicago, IL
- August 14, 2014 – November 30 2014
University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA
- February 6, 2015– April 26, 2015
Minnesota Center for Book Arts, Minneapolis, MN

Please contact our Programs Chair, Mary Uthappuru, mary@springleafpress.com with any questions you may have or visit our website

<http://midwestgbw.wordpress.com/exhibits>.

GBW Member Survey

A report detailing the results of the Guild of Book Workers Member Survey is now available for download on the GBW Website at <http://www.guildofbookworkers.org>

If you have any questions regarding the survey results, or if you need the document in a different format, please email me directly at vicepresident@guildofbookworkers.org
Thanks!

- Bexx Caswell

Kalamazoo Book Arts Center

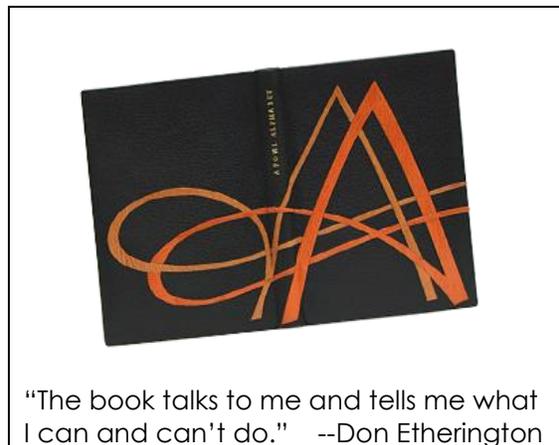
The Kalamazoo (MI) Book Arts Center was featured in the Summer 2013 issue of *Encore* magazine, a magazine featuring places and events in southwest Michigan.

You can find the article online at:

<http://www.encorekalamazoo.com/summer-2013/>

Hamilton Wood Type Museum Has a New Home

After nearly a year of packing, loading, moving and fixing, we are happy to welcome visitors to the new location of the museum. We are now open at 1816 10th Street, Two Rivers, WI 54241. Winter hours are Tuesday - Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm. <http://woodtype.org/>



"The book talks to me and tells me what I can and can't do." --Don Etherington

Plainly Spoken in Lawrence, Kansas

by Whitney Baker, Head, Conservation Services
KU Libraries, Lawrence, KS

As the first site host for the *Plainly Spoken* exhibit, I had the great pleasure of receiving so many wonderful packages in the mail from prospective exhibitors. As Deborah Howe wrote me, "it's like bookbinding Christmas!"—and so it was. We also were honored to host the judges on October 11 as they deliberated over the submissions. The judges were Brea Black, Special Collections Librarian at the Topeka-Shawnee County Public Library (which has a large collection of artist's books); Linda Samson Talleur, who teaches book arts, papermaking, and basic design classes at the University of Kansas (KU); and retired book conservator Richard Baker, who flew in from St. Louis. The judges are all experts in bookbinding and book arts, but each presented a different focus. The show has been strengthened by their wide expertise.

In preparation for judging, I made sure all personal information was covered on the various bindings, so the process could be truly blind juried. Of course I wasn't present in the room during judging, but can attest that the judges took their job seriously, spending over three hours on the task. The final 17 books selected for the show present a range of techniques and approaches to the theme; I was impressed with the quality of the work.

I had a wonderful time pairing items from the exhibit with rare books from the collections of Spencer Research Library, and have received many positive comments about the effect it creates. Since the show opened here in early November, we have hosted a Gallery Talk and a special event for retired KU faculty. In addition, three KU classes have used the exhibit as part of classroom instruction (a book history class, a book arts design class, and a freshman honors tutorial,

respectively).

I hope most members of the Midwest Chapter have the chance to see this beautiful exhibit. I am sure the folks in Ann Arbor, where it heads next, will enjoy it as much as I have.



The Plainly Spoken exhibition judges with their selections. They took their job very seriously, even color coordinating their outfits. From L to R: Brea Black, Linda Samson Talleur, Richard Baker.

Events and Workshops

2014 marks the 30th year of the U I Library Conservation Lab!



We begin a year of celebratory events starting with an evening lecture
Adam Larsson, Conservator, Uppsala University Library
Please join us
February 10, at 6:30pm
Main Library, 2nd floor, room 2032
All are welcome!

Minnesota Center for Book Arts Visiting Artist Series

Minnesota Center for Book Arts is excited to announce its Visiting Artist Series for Spring 2014. MCBA welcomes book artist, Emily Martin; artist and educator, Karen Pava Randall; and writer, teacher and creative coach Quinn

McDonald to it's studios for roundtable artist talks and weekend workshops. For more information visit:

www.mnbookarts.org/roundtables

Paper and Book Intensive 2014 May 11 to 22 at Ox Bow

in Saugatuck, Michigan

Learn from the best practitioners of books arts, papermaking, and conservation.

www.paperbookintensive.org

Classes for 2014

Session I

- Line by Line: an Introduction to Gold Finishing – Samuel Feinstein
- Paper and Place – Ann Marie Kennedy
- Designing Toroidal Books: Follow the Fold and Stray No More! – Ken Leslie
- Printing in Relief – Ryan O'Malley
- Three Case Styles for Three Bookbindings – Priscilla Spitler

Session II

- More Than a Book, More Than a Box – Cor Aerssens
- From Pulp to Pages: Innovative Possibilities – Kerri Cushman
- The Secret Ledger of Pepo Albizzi – Barbara Korbel
- Pennsylvania German/Anabaptist Bindings in America before 1880 – Chela Metzger & Erin Hammeke
- Impress Me: An Artist's Approach to Embossing Leather for Books – Bonnie Stahlecker

Winter Workshops at Center for Book and Paper Arts at Columbia College Chicago

Information on winter season workshops is available at

<http://www.colum.edu/Academics/Interarts/book-and-paper/workshops--registration/index.php>

Edge Decoration Workshop at the UI-Center for the Book

with Bexx Caswell

February 15 & 16, 2014

In this two day workshop, we'll explore a variety of modern and historical edge decoration techniques that can add an extra element to your artist's books or fine bindings.

More information will be available online at <http://book.grad.uiowa.edu/>

Questions: julia-leonard@uiowa.edu

An Inaugural Exhibition of Artists' Books Online and in Chicago

Boreas Fine Art, a bookseller in Chicago specializing in post-war artists' books, has compiled a comprehensive collection of books created by leading artists from the past sixty years. The show is entitled "From Other Media" and runs through January 30, 2014. It features the work of prominent artists who established their reputations through artistic media other than the book but who nevertheless used the book for some of their most important work.

I encourage you to visit our website, www.boreasfineart.com, to have a look. A private showing can also be arranged in our studio on Chicago's Gold Coast. Michael Thompson

Positions Available

Assistant Professor – Printmaking, University of Wisconsin, Madison

This Printmaking Position will involve teaching introductory and advanced classes in intaglio with a secondary concern in other print media and responsible for overseeing the intaglio studio. Candidates must have an excellent working knowledge of Intaglio and the contemporary critical issues that are relevant to the field of printmaking. Consideration will be given to candidates who introduce print media practices that embrace green technology. Full details at http://www.ohr.wisc.edu/pvl/pv_078479.html.

Special Collections Manager—Art Institute of Chicago

The School of the Art Institute of Chicago seeks a detail-oriented person to support the curatorial, instructional, and preservation functions of the Flaxman Library's Special Collections (which includes the Joan Flasch Artists' Book Collection.)

Please see

<https://csweb.artic.edu/recruit/applyjob.html> for more information

Bookbinder's Lament

A Solemn curse by Ben Burnisher,
pronounced upon a Master Bookbinder,
circa. 1880

(Courtesy of *Skin Deep* No. 8, J. Hewit & Sons, Ltd.)

May rats and mice devour you paste,
Your paper and your leather;
May your hand letters be defaced,

Your types all mixed together.

May all your pallets, stamps and rolls,
Be on their faces battered;
Your beating stone packed full of holes,
Your hammer in pieces shattered.

And may your standing press fall down,
Your pressing boards be cracked;
May your law leather all turn brown,
Each law book edged in black.

May you be bothered all your life,
With workman brandy lovers;
With sandy boards and dull plough knife,
Thin paste, and horny covers

And May your gilding all rub off,
Your roll burn through the leather,
And you hereforward be obliged
To finish in dry weather.

And may your polisher upon
The face be full of scratches,
And every cover you put on
At least have twenty patches.

May all your colours be too strong,
So as to rot your leather,
May all your books be lettered wrong,
Your fly leaves stick together.

May your laying press all get broke,
Your books be wrong collated;
And may you with foul charcoal smoke
Be almost suffocated.

May your apprentice run away;
Your business be diminished;
And may booksellers never pay
You when the work is finished.

God grant that the distressed may be
from Constable to Beadle;
And live till you can't feel or see
Your press-pin from your needle.