We are once again excited to showcase ten artists' books available for sale in person and online at The Shop at MCBA. Here are some overlapping themes you'll find in Issue 5:

- Internal landscapes of the pandemic; faraway landscapes of the sun's surface
- Artistic paths involving the choice to use paper and to address racism and oppression
- That ephemeral feeling of watching snow fall through a window; what deep winter feels like, accumulating year after year.
- Similarities between the human form and forms in nature.

Click on the images below to view the work on shopmnbookarts.org. We welcome your inquiries! For questions, to place a hold on an item, or to request multiple copies of editioned work, don't hesitate to email theshop@mnbookarts.org.

View All Artists' Books

FEATURED ARTISTS' BOOKS

Claire Downes Whitehurst & Drum Machine Editions

Mirror Drawings
Mirror Drawings is a bound suite of screen prints by Claire Whitehurst (Jackson, MS). The thirty images in this collection—originally conceived as drawings and monotypes during the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic—appear here as mirrored pairs. Borrowing inspiration from the lush natural world of the South, the linework and iconography compose a personal landscape of idiosyncratic symmetries: listlessness and ecstasy, loneliness and wonder. — Drum Machine Editions

Alisa Banks

Self
Self was initiated during the uncertainty, casualty, and reckoning that occurred during the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic, as an exercise to help examine, position, and care for self, particularly in ways that have the potential to open up possibilities for dialog. It serves as a reminder that the power to choose how to initiate conversation, to resist, to speak out, to consider, to share, and to listen in any given situation resides within. —Alisa Banks

Smashing Press

staring at our sun
NASA’s Solar Dynamics Observatory photographs our sun every 15 minutes. This cascading accordion reproduces NASA’s photos of our sun, inverted, sequentially across 37 days (one full solar rotation), and includes an intervening lunar transit. This rotating sun with interrupting moon may be paged through as an accordion book or animated...between the hands, somewhat like a slinky. Inkjet printing, letterpress moon, hand-folded. —nif Hodgson

Lu Jingren, Amanda Degener, and Peng Wu

Handmade Path
There are hundreds of talented international book designers, papermakers, and book artists that could have contributed to Handmade Path. We invited artists whose paths have intersected with the three collaborators: Lu Jingren, Amanda Degener and Peng Wu... The represented artists in Handmade Path provide insight into how they got started, their breakthroughs and breakdowns, why they still make paper and books, and their future dream projects. —Lu Jingren, Amanda Degener, and Peng Wu

Jennifer Farrell

The Twelve Alphabet
The Twelve Alphabet is an abecedarium in which each letterform and an ampersand are constructed entirely of metal type and ornament having the typographic measurement of 12 points along at least one side. The letters are inspired by both contemporary and historic sources and are printed in two split fountain ink passes. The spirit of the project was to examine the detailed intricacies of metal ornament and show how various designs across the decades come together to create modern typeforms.
—Jennifer Farrell

Clarissa Sligh

Transforming Hate
In *Transforming Hate: An Artist’s Book*, I was trying to look at what it was like for me to turn the hateful words of the white supremacist books into a beautiful art object. That exploration helped me understand more fully the many levels of oppression and violence at the intersections of race, gender, class, and sexual orientation. Why do we keep each other from being who we really are? How can we begin to talk about what separates us? ... Do we have the courage to live differently? —Clarissa Sligh

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*Tia Blassingame*

**A Love Story**
A Love Story is a love letter to the book arts field and the creative process with its eccentricities. Centered on making artists' books with a social justice focus, the book with its collage backgrounds and poems presents the artist's process from conceptualizing through editioning and presenting. —Tia Blassingame

Elise Lerner

The Night it Falls
This embroidered narrative is a visual poem that captures my thoughts as I look out my window on a snowy night. Translucent pages reflect ephemeral emotion. I stitch on acetate to play with the tension between being seen and unseen. Sometimes I hide. Sometimes I’m overlooked. It’s always a challenge to make my mark, despite how invisible I feel. —Elise Lerner

Julie Baugnet

Staying the Winter
This book is a collaborative venture and is a reflection of our countless years staying the winters in Alaska and Minnesota. It is a unique gatefold format with 2 spines. On the left, seven tercet poems are letterpress printed. The right-hand pages open to reveal images of winter. I chose to use abstract forms—leaving the short poems to evoke imagery for the reader to imagine. —Julie Baugnet

Andi Arnovitz

Natural Mutations
Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote, “Each creature is only a modification of the other; the likeness in them is more than the difference.” These tiny etchings are my musings about the similarities between the human form and nature. My children’s baby teeth look like tiny sea shells washed up on the shore, which look like the little seeds dropped by certain trees. —Andi Arnovitz

Minnesota Center for Book Arts is a community-supported, (501c3) non-profit organization that ignites creativity and community through the book arts. Your support keeps our pulse going and enables our creative community to thrive. Join our family of supporters by becoming a member or making a donation today!

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