



Miniature Book Society

2020

**Miniature Book Competition
and Exhibition Catalog**

The Miniature Book Society

The Miniature Book Society, Inc. (MBS) is a non-profit organization chartered in 1983 in Ohio, and later in Delaware. Its purpose is to encourage the appreciation of miniature books by providing a forum for the exchange of information about them. The MBS is a member society of the Fellowship of American Bibliophilic Societies (FABS), and the MBS Archives are located in the Lilly Library at Indiana University.

The MBS membership, and any member of public interested in miniature books, is invited to attend a three-day Conclave every year, hosted by a different city. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Conclave XXXVIII has been postponed to 2021, when it will be held in Tarrytown, NY on August 6th thru 8th.

Anyone who makes, collects, or simply enjoys miniature books is encouraged to join the MBS at their very informative website, <http://mbs.com>, or contact Membership Coordinator Donna LaVallee at donnaMBSmembership@gmail.com.

The Miniature Book Competition

Each year, the Miniature Book Society hosts a miniature book competition to encourage the production of high-quality miniature books. A distinguished panel of judges reviews the entries based on creativity, quality of materials, and skilled craftsmanship. Three books are chosen for the Distinguished Book Award each year. All entries are presented in an Exhibition at the annual Conclave where the winners are announced. This year, as Conclave XXXVIII has been postponed, the winners will be exhibited at the Conclave in 2021.

The three winning books are added to the MBS Traveling Exhibit for one year and then go into the MBS Archives, the world's largest collection of miniature books, at the Lilly Library at Indiana University. All other entrants in the competition have the option of donating their entries to the MBS Archives. Here, they are made available for display and for study by scholars from around the world.

The MBS Traveling Exhibit contains about 100 selected books from the MBS Archives and makes its way to libraries and museums around North America. A similar Traveling Exhibit is circulated in Europe.

For information about exhibit dates and locations, as well as inquiries about securing a reservation for the exhibit, please contact Todd Sommerfeld, Exhibit Coordinator, at MBSexhibit@gmail.com.

The Charge to the Jury

The three volunteer jurors were instructed to examine and evaluate the books entered into the Miniature Book Competition. Each juror was asked to rate the books on a scale of their own choosing, indicating those which would be considered worthy of the top three awards. Considerations for these three awards were based on the following criteria:

- The appropriateness of the design to the content
- Creativity of the approach to the design problem
- The quality of the materials used
- The craftsmanship of the production

This Year's Jurors

Erin Fletcher

In 2012, Erin Fletcher opened Herringbone Bindery in South Boston, shortly after graduating from the full-time Bookbinding program at North Bennet Street School. She is a hand book-binder offering services for unique bindings, editions and box-making. Erin teaches workshops for adults at NBSS in the Continuing Education department and for kids in the Middle School Book Arts Program. She has also taught for institutions like the San Francisco Center for the Book, Paper and Book Intensive and Maine Media Workshops + College. Her interest in bookbinding began during her studies at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, where this initial exposure created a desire to culture a deeper understanding of the craft. Erin's design binding work has been exhibited both domestically and internationally. Her work is among both private and institutional collections.

Cathleen A. Baker

Dr. Cathleen A. Baker began her career as paper conservator at the Courtauld Institute of Art, London, during the 1970s, and she returned to the U.S. to teach in the State University of New York graduate conservation program, located first in Cooperstown and then in Buffalo, from 1978–1993. She is author of numerous articles and books, including *By His Own Labor: The Biography of Dard Hunter* (2000) and the award-winning *From the Hand to the Machine. Nineteenth-Century American Paper and Mediums: Technologies, Materials, and Conservation* (2010). She holds an MA in Art History from Syracuse University, and an MFA in Books Arts and a PhD in Communication Studies, both from the University of Alabama. In 2005, she joined the conservation department at the University of Michigan Library, where she was paper and book conservator, as well as conservation exhibition coordinator. Upon her retirement in 2016, she was honored with the title, conservation librarian emerita. Since “retiring,” she has been concentrating on two projects: her successful publishing business, The Legacy Press (www.thelegacypress.com), which issues books about the printing, paper, and bookbinding arts, and her research project into how the first western-made wove paper, which appeared in John Baskerville's 1757 *Virgil*, was made.

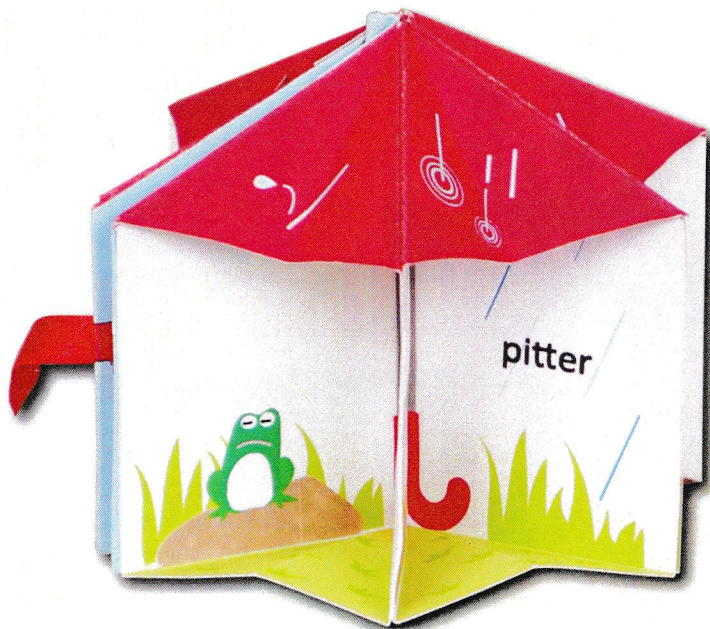
Celine Lombardi

Celine Lombardi studied bookbinding at the North Bennet Street School in Boston, MA and through working with private bookbinders in New York City. Since 2015, she has been a core bookbinding instructor at the Center for Book Arts in Manhattan. From 2014 to 2020, she was the Chair of the New York chapter of the Guild of Book Workers, and she most recently taught bookbinding in the MFA Book Arts program at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. Her fine bindings and artist books have been exhibited across the U.S. She recently relocated her studio from Brooklyn to Maine.

COMPETITION BOOKS



DISTINGUISHED BOOK AWARD WINNER



1. UMBRELLA

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Author and Illustrator: Mathi Page | Publisher: Mathi Page |
| Year: 2020 | 3-62, kurokawahondori, kita-ku |
| Pagination: 6 pages | Nagoya, Aichi 462-0841 |
| Size: 2.56 x 1.57 in (65 x 40 mm) | Japan |
| Edition: 2 | ishi-masakosama14926@ezweb.ne.jp |
| Price: \$50 | 81 80 3640 0952 |

This is a story of a frog sheltering with an umbrella that a child has forgotten. One page consists of the top edge, facing pages and tail edge. I described, on top edge, what is happening on the umbrella, facing pages what is happening to the frog, on tail edge what is happening on the ground.

This book becomes a 360-degree circle when all pages are opened. After reading the story, top edge becomes an umbrella. It can be fastened with velcro imitating the umbrella string.

The Judges' Comments:

Umbrella, an artist book and sculptural object, was thoughtfully designed, using well-chosen materials. It is a joy to experience while exploring each plane of the book and discovering small surprises. It represents a completely successful miniature book from concept to design to skillful execution.



DISTINGUISHED BOOK AWARD WINNER

2. WO? / WHERE?

Author: Herbert Hüpfel

Illustrator: Hasan Akten

Translator: Robert Fitzgerald

Year: 2019

Pagination: 52 pages

Size: 2.95 x 2.125 in (75 x 54 mm)

Edition: 10

Price: \$500

Publisher: Offizin am Wolfersberg

Sonnenweg 4

Vienna, Austria 1140

herbert.huepfel@aon.at

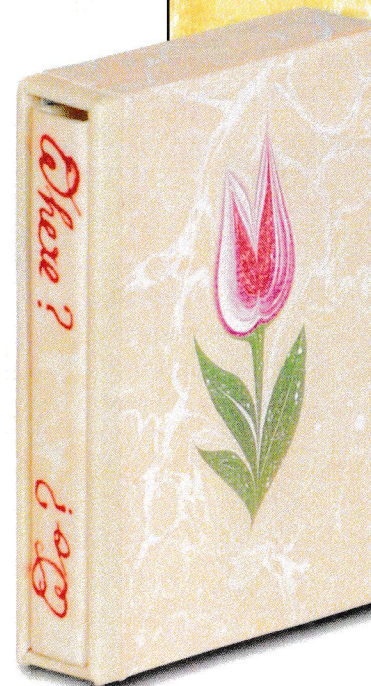
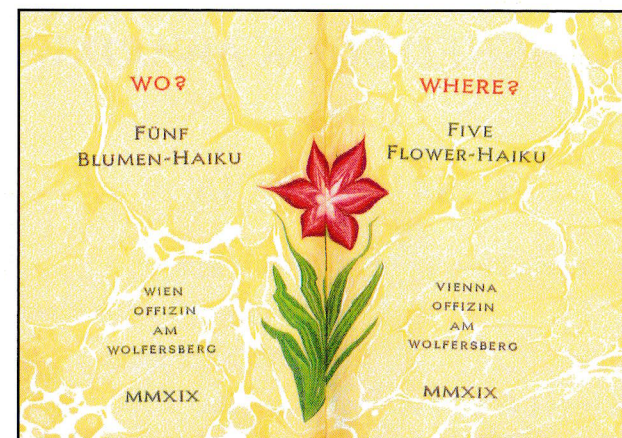
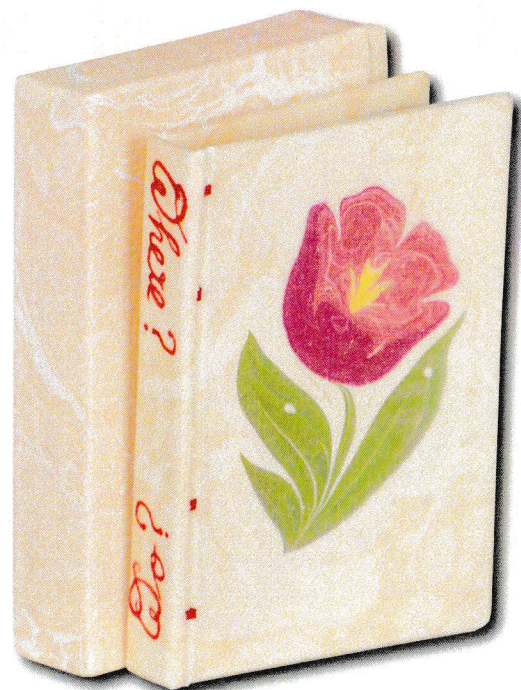
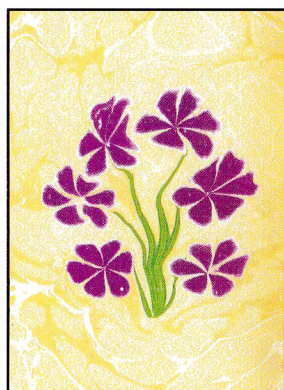
43 676 4617984

Container: 3.25 x 2.25 in

(82.55 x 57.15 mm)

This book represents a conversation (in German and English) between a lover and garden-flowers in the form of haiku verses: the lover is looking for his dear darling - symbolized in a rose.

The book is typeset in Largo and printed on marbled paper. The illustrations are marbled flowers (Cicekli-ebru), each one unique. Each book has hand-stitched headbands. The edges of the bookblock are painted and/or gilt. The classic parchment bindings are made of translucent vellum with marbled flower laied underneath. Each book includes a slipcase upholstered with a marbled flower. This copy is number VI, dedicated to the Miniature Book Society.



The Judges' Comments:

Wo? Fünf Blumen-Haiku | Where? Five Flower-Haiku is a beautifully crafted book and a pleasure to experience. Each surface of the binding was given some decorative treatment from the marbled and letterpress-printed pages and ebru flower illustrations to the gilt edge to the painted supports on the stiff-board vellum binding; even the endbands were worked. All of the elements, including the matching slipcase, work harmoniously in this elegantly bound miniature book.

DISTINGUISHED BOOK AWARD WINNER

3. SAINT LUCIA

Author, Illustrator, and Photographer: Camille Riner

Year: 2019

Publisher: Camille Riner

Pagination: 4 pages

24905 Mica Ridge

Size: 1.75 x 1.75 in (44.45 x 44.45 mm) Custer, SD 57730

Edition: open edition

criner@dakotaphoto.com

Price: \$40

605-673-4650

Saint Lucia is a tribute to the tradition of Saint Lucia and her crown of greenery topped with flickering candles. Saint Lucia was born in Italy in the 4th century. The Feast of Saint Lucia is celebrated on December 13th. Dressed in white, Lucia, the bearer of light, brings hope and light to the cold darkness of winter.

My artist's book is a modified petal book structure that I designed with pop-up candles based on Saint Lucia's crown. Each page is a hand-carved linocut image of eucalyptus, live oak, rosemary and orange leaves. I scanned the relief prints and digitally colored and collaged them with photographs and hand painting for the final illustration. This book is part of an open edition.



The Judges' Comments:

Saint Lucia features a playful "altered petal fold book" structure that successfully tells the Scandinavian folktale about bringing light into the darkness of winter. The pages create a moving sculptural piece that once opened, twists and contorts in interesting ways.

4. LITTLE TREE

Author: E.E. Cummings
 Publisher: Aredian Press
 1412 San Saba Drive
 Dallas, TX 75218
 p.miller.aredian@sbcglobal.net
 214-533-2212
 Book: 2019, unpaginated, 3 x 2 in (76.2 x 50.8 mm)
 Edition: 10 (+2 O/S), \$125



Sweet, spirited Christmas Poem by E.E. Cummings.

Wedge-shaped book with red and green patterned Indian cotton rag paper over boards, designed as Christmas package. The removable band and the spine, made from the same forest green laval, intersect like ribbons on a wrapped gift, with the layered paper title label serving as the bow. Upon opening the book, a miniature Christmas tree unfolds, and underneath is yet a tinier book, the poem's text. At a 1/4" high, in its own wrapper binding, it seems like a little gift left under the tree.



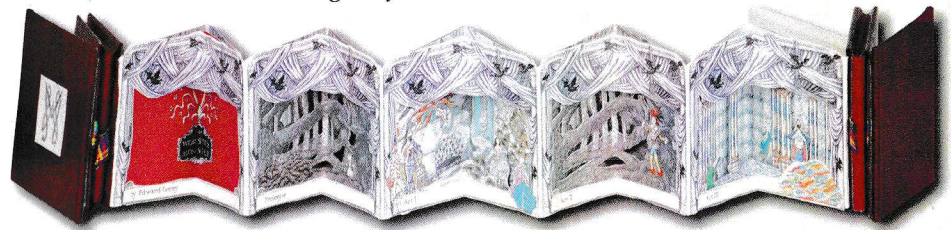
5. THE WORSTED MONSTER

Author and Illustrator: Edward Gorey
 Publisher: Aredian Press
 1412 San Saba Drive
 Dallas, TX 75218
 p.miller.aredian@sbcglobal.net
 214-533-2212
 Book: 2020, unpaginated, 3 x 3 in (76.2 x 76.2 mm)
 Container: 4.72 x 4.72 in (120 x 120 mm)
 Edition: 26 (+ 3 O/S), \$850



The Worsted Monster by Edward Gorey was previously published only in *National Lampoon Magazine*, as a do-it-yourself activity consisting of a play script with Gorey's illustrations for sets, characters, props, and production notes. The play consists of a prologue and three acts. Utter nonsense, the action begins with the Infant Isinglass being overtaken by the monster and concludes with the menacing yarn heap inexplicably becoming a huge pile of knitted socks. This is a first edition, authorized by the Edward Gorey Charitable Trust, and is being produced in an edition of 26 with copies lettered A to Z, as well as three o/s copies for the publisher and EGCT activities.

Presentation is within a natural colored bookcloth and burgandy bonded leather-covered box, trimmed with leather stripping representing strands of yarn. Upon opening the box, one sees a multicolored knitted object resting over a woolen sock. Using the sock to lift the object, one finds the book within the wide hand-knitted band. Bound between burgandy bonded leather-covered boards, the overall structure is a carousel; attached at either end are bonded leather slipcasses. One slipcase holds the separately bound play script and the other, a portfolio. The five-part carousel features the play's scenes by act, staged with characters and props. The play text is bound with fasteners as a miniature facsimile of a typical working play script. The portfolio contents are loose sheets with the activity set components. Fonts employed are Gorey, Baskerville Old Face, and New Courier. Materials are various types of paper (Mohawk Superfine, Epson Enhanced Matte, Mulberry, nonpareil-patterned marble), laval in red and burgundy, and three different bonded leathers.



6. EUCLID 1-47

Author: Euclid of Alexandria

Illustrator: Pat Sweet

Publisher: Bo Press

1231 E. Blaine St.

Riverside, CA 92507

bopress@charter.net

951-836-6138

Book: 2019, 48 pages, 2.125 x 2.825 in (53.98 x 71.76 mm)

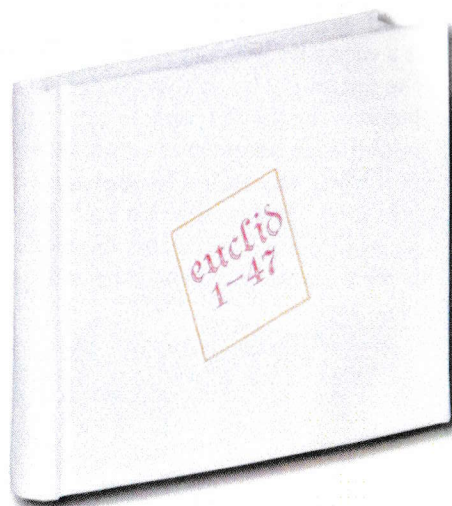
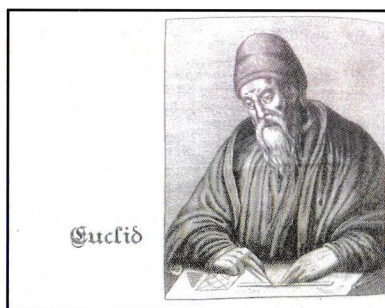
Container: 2.25 x 3 in (57.15 x 76.2 mm)

Edition: open edition, \$36



The Pythagorean theorem is the one mathematical idea everyone recognizes. The first statement of the theorem was discovered on a Babylonian tablet circa 1900-1600 B.C. Proofs of the theorem number in the thousands, but I've taken two of the best known: that of Pythagoras himself, and the first proof of two in the Elements of Euclid. Each step of the theorem has its own page and accompanying diagram, and a poem by Edna St. Vincent Millay about Euclid. The wrapper is printed with a pattern known as Pythagorean tiling, which demonstrates the theorem.

The book is printed on Mohawk superfine paper in Caviar Dreams and Teutonic #4 fonts and bound in Neenan Brilliant white linen paper. The book and the band have matching paper titles. The wrapper is printed in black and yellow on Mohawk superfine cardstock, and the band is Schoellershammer Glama Natural vellum.



7. THE PARTING GLASS

Author: Traditional

Photographer: Pat Sweet

Publisher: Bo Press

1231 E. Blaine St.

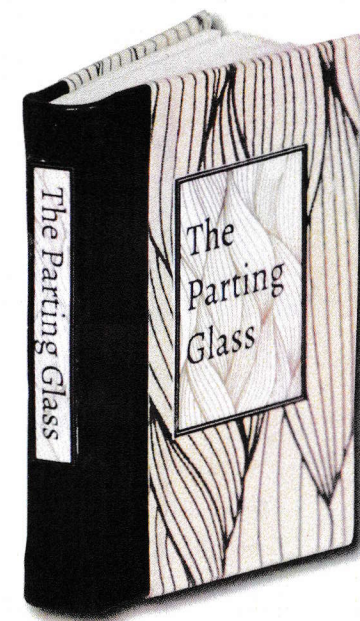
Riverside, CA 92507

bopress@charter.net

951-836-6138

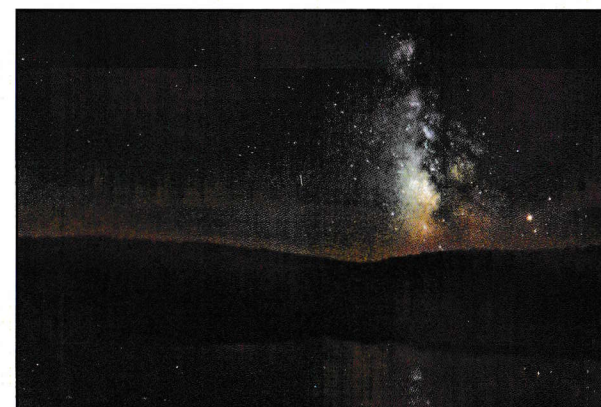
Book: 2019, 82 pages, 2.75 x 2.50 in (69.85 x 66.04 mm)

Edition: 10, \$65



This old Scottish song goes back to 1770, at least in part. The song was re-discovered and made popular by the Clancy Brothers in 1959. The song is tremendously sad, and it's tempting to think of it as a mourning song, but it was traditionally sung to a guest, sitting on his horse, drinking something that would ward off the chill on his way home. But the song has a powerful sense of 'goodbye forever' and if so, the song is blithe and brave in the face of ending, the song of someone who does not welcome death but does not fear it. If the wish to "make a good end" still exists, this song embodies it.

Printed on Monarch superfine paper in 12 point Alegreya.



8. THE LONELY GINGERBREAD MAN

Author: Wendell Sommerfeld

Illustrator: Andie Brown

Publisher: Booksby Press

6475 Ridge Rd #1

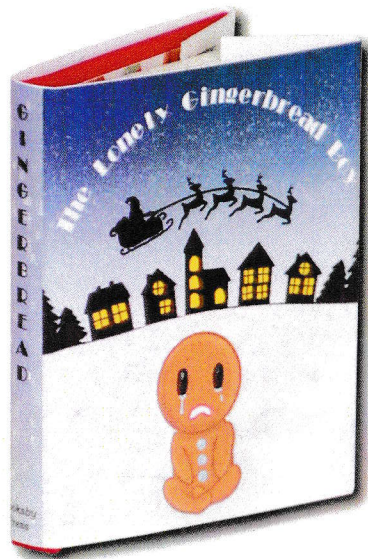
Parma, OH 44129

contratodd@gmail.com

216-965-7590

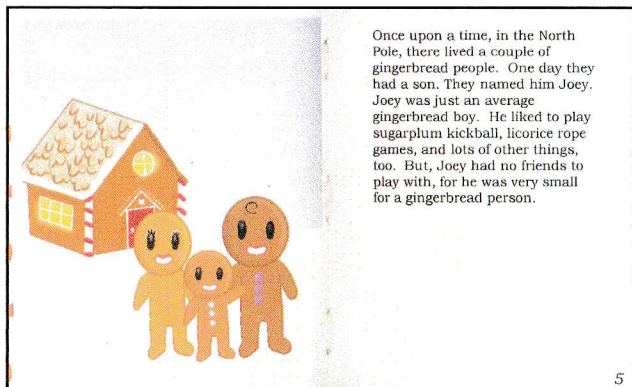
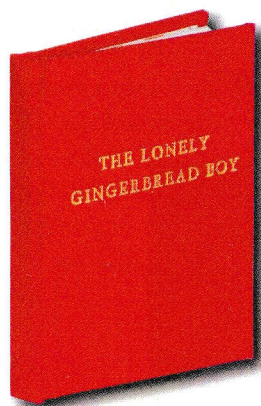
Book: 2018, 26 pages, 2.625 x 2.25 in (66.68 x 57.15 mm)

Edition: 200, \$25



With a story by Wendell Sommerfeld and 11 illustrations by Andie Brown, *The Lonely Gingerbread Boy* is heartwarming story of how one very little boy fulfills his heart's desire when Santa Claus can't.

Hand bound in gilt cloth with printed end papers and dustjacket.



Once upon a time, in the North Pole, there lived a couple of gingerbread people. One day they had a son. They named him Joey. Joey was just an average gingerbread boy. He liked to play sugarplum kickball, licorice rope games, and lots of other things, too. But, Joey had no friends to play with, for he was very small for a gingerbread person.

9. IN MINIATURE

Author: Simon Garfield

Publisher: Tony Firman
Bookbinding

80 Farm Valley Court

Weaverville, NC 28787

TonyFirmanBooks@gmail.com

828-249-0737

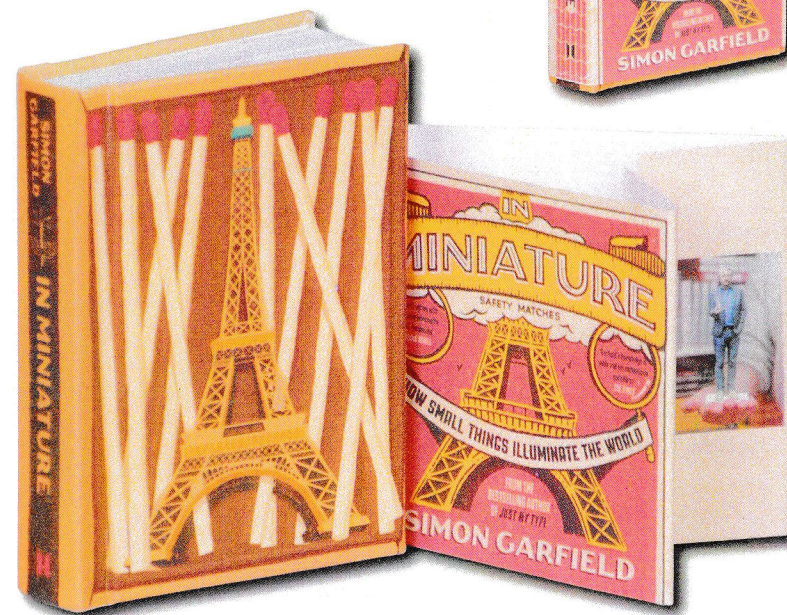
Book: 2019, 220 pages, 2.99 x 2.20 in (76 x 56 mm)

Edition: open edition, \$50



The subtitle "How Small Things Illuminate the World" says a lot. The book discusses various things made small, including models, villages, and books. One chapter is about the MBS Conclave in Oakland.

The book is a miniature version of the original "full-size" book, designed to follow the original as closely as possible. The author requested the miniature version to promote the full-size book.



10. SEEMINGLY RANDOM

Author and Illustrator: Hallie B. Bradley

Publisher: Infinity Press

2088 Fort Bevon Rd.

Harleysville, PA 19438

halliebethbrad@gmail.com

267-642-2687

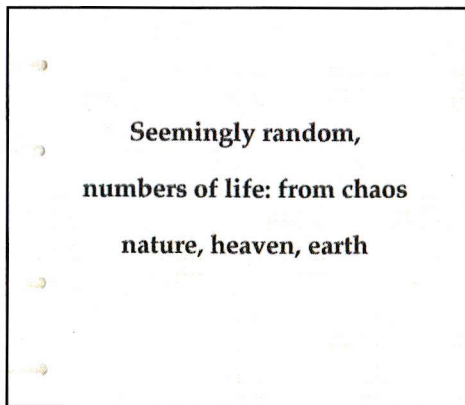
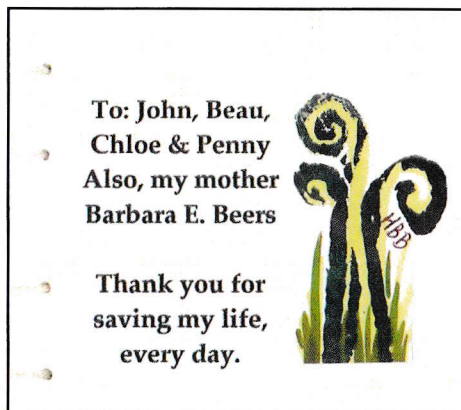
Book: 2020, 12 pages, 2.68 x 2.83 in (68 x 72 mm)

Edition: 30, \$40



The contents are a haiku adapted from a poem I wrote about the Fibonacci sequence. Since haiku traditionally do not have titles, there is no title page. Also some examples of sequences are included.

This book is handmade with original art. The text is printed on a laser printer and the illustrations are hand colored block prints. The binding is a string binding using the coptic stitch.



11. A HISTORY OF BEES

Author and Illustrator: Alvey Jones

Publisher: OpenSky Press

1303 E. Stadium Blvd

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

alveyjones@att.net

734-395-8698

Book: 2020, 18 pages, 1 x 0.75 in (25.4 x 19.05 mm)

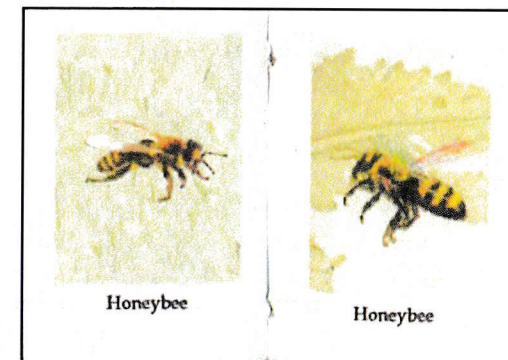
Container: 1.0625 x 0.8125 (26.99 x 20.64 mm)

Edition: 50, \$115



The book is illustrated with my original drawings in watercolor and colored pencil on various papers of honeybees and bumblebees. They are digitally printed on 24# Mohawk Superfine paper.

The book is sewn and bound in red calfskin and painted papers of my own design. The book is enclosed in a brass frame that can be worn on a chain.



12. SPRING WINDOW

Author and Illustrator: Lesley
Patterson-Marx

Publisher: Lesley Patterson-Marx

921 Montrose Avenue

Nashville, TN 37204

lesleypatterson@bellsouth.net

615-294-5444

Book: 2020, scroll, 2.875 x 2.75 in
(73.03 x 69.85 mm)

Edition: 40, \$65



This work was inspired by the window overlooking the porch, full of bird feeders, at my father-in-law's house. During my regular visits with him, we always enjoy the magnificent bird show taking place outside the window. Our friends the blue jays, cardinals, and woodpeckers always make an appearance.

This book is made with wood, book board, matboard, digital print, and paper. The window is made from mica.



13. SANCTUARY

Author and Illustrator: Camille Riner

Publisher: Camille Riner

24905 Mica Ridge

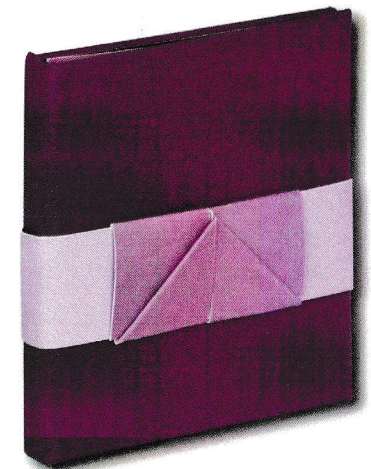
Custer, SD 57730

criner@dakotaphoto.com

605-673-4650

Book: 2018, accordion, 2.75 x 3 in
(69.85 x 76.2 mm)

Edition: 30, \$50



There seems to be times in all our lives that we need different kinds of sanctuary. Sanctuary is defined as a consecrated place, a place of refuge and protection. I have created a book with my hand-carved relief linocuts about the necessity and value of such places.

This structure of this miniature artist book is an altered accordion that unfolds to reveal a pop-up figure. This book measures approximately 3 inches square when closed and opens out to 27 inches wide when the accordians are unfolded. The book is covered with purple book cloth and comes with a violet book belly band. This book is part of a limited edition of 30 artists' books.



14. THE VISION OF CHIEF STANDS-BY-THE-LAKE

Author: Patricia Caernarven-Smith

Publisher: The Wild Onion Press

(with Tony Firman Bookbinding)

80 Farm Valley Court

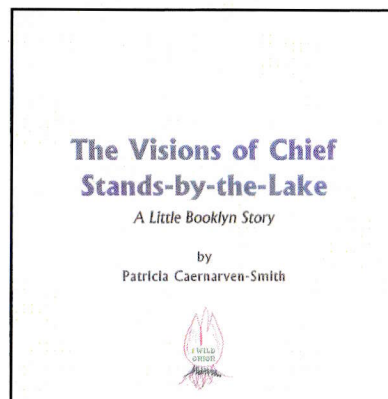
Weaverville, NC 28787

caernarvenp@gmail.com

828-279-0892

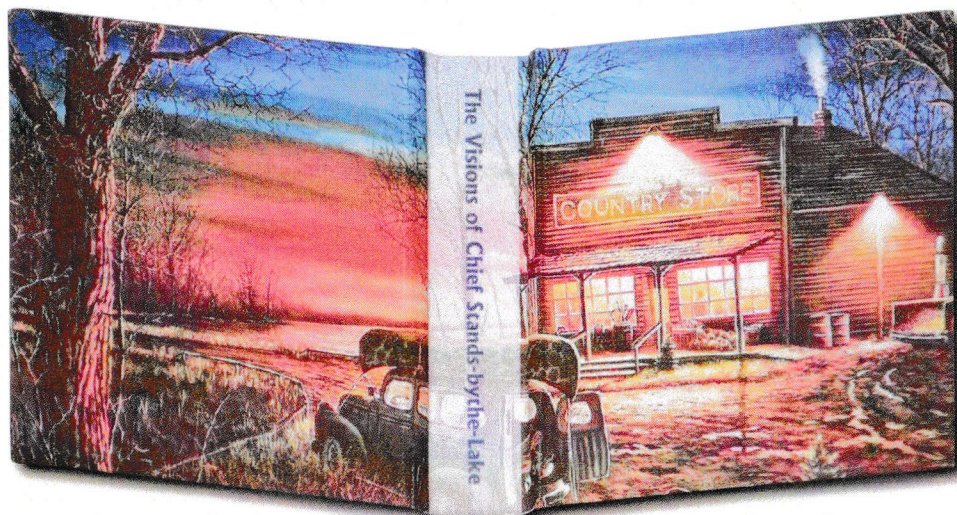
Book: 2019, 260 pages, 2.99 x 2.99 in
(76 x 76 mm)

Edition: open edition, \$40



The book is a novel in a series about Little Brooklyn, a town where almost everyone is involved in creating miniature books. In this episode, “Chief Stan” faces a personal crisis, and goes on a fishing trip to find a solution.

The book is a classic codex. Archival paper and printing produce sewn gatherings, case-bound. The case is covered with printed cloth.



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Colophon

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*"I am confident in the ability
of you, the reader, to decide what
you like and do not like...
May you enjoy the quest."*

- Robert C. Bradbury