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AI-AP PRESENTS



The Center for Book Arts: Then & Now

By Peggy Roalf Thursday June 18, 2015

Book Arts. Art of the Book. Artist's Books. Printmaking. Book Binding. Paper Arts. These are just a few of the terms that come into play in the subject at hand, and one of the reasons that [I'll stick with] Book Arts is, perhaps the ultimate interdisciplinary art of our time.

The Center for Book Arts, located in New York City's Flatiron District, is a leader in the field, and the first not-for-profit center of its kind in the country. Founded in 1974, it has become a model for other such organizations that have since proliferated from coast to coast.

In celebrating its 40th anniversary, CBA has produced a series of exhibitions that reveal the many faces of Book Arts, from printing and binding; writing; collecting; and conservation. The current show, *Then & Now: Ten Years of Residencies at the Center for Book Arts*, organized by Executive Director and Curator Alexander Campos, offers a microcosmic view of the possibilities that artists explore using paper [but not always]; printing [but not always]; binding [but not always]; stitching [often]; architecture [sometimes]; performance, music and video [more often than you might think]; and imagination [always].



Two of the core programs at CBA are its Artist-in-Residence Workspace Grant program and the Scholarship for Advanced Study in Book Arts. By looking at work created by 60 artists who have participated in these one-year grant programs over the past ten years, visitors can appreciate the many shapes created through this evolving art form. Photos above and below offer a sampling of what's on view.

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Tomorrow, Friday, June 19 at 6:30 pm, CBA presents a round-table discussion with several of the artists from *Then & Now*. Cecile Chong, Nicolás Dumit Estévez, Juana Valdes, and Jenifer Wightman will discuss their work and how their experiences as artists-in-residence at the Center have influenced their current practices. Also joining the discussion will be Rory Golden, founder of the Workspace Artist-in-Residence program. [Information.](#)



Then & Now: Ten Years of Residencies at the Center for Book Arts, and two companion exhibitions: *Featured Artist Projects: 2014 Workspace Artist-in-Residence* and *Linda Carreiro: Inside Out of Words*, continue through June 27 at The Center for Book Arts, 28 West 27th Street, Third Floor, NY, NY. [Information.](#)

The exhibition *Then & Now* will travel, opening at the Castle Gallery at The College of New Rochelle, on September 8. An exhibition catalogue is in production. Workshops and Certificate Program classes continue. [Information.](#) *Photos courtesy Center for Book Arts.*



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