

Call for Pitches: *Book Art Review* Issue 2  
Hidden Parts of Publishing

For the December 2022 issue of *BAR*, we invite reviews and feature essays that explore the “Hidden Parts of Design and Publishing.” With this topic, we hope to illuminate for critics and readers how artists’ books become artists’ books, including and not limited to what it means to *author* or *make* an artists’ book, and how different that can be between books. As always, we ask our writers to consider, Why is this a book? How does it work as a book? We invite pitches that draw analysis from these specific design choices.

- How do practical and creative considerations intersect with the vision for an artists’ book?
- How does that process change how we read and see it?
- How do concerns of authorship and collaboration change how we read an artists’ book?
- What about the more “nitty-gritty” aspects of balancing budgets with concepts and the limitations of materials?

The path of publication from artists’ book conception to final form is an often convoluted one, involving welcome surprises as well as tradeoffs and compromises determined by budget, materials, creative ideas and other logistics. The process often involves editors, printers, binders, and the artist whose name appears on the cover. Yet critics, readers, and even first-time-publisher artists, are often unaware of this labor of collective authorship and how those decisions shape the final form and its reception.

For review pitches, please include:

- Book details: artist/author, book title, publisher, and year. (A review may address a single book or a pair of books, examining and contrasting specific design, binding, or other production elements.) Images of or links to images of the book
- Summary of argument: What is your analysis, interest, or approach to this book? What element(s) of the design process (e.g. paper, binding, printing, inserts) will you be highlighting in your review?
- Link to 1-2 previous writing samples/a note on your background or writing experience

For feature pitches, please include:

- Outline how your essay relates to the theme. Suggest 2-4 books you will include
- Link to 1-2 previous writing samples/a note on your background or writing experience

DEADLINE: May 18, 2022

BAR pays all writers a flat fee for reviews, features, and interviews. Please send all pitches to [bar@centerforbookarts.org](mailto:bar@centerforbookarts.org) with “ISSUE 2 PITCH.”

<https://centerforbookarts.org/bar>