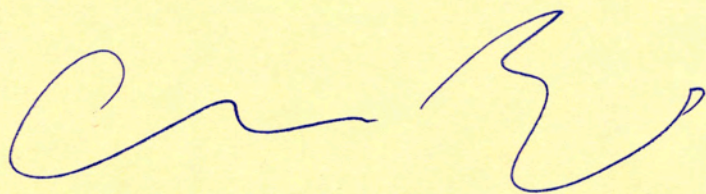


5th
CONTEMPORARY
ARTISTS BOOK
FAIR

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a cursive 'C' followed by a stylized 'A' and 'B'.

Contemporary Artists Books & Related Events

The 5th Contemporary Artists Book Fair is now at the mid-point of a two year Regional Arts Lottery Project (RALP) award which has provided support for research and activities beyond the event itself. This and last year's fairs are also notable for being the only contemporary artists' book fairs in the UK.

Visitors to the last fair commented on how much they enjoyed meeting the artists and publishers, and that they were surprised at the variety of the work within the genre. Contacts made by exhibitors on the day were as important as sales: they helped secure commissions, led to the discovery of equipment and inspired book reviews. They also generated teaching, research and collaborative opportunities.

Each Contemporary Artists Book Fair continues to exert its influence through the continued circulation of the Catalogue. Last year's catalogue is now in the collections of The Centre Pompidou, The Museum of Modern Art – New York, and the Tate Britain among others.

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One of the objectives of the project has been to create an 'Archive' collection of artists' books, not only as a record of the Dean Clough event but also as a reflection of current practice.

The first half of the archive was purchased from exhibitors at the 2001 Book Fair, with the second half to be acquired in 2002. The collection will contain approximately 60 books, together with the Fair Catalogues and a descriptive archive index. This has already been on loan to the education department at the IKON Gallery in Birmingham. The complete Archive will be launched later this year.

Since last October four public workshops have successfully explored conceptual issues of the book format, as well as historical contexts and practical applications.

A twin-volume publication is also planned which will draw upon independent areas of the verbal and visual within the book format. These publications will be a focus for an international conference at Dean Clough in March 2003 in collaboration with the University of Leeds.

Chris Taylor and John McDowall
Project Co-ordinators

- Artbound
- Artgoes
- David Barton
- Between Books
- Bookartbookshop
- Book North
- The Book Project
- Diane de Bournazel
- Bradford College
- Calderdale Calligraphers
- Camberwell College of Arts
- Catriona Stamp
- De Walden Press Bookworks
- Kate Farley
- Half Pint Productions
- Hardware
- Heather Hunter Books
- Hertfordshire College of Art & Design
- Impact Press
- Johan Deumens
- Liver and Lights
- Conor Lucey
- John McDowall
- Mermaid Turbulence
- Stuart Mugridge
- New Arcadian Press
- Otto
- The p's & q's Press
- Hervé Simon
- Sun, Moon & Stars Press
- Talk Sense Press
- Weproductions
- Wild Pansy Press

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at

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