

NEWSLETTER

INCORPORATING THE MINIATURE BOOK NEWS

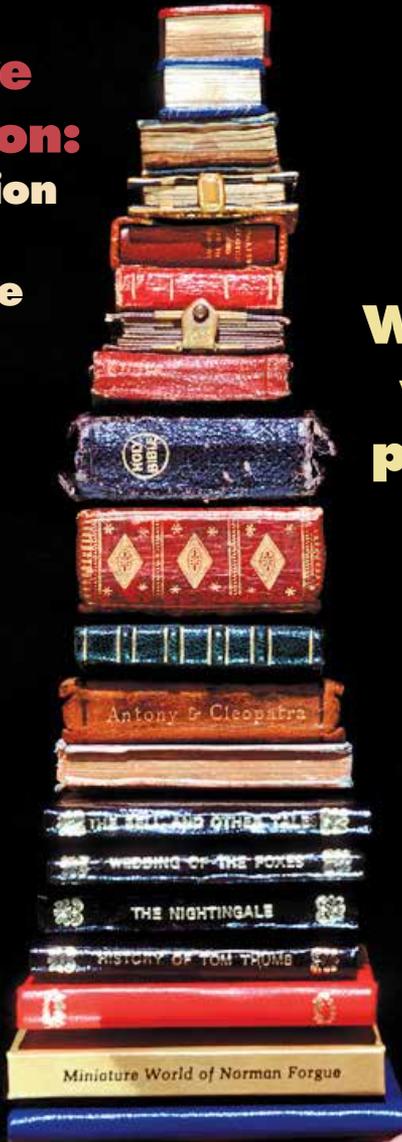


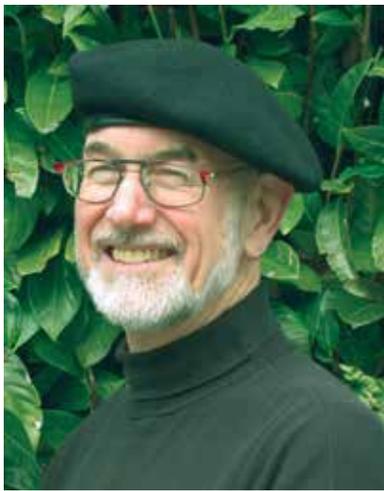
Conclave Information:

- Registration
- Hotel
- Schedule

Election Ballot

West Coast writers/ publishers





Michael Jacobs



James & Joan Lorson



Donna & Peter Thomas



Jan Kellett



Jill Timm



Elsi Vassdal-Ellis

Do you know these people?

You may meet them at the Conclave. Find out more about them on page 8. (more photos inside back cover)

From the President

Welcome to the new members and thank you, consistent, existing members! This is my final letter to you before our next Conclave, when the new Board will be in place.

The past year has been very challenging for me and had it not been for a supportive Board, I would have resigned.

In March, 2006, the VP resigned. Three months later, the death of my husband of 22 years, JR, occurred in July. Then, 6 months later, due to freezing weather, pipes burst in my home and damaged 75% of the house. After 5 long months of rebuilding and remodeling, the household was brought out of storage in June. If that weren't enough, the Chair of the Traveling Exhibit resigned. The Host of the 2007 Conclave changed venue and then resigned.

I am grateful to the faithful members who renewed yearly, volunteered and "stuck" by their president. With your support, MBS continues to operate and provide a network for the miniature book "enthusiasts".

I want to take this opportunity to personally thank:

- Julian Edison, who has filled the Vice Presidency and stepped up to organize and host the Seattle Conclave;
- Kathy King, who consistently, without complaint, took on additional duties to ease my stressful situation;
- Jim Brogan, who graciously filled the Traveling Exhibit Chair position;
- Neale Albert, who encouraged and guided me through difficult times, and;
- God, who gave me the strength and endurance to carry on (Proverbs 16).

Many Regards,

Eileen Cummings

The heart of a man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.

Prov. 16:9 ESV

Editor's Note

It would be marvelous if all of our members could make it to the Seattle Conclave, but realistically I just hope as many as possible can come. The different options available to book lovers will mean this should be a dream trip for attendees. Add to that Seattle's reputation for fantastic food and the incredible scenery of the surrounding area and everyone who can should try to extend their time to include some side trips if at all possible.

Special note: This may be our only try at a color cover. (I have to admit that it is the result of envy; those international miniature book periodicals look so terrific.) If members really like the color and we can afford it, maybe we could continue.

Joan Boring



2007 CONCLAVE PROGRAM (Tentative)

(Final Program will be in Conclave package)
Best Western Executive Inn, Seattle, WA

FRIDAY, OCT 12:

- 10 - 2 pm Board Meeting (Box lunch included).
- 2 - 5:00 pm Conclave registration.
- 2:30 - 4:30 pm Program at University of Washington
Special Collections (space is limited & requires RSVP).
See details on p.7.
- 6:30 pm Cocktails (cash bar) and dinner at hotel.

SATURDAY, OCT 13:

- 7:30 - 9 am Breakfast
- 10 - 12:00 noon MBS Annual membership meeting.
Afternoon free, and other programs to be announced. See below on the Seattle Antiquarian Book Fair and Book Arts Fair.
- 6:30 - 7:30 pm Silent Auction and Swap meet. Dessert and coffee will be available.
- 8:00 pm Auction. Fr. Joe Curran will officiate.

SUNDAY, OCT 14:

- 7:30 - 9 am Breakfast. Booksellers set up for Book Fair.
- 9:00 - 12 Conclave Book Market for MBS members only, at hotel.
- 12 - 1 pm Box lunch included for Booksellers only.
- 1:00 - 4:30 pm Conclave Book Market open to the public, at hotel.
- 6:30 Cash Bar.
- 7:30 pm Annual Dinner with Awards and guest speaker(s).

MONDAY, OCT 15:

- 7:30 - 9 am Breakfast.

The Seattle Antiquarian Book and Book Arts Fair will be held Saturday, Oct. 13, 10am - 6 pm, and Sunday, Oct. 14, 11:00 - 4 pm, at the Seattle Center Pavilion in the Seattle Center, about four blocks from the hotel. MBS members with identification admitted free.

SEATTLE CONCLAVE INFORMATION

The Miniature Book Society Conclave will be held October 12-14, 2007 at the Best Western Executive Inn, 200 Taylor Avenue North, Seattle, Washington, 98109.
The hotel may be reached at 1-800-351-9444 or 1-206-448-9444.
Their website is www.bestwestern.com/prop_48068.

Hotel arrangements:

The hotel is holding a number of rooms at a special rate of \$99 plus tax for members of the Miniature Book Society. While reservations must be made by September 7 to assure this rate, we suggest you contact the hotel as soon as possible. Be sure to identify yourself as a member of the Miniature Book Society. PLEASE DO NOT MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS THROUGH A TRAVEL AGENT OR THROUGH BEST WESTERN INTERNATIONAL - THIS SPECIAL RATE IS AVAILABLE ONLY BY CONTACTING THE HOTEL DIRECTLY BY MAIL OR THE TELEPHONE NUMBERS ABOVE.

The Best Western Executive Inn is situated at the north end of downtown Seattle, adjacent to the Seattle Center (where the Seattle Antiquarian Book Fair will be at the same time as our Conclave), and to the Space Needle. One block west of the hotel is the Seattle Center Monorail, and the hotel provides complimentary shuttle service to and from the downtown corridor. Parking is \$8 nightly. Rooms include the usual convenient amenities such as in-room coffee makers, irons & boards, hair dryers, basic TV, free local phone calls, etc. There is a Business Center and Fitness Center on the Lobby level.

Transportation arrangements:

Seattle's SeaTac International Airport is serviced by a number of airlines. Taxicabs are perhaps the best method to the hotel—if possible, try to join up with other MBS members coming in at the same time.

Conclave Registration:

See Registration form and information in this issue.
Registration with check must be sent in no later than September 14 to:
Julian I. Edison, 8 St. Andrews Dr., St. Louis, MO 63124
(jiestl@mac.com or 314-567-3533)

If you are not staying at the Best Western, please tell us where you will be.

Keepsakes:

Edward Hoyenski is accepting keepsakes. 100-120 copies of the keepsakes should be sent to Ed at 308 Normal #16, Denton, Texas 76201
USA telephone = 1-940-387-9545 Email: ehoyensk@library.unt.edu

Auction items:

Send books or items to be auctioned to Janet Becker, 1700 Dix Road, Middletown, OH 45042.
Telephone = 1-513-522-5956 Email: janmbecker@hotmail.com (or, if easier, you can send detailed information in advance, then bring the items with you to Seattle).

Silent Auction:

Send to either Janet Becker in USA or to Stephen T. Byrne, 6 Packhorse Close, Clayton West, Huddersfield, W. Yorkshire HD8 9LU, England. Email: sb@finalscore.demon.co.uk

Hotel Registration Reminder:

Details above. Arrangements must be made by September 7 to enjoy special rate.

SEATTLE CONCLAVE XXV--- OCT 12-14, 2007

Our 25th Conclave plans are getting more exciting.
"The Premier Pacific Northwest Rare Book Event"

Louis Collins, proprietor of Louis Collins Books and also Chair of the Seattle Antiquarian Book Fair and Book Arts Show taking place on Oct 13-14, near our hotel, indicates that the Book Fair website will give complete information about the Fair. Website: www.seattlebookfair.com, or e-mail: bookfair@seattlebookfair.com. Telephone: 206-323-3999 and FAX: 206-323-8233.

Collins also says that the Lewis Carroll Society is planning to meet in Seattle at the same time, because of the Book Fair and our MBS Conclave meeting. He indicates that the Book Fair is nearly full, but may have the MBS share a booth with the Book Club of Washington or have a Book Artists space by ourselves. Collins has assured us that admission is free for MBS members with identification.

Because of all these events Collins is trying to get the Mayor and the City Council to declare a Book Collecting Week in Seattle.

Conclave Co-host Lynne Kelly is delighted to report both the Book Arts Guild and the Seattle Center for Book Arts would like to officially join her as Honorary Co-hosts and in warmly welcoming us to Seattle in October!

THE SEATTLE CENTER FOR BOOK ARTS

"Founded in 2005, Seattle Center for Book Arts (SCBA) is a regional resource for book arts education. SCBA provides educational, technical, and creative resources for adults and children by offering workshops at annual community events and throughout the year in classrooms and community art centers across the Northwest. Dedicated to fostering appreciation, understanding, and acceptance of the book as a contemporary art form and medium for self-expression, SCBA's ultimate aim is to establish a facility specifically designed and equipped for bookmaking and all related art forms."

THE BOOK ARTS GUILD

The Book Arts Guild was formed in Seattle in 1979 to support the diverse disciplines of the book arts and is dedicated to promoting all hand bookmaking crafts and contemporary book arts. Today the Guild counts among its members bookbinders and conservators, papermakers, paper decorators, people in all forms of printing and typography, calligraphers, artists who create images through printmaking, painting and photography and many others who are involved with the making of books. Membership is open to anyone with interest and enthusiasm. Monthly programs often feature lectures by visiting artists co-sponsored by Special Collections, University of Washington Libraries.

Friday afternoon, Oct 12, a key program is being planned for MBS members:

BOOK ARTS COLLECTION PRESENTATION ON MINIATURE BOOKS

On Friday October 12, 2007 Sandra Kroupa, Book Arts and Rare Book Curator, will introduce Miniature Book Society members to the miniature books held in the Book Arts Collection, Special Collections Division of the University of Washington Library. Attendance is limited to 50 people so please RSVP to Lynne Kelly at blynnekelly@msn.com, in advance of this event (or by mail to Lynne Kelly, PO Box 867, Gold Bar, WA 98251). Materials will cover medieval manuscripts, printed books from a variety of periods with modern letterpress printed and artists' books being the area of emphasis. Some materials will be able to be handled. The presentation and the review of books is planned for 2:30-4:30 PM. (Transportation will be provided)

EXHIBITION OF 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURIES PUBLISHER'S BINDINGS

There will be a major exhibition of publisher's bindings in three locations in the Suzzallo/Allen Library at the University of Washington, September - December, 2007. Included in the exhibit will be selected miniature books of interest to the Miniature Book Society.



Poetry Corner (or More Accurately, Limerick Corner)

Will Michael Garbett inspire poets or is this setting a dangerous precedent?

There once was a monk from Tibet
Who bought all the books he could get.
With no room for anudha
Big tome about Budha
He purchased his first mini set.

A wizard from Ancient Tobruk
Found he made objects shrink with a look
When he happened to peek
At a Bibliothique
He invented the miniature book.

Some of Our West Coast Author/Publishers

It started out as a good idea—I wanted to be able to give Conclave attendees and other members a chance to learn something about the people they may only have heard of, but might encounter at meetings. Then reality set in: there are far too many people and not enough time to do such a project justice. So I limited myself to people I could contact by email, and the fact that my email can be erratic and that some people were out of touch at the moment limited things further. I still think it's a good idea so perhaps in the future we can offer informative soundbites from other members who create our cherished works.

Michael Jacobs (a 3-d kinda guy) is a designer, maker, and instructor who has worked in mixed-media and sculpture for over thirty years. In 1990, he designed and fabricated the Kodak Goodwill Games *World's Largest Photo Album* (228 pounds, 7,500 photos), and he has been creating sculptural and miniature books ever since. He teaches workshops throughout the United States and Canada and is the author of three North Light books and a DVD titled *Paper Transformations*. Michael's work has been published in many books and periodicals and exhibited in numerous galleries since 1973, and his artist books and wire, wood and leather objects are in private collections across America. Find out more at www.thecreativezone.com

An Introduction to The who, what, where, how and why of De Walden Press -- Jan Kellett

Like a rapidly replicating computer virus, miniature books came into my life through a seemingly innocuous request from a customer to 'see what you can do to repair this little book'. As a child, I had a

tiny dictionary, but had never really come across miniature books as an adult until that moment. From English teacher to bookbinder, with calligraphy and painting thrown in by way of seasoning, the result was inevitable, I just had to try making a miniature book, and of course, one led to another. Moving from Worcestershire in England, where I started my press, to Vancouver Island on the west coast of Canada, has presented a few challenges, but has also given me the opportunity and impetus to buy a printing press, and learn to print letterpress.

My work is a reflection of my traditional roots, and my values are largely independent of fashion. I find it refreshing to try new things: a technique I haven't used before, or a way of using an old method or material in an unusual way, but basically my production values demand that the books are both well-made and of enduring appeal. Miniature books exist primarily to give us pleasure, and that is what I aim to achieve.

Check out www.dewaldenpress.net

Joan and James Lorson

The Lorsons opened Lorson's Books and Prints in Fullerton, CA, in 1977 and have published over 27 miniature books, the latest being *Come to the Cabernet*, a compendium of wine writer's critiques designed and produced by Joe D'Ambrosio.

We regret to note that according to their website the shop is currently for sale, although online sales will continue.

See www.lorsonbooksandprints.com

Georgianne E. Matthews

Georgianne has spent her life in education from Bombay to Saigon to founding mobile schools for migrant children in California. Her GEM-

Production books in her Great Minds Classical Miniatures have been a distillation of wisdom and stories she found uplifting. The series includes such authors as Dante, Tolstoy, Gandhi and Steinbeck and embraces such topics as Saint Augustine, Buddha, and Persian proverbs with titles like *The Destiny of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence* and *Lao Tzu and the Eight Immortals of China*.

Her own non-fiction miniatures range from *Alashir* (the ancient city of Philadelphia in Lydia, West Asia Minor) to *Humor Is the Best Medicine* to *The Remarkable Ant*. There is *Three Questions Play*, based on an old German folktale and fiction includes *The Bird with the Wooden Feathered Wing*, *Tribute to a Gifted Student*, a reproduction of a 3rd grader's essay on Plato, Socrates, and Aristotle, appeared in the MBS 2004 Miniature Book Exhibition.

Philip and Anna Morrison

Shoestring Press began with limited editions in 1973 and in 1998 added miniature books in editions of 25 to 75 copies. Two or three times a year they issue one-of-a-kind books. The Morrisons conceive, design, print, illustrate and bind their books, as well as making pastepapers and marbled papers for use in their work. They use both offset and letterpresses and for limited editions will use a 1918 Washington Hand Press—slow, but offering wonderful control of impression and ink density.

Their first miniature, *Mother Goose*, won the MBS Distinguished Book Award. Other miniature publications have included *To Everything There Is a Season*, utilizing illustrations created by 2nd graders, *Classic Haiku* with the writings of haiku masters from the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries, and the *ABC Alphabet Cube Book* featuring different type styles

on the rotating sections of a Rubik's Cube that when properly assembled will form a book. Planned for this year is *Fireflies* by Rabindranath Tagore. Their books can be found on different websites. Try searching "Shoestring Press" and Morrison.

Laura Russell

Laura creates one-of-a-kind and limited edition artist books that explore the visual and graphic landscape that we look at everyday, but never really see. She has participated in national and international book arts and fine arts exhibitions and curates exhibitions, gives workshops, lectures and writes about the book arts. She owns 23 Sandy Gallery, a fine art gallery in Portland featuring photography, artist books and other types of graphic arts.

Her most recent miniature book, *Casa Milà*, features an original poem and eight photographs of the "sentinals" (rooftop chimney stacks, vent caps and stairway entrances disguised with huge, fantastical sculptures) atop Antoni Gaudí's La Pedrera apartment building in Barcelona.

Find her on www.laurarussell.net

Peter and Donna Thomas

Peter and Donna are book artists: papermakers and letterpress printers who also illustrate, illuminate and bind their own unique books. Their research into the history of papermaking, and their exploration of alternative book structures are internationally recognized. They are founding members of the Miniature Book Society, and throughout their careers they have been active in the leadership of both national and international book arts and papermaking organizations. Since 1977, their books have been shown in individual and group exhibitions in the USA and abroad under their previous imprint, The Good Book Press, and their current imprint, Peter and Donna Thomas. They

have lectured and taught workshops internationally, and have published several books and articles on papermaking and other aspects of the book arts. They live and work in Santa Cruz, California.

Check peteranddonna@cruzio.com

Jill Timm

Jill is a full time, award winning, book artist focusing on small editions of hand crafted books that portray the spirit and aesthetics of the natural environment. A varied background in graphic design, photography, teaching, marketing, and business, have all come together in her Mystical Places Press, established 1997. She enjoys working on books that reflect her love for the outdoors, and she loves exploring new structures and materials that reflect her subjects. For example, a rusted iron cover for a book about a ship wreck, or frosted Plexiglas (interesting story there, ask her about it) cover for the cool book titled *Winter White*, or a clay cover for *Cliff Village*. Recently she had to learn a whole new craft, lapidary, in order to make real rock covers for a couple of new books *Rocks* and *Earth Magic*.

Jill has earned a good share of awards and professional achievements for her work in fine arts graphics, photography, graphic design, and art direction, including the MBS book award one year, and a finalist another year. Her books are in many corporate, university, public and private collections worldwide. Her artist books are included in several consumer crafts and bookmaking books, while articles about her books have been published in numerous periodicals, and books. Jill lives in the small town of Wenatchee (20,000 pop), right in the middle of the state of Washington, 3 hours and over the Cascades mountain range, from Seattle. "Wenatchee" is on the Columbia River at the base of snow covered mountains...paradise! Come visit! www.mysticalplaces.com

Elsi Vassdal-Ellis

My interest in miniature books emerged from a desire to make use of the off-cuts I would take home at the end of each quarter as a by-product of student printing projects. There simply had to be something I could do with them. To date I have written, designed, printed and bound 9 letterpress editions and one offset. I haven't produced a miniature for a few years now - not because I am without ideas, it is just a matter of timing. The deadline for the Miniature Book Society exhibit is around the middle of spring quarter when I am working with my seniors in their portfolio course as well as teaching an oversized class in book arts.

I am anxious to get the next one onto the press: *Jacob Wrestling with the Angel*, referencing Gauguin's painting and one of the last conversations I had with my father before he passed away. There are several books in the works for the Il[logics] series; the last one printed was *God no longer wants you*, (2004) a book I did for the 10th anniversary of the Rwanda genocide. Previous works include: 1993 *Itty Bitty Bit Book*; 1994 *Eight Maya Glyphs*; 1999 *August Avian Hours*; 2000 *Prelude to Songs for Eden*; 2001 *Ramses Awaits*; 2002 *The 0.1% Factor*; *Heretic*; 2003 *Questions for a Terrorist*.
http://www.ac.wvu.edu/~vassdae/book_arts

Juniper Von Phitzer Press – Juniper Von Phitzer and Marvin R. Hiemstra

This press has been at work for 20 years, offering "a refreshing list of 89 finely handcrafted miniature titles appearing in unique formats with intriguing contents."

Contact drollmarv@aol.com or write JVP Press for details.

A LIBRARY TRIP TO ENGLAND

Caroline Y. Lindemann

In February 2007 I joined a small group organized by the Library of Virginia to visit libraries in England. We visited the University Library and the Churchill Archives Center in Cambridge; the Bodleian Library in Oxford where we were shown an incredibly rare 1612 map of Virginia; the Royal Library at Windsor Castle; and in London the British Museum, the British Library (now separated from the Museum), the University of London Library, and Quaritch's book store. Everywhere we were given private guided tours and shown incredible treasures.



Windsor Castle

We also visited several houses with Virginia connections including Otley Hall, home of Bartholomew Gosnold, leader of the Jamestown Expedition in 1607 (this year Virginia is celebrating the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown), Sulgrave Manor, home of George Washington's ancestors, and Ditchley Park, the home during World War II of Nancy Langhorne Lancaster, who entertained Churchill on many weekends during the war. She was born in Charlottesville, Virginia, and was a noted interior designer and founder of the famous decorating company, Colefax and Fowler. We also visited Elton Hall, home for 350 years of the Proby family who are still in residence and where we were shown Henry VIII's prayer book.

A highlight for me in Queen Elizabeth II's private library at Windsor was being shown some of the miniature books housed in a book-shaped box. Among them was Achille St. Onge's *Form and Order of the Service* from the Queen's coronation on June 2nd 1953, one of only five or six bound in white morocco left over from her coronation Bible. And most wonderful to see in a glass case with other treasures was a tiny Italian manuscript of the *Poems of Petrarch* in a gold filigree binding. It was printed in 1567 by Aloysius Partenopeus, and is about one inch in height. I also visited the Queen's Dolls House there, my second or third time, but for me a "must see."

Another miniature book highlight is in the British Library in London. Amongst myriad treasures is *Lady Jane Grey's Prayer Book*, about 3 ½ inches in height and beautifully illuminated. A granddaughter of Henry VIII and a rival for the throne of Mary I, this poor lady served as Queen of England for only nine days and was beheaded in February 1555 at the age of 17. Immediately beforehand she gave this little book to Sir John Bridges, head of the Tower of London, inscribed by her as follows: "For as mutche as you have desired so simple a woman to wrighte in so worthye a booke good mayster lieutenaunte therefore I shall as a frende desyre you and as a christian require you to call uppon god to encline youre harte to his lawes to quicken you in his waye and not take the trewth the utterlye oute of youre mouthe."

A letter from Ian and Helen Macdonald:

You might have heard on the grapevine that we have retired from publishing miniature books and that The Gleniffer Press has now been closed after 40 years of operation. It is true! Helen and I have decided to hang up the clogs and take life a bit easier. We issued our final tome on the 4th of March and the equipment is now sold so no more wee books from Wigtown. Quite sad in some ways but the end of an era for us at least. See our website at www.glenifferpress.co.uk for news and bibliography details.

As you know we are not collectors and not now publishers either so we feel that we must relinquish our membership of the MBS at the end of 2007 and must trim our outgoings to survive on our retirement pension. We will always be proud of the fact that Helen and I helped get the Society established way back in 1983 and that will be a happy memory for us for all time. We have made so many good friends over the years...such wonderful fun!

Editor's note: We will definitely miss Helen and Ian. Not only were they founding members, but they hosted the 1990 Conclave VIII in Glasgow and provided the Glasgow Cup. The Cup is awarded annually to a member "who has shown a special dedication and above all, friendship to the membership". We wish them all the best with retirement.

New Publications

Randolph Caldecott and His Printer: Edmund Evans by Suzanne Pruchnicki. The Brontë Press. 9 original handcolored illus., under 3 inches. Bound over boards. Ed. of 40.

New Catalogues

Bradbury: No. 37: **Miniature Books from the Collection of James F. DeLancey.**

Worcester, MA (with *Collecting Miniature Books*, No. 15.) May 2007.

Exhibits (Special Note)

MBS traveling exhibit was damaged in transit and is being repaired thanks to members at the Rare and Texana Collections, University of North Texas Libraries.

Conclave reminders:

Send freebies to:

Edward Hoyenski
308 Normal #16
Denton, TX 76201

Send auction donations to:

Janet Becker
1700 Dix Road
Middletown, OH 45042

Send materials for silent auction to:

Stephen T. Byrne
6 Packhorse Close, Clayton West,
Huddersfield, W. Yorkshire HD8 9LU,
England

Or in US, to Janet Becker with notification to Stephen.

MINIATURE BOOK NEWS

8 ST. ANDREWS DRIVE • ST. LOUIS, MO • 63124

The Newberry Library And Catherine Gass

Catherine Gass composed the striking photograph on the front cover showing her hand holding 20 miniature books. It was chosen for the cover of the Winter/Spring issue of the *Notre Dame Review*, and we were intrigued.

Catherine is the photographer for the Newberry Library in Chicago where the miniature books reside.

The Newberry Library is one of America's leading independent research libraries. It focuses on the humanities, embracing the history and literature of Western Europe and the Americas, and is located near downtown Chicago. Doris Welsh worked there for many years during which she wrote *The History of Miniature Books* as well as compiling the information for the exhaustive *A*



Soccer Kick

Bibliography of Miniature Books, published by Kathryn Rickard in 1989 after Welsh's death.

Paul Gehl, a curator at the Newberry reports that the library possesses several hundred miniature books among its 1.5 million volumes, but does not catalogue them as a separate category. The earliest that Paul could find is a *Biblia. Oder Inhalt... of Nurnburg, Germany of 1705*. The library also has one of the printing plates for the tiny *Rubaiyat* published by Charles H. Meigs of Cleveland in 1900, which was the smallest book at the time.

Catherine also teaches at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago where she is currently Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Photography Department. Her work has been exhibited at numerous locations. The cover photo shows miniature books in her outstretched hand. This photo is part of a series, titled "*Faulty Diction*," that depicts



Wrestling with the N.Y. Times

sport trophy figures in various positions holding miniature books. These photos are large, varying in size from about 4 feet to 6 feet and come in two sizes in editions of 10 each. They are printed with archival inks. The cost for these artworks is large too --- from around \$2,000 or more for the larger size, less for the smaller.

Here is Catherine's Artist Statement, in her own words, explaining this series:

I am interested in the capacity of objects to serve as traces of authentic experience. My work contains images that involve the process of learning --- a continuous exchange between the body and the book.

"*Faulty Diction*" is a series of large color photographs ranging in size from four feet to six feet and depict sport trophy figures kicking, hitting and holding books. Miniature books placed in the hands of trophy figures question our knowledge of scale and the significance of the sentiments that souvenirs are supposed to evoke. I am interested in the ability of objects to serve as traces of authentic experience. My work contains images that involve the process of learning - a continuous exchange between the body and the book. All of the photographs in the "Faulty Diction" series show the books at size and have not been altered.

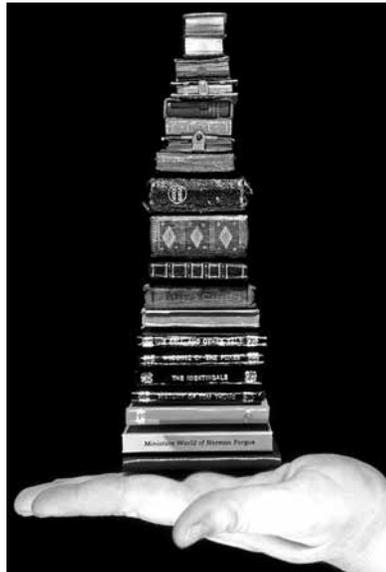
The miniature books are part of the John M. Wing Foundation on the History of Printing at the Newberry Library.



Karate Kick



Body Builder



Books in Hand

McGEHEE LINDEMANN MINIATURE BOOK COLLECTION

In late 2005, the University of Virginia Library received a truly remarkable gift: the miniature book collection of Caroline Yarnall Casey McGehee Lindemann, which she presented in memory of her husband, UVa alumnus C. Coleman McGehee ('47).

We reported on this gift in MBN at the time --- more than 11,000 volumes. On April 21 this year a program and reception was held at the Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library at the University to celebrate this remarkable gift. The program notes for this event noted that "A Philadelphia native and graduate of Sweet Briar College, Mrs. Lindemann has had a lifelong interest in miniature books, and has collected them seriously for the last forty years. "The thrill of the search," she has remarked, "was a large part of the romance and fun." Opportunities to meet other collectors, seek out bookshops and booksellers, and view library collections on her travels throughout the world have added to the pleasure of the search."

The citation went on to say that Car-

oline is a charter member of the Miniature Book Society and "is proud to have attended every annual conclave since the Society was founded in 1983."

Robert C. Bradbury, book collector and bookseller specializing in miniature books, was the speaker at this April celebration, which included an exhibition of a selection of the books. His topic was "Collecting Miniature Books: Celebrating a Large Library of Small Books." In his talk Bob put things in perspective by discoursing on how much work it took to assemble a collection of over 11,000 books, particularly by acquiring one or a few at a time over a long period.

The Library is busy cataloguing all of the books from the extensive records that Caroline kept over the years. A photograph of the stacks shows seven-high long rows of shelving that are fitted with metal backing on the backside so that the books will not fall out. With this gift, the Library went on to say that her "Lilliputian library" is now available for all the world to study and enjoy.



Robert C. Bradbury
and Caroline Lindemann



Caroline's books are arranged on long shelves at the library. Special backs had to be put into the shelving to keep the books from falling off and getting lost or mauled by the shelves being moved on the sliders.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY LECTURE & EXHIBITION

On May 1, 2007, Anne Bromer gave a lecture at the Boston Public Library. The lecture, complete with a power point presentation including about 50 images, took place in the beautiful “old world” Abbey Room and was attended by an overflow crowd of some 200 persons.

In conjunction with this lecture there is an exhibition of miniature books from the Library and other sources in the Cheverus Room upstairs which continues until September 2. Here is the Library’s notice on their website:

Miniature Books: 4,000 Years of Tiny Treasures -- Through Sept. 2, Cheverus Room. (Ext. 2225). These engaging, artful and often eccentric little books constitute engrossing examples of the bookmaker’s art, rendered in the same detail as full-sized books from text to binding. Serving many purposes, miniature books have long been produced for reasons of practicality, ease of transport, aesthetic quality, simply curiosity and even secrecy.

A dramatic 8-foot tall banner was placed outside the front entrance of the Library to advertise the exhibit.

Anne has been busy with various TV, radio and newspaper interviews. An illustrated article about these events appeared in the Boston Globe.



Large banner posted on the front of the library.



Some manuscripts on display



Anne C. Bromer and Julian I. Edison autographing their book after the lecture.

Poster Used for Miniature Book Exhibit at Grolier Club, NYC, May 16 - July 28, 2007

Miniature Books 4,000 Years of Tiny Treasures

Human beings have always been fascinated by extremes—the highest mountain, the tallest building, the deepest abyss, the oldest person, and the smallest objects—and this explains the enduring attraction of miniature books.

Most people who have never seen a miniature book are full of questions about them:

- **What are miniature books?** A miniature book is defined by most aficionados as measuring a maximum of three inches or 76 millimeters in height or width, although the European standard extends to four inches.
- **Can you read them?** Easily—the type size of most miniature books is no smaller than that in a newspaper.
- **Why were they produced?** For practical purposes, for aesthetic reasons, and for the love of craft, or the challenge of working in miniature.
- **Are they still being produced?** Yes, hundreds are published yearly around the world.
- **Why are they collected?** For many reasons, including utility, historical importance, novelty, curiosity, and appreciation for miniature books as an art form, and a vehicle for craftsmanship.
- **Where can I find them?** Here in this exhibition, and almost everywhere.



These questions and others are addressed in this exhibition, and in the accompanying publication *MINIATURE BOOKS: 4,000 Years of Tiny Treasures*, co-authored by Anne C. Bromer and Julian I. Edison and published by Harry N. Abrams in association with the Grolier Club.

The miniature book is almost as old as written word. This survey begins with a small cuneiform tablet of ancient Mesopotamia, the earliest pre-miniature book, and ends with a silicon tablet characterized by Guinness World Records as “the smallest printed book reproduction.” In between we display historical, political, religious, artistic, literary, social and other facets of this intriguing genre.

Join us in exploring the world of miniature books: their beauty and oddity, the fascination and enjoyment they generate, and their significance in the history of books and printing. We’ll demonstrate the incredible variety of miniature books, limited only by the skill and imagination of scribes, printers, and binders over four millennia.

World's Smallest Book... For The Moment!

Just when we thought the ultimate small size of a miniature book had been reached, the next penultimate has appeared. And it also begs the question of how a book is defined. Who knows where this race will end!

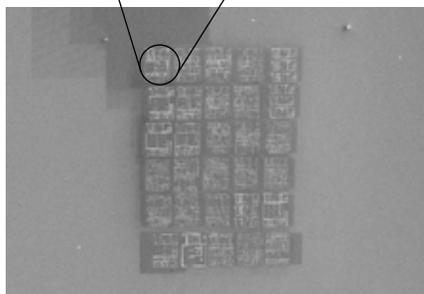
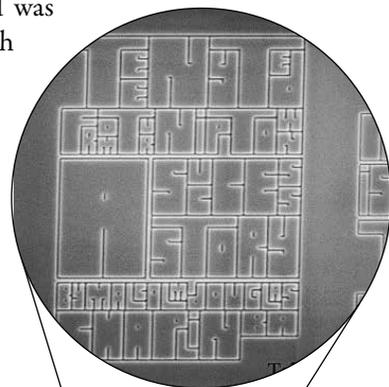
The world's first Nanoscale book was published as a work of fine art, April 9, 2007 by Robert Chaplin at the Nano Imaging Facility of Simon Fraser University. This book, complete with an International Standard Book Number (ISBN-978-1-894897-17-4), is entitled *Teeny Ted From Turnip Town*. It was written by Malcolm Douglas Chaplin and is a fable concerning the success of Teeny Ted from Turnip town and his victory in the Turnip contest at the annual county fair. It is at present the world's smallest published book.

HOW IT WAS MADE

The Robert Chaplin/SFU Nanobook project was produced using a focused-gallium-ion beam with the assistance of Dr. Li Yang, and Dr. Karen L. Kavanagh of Simon Fraser University, located at the summit of Burnaby Mountain, Burnaby, BC. The gallium beam has a minimum diameter of 7 nanometers, and was programmed to carve the space surrounding each letter of a book. The book was typeset in block letters with a resolution of 40 nanometers, and is made up of 30 microtablets, each carved on a polished piece of single crystalline silicon. The entire collection of microtablets is contained within an area of 69 x 97 microns square with an average size of tablet being 11 x 15 microns square.

GUINNESS BOOK OF WORLD RECORDS

The *Guinness Book of World Records* cites two records for very small books: The new testament of the *King James Bible*, (5 x 5 mm, MIT, 2001) and Chekhov's *Chameleon* (0.9 x 0.9 mm, Omsk, Russia, 1996). *Teeny Ted from Turnip Town*, is much smaller. This original publication has a total size of less than 0.07 x 0.10 mm. It is an exquisite work of contemporary art, available in a signature edition of 100 copies, from Robert Chaplin, via Simon Fraser University, Nano Imaging Facility.



One of the 30 microtablets, substantially enlarged.

Catching Up On a Little Light Reading

(article originally published in May, 2007 in *The New York Times - Arts & Leisure*,
By William Grimes)

In the 1930s the paperback made its appearance. Readers in Germany, Britain and the United States responded enthusiastically to the idea of a small-format book that could be slipped into the pocket and read on the bus or train. What a novelty it seemed, a streamlined leisure product fitting for a scientific age.

In fact the shrunken book was nearly five centuries old. The earliest miniature books, illuminated manuscripts that could be dangled from the waist on a chain, predated the invention of moveable type. Their dimensions made the typical paperback look gargantuan. The larger examples measured three inches or less on each side. As bookmaking technology improved, the small became even smaller. Bookbinders in Russia and Japan have published books, complete with bindings, that are about the size of the letter "a" on this page.

The story of the incredible shrinking page is the subject of *Miniature Books: 4,000 Years of Tiny Treasures*, an exhibition at the Grolier Club of New York that continues through July 28, and a companion volume of the same name by Anne C. Bromer and Julian I. Edison, published by Harry N. Abrams in association with the Grolier Club.

The books are small, but the subject is surprisingly big, embracing thumbnail-size cuneiform tablets from Mesopotamia; the "thumb Bibles" first printed for children in the 17th century; and the first printing in book form of Abraham Lincoln's *Emancipation Proclamation*, a three-inch volume distributed to Union soldiers and slaves. Miniatures also include the exquisite, bejeweled books of hours, practical sets of classic writers intended for travelers and a sinister German series from the 1930s, *The Fuhrer Makes History*.

Unlike dollhouse furniture or Matchbox cars, miniature books originally served a useful purpose. Reduced-size prayer books, for example, made it possible to practice devotion on the move. But early on, the human fascination with miniaturization assumed its own momentum. In 1480 Salvadore Gagliardelli, a Florentine scribe, created an illuminated prayer book with 17 paintings measuring about three-quarters of an inch square: unquestionably light and portable, but first and foremost an exhibition of the bookmaking art.

Miniature books were often used in large numbers with profit in mind, notably almanacs. In the 1860s Frances Elizabeth Barrow took the children's book market by storm with a series of tales featuring children and their animals. Early on, however, the practical aspect of miniature books yielded to the unconquerable urge to make small books even smaller, while maintaining, in the finer examples, the highest standards of the bookmaking art: fine bindings, exquisite calligraphy or typefaces, and vibrant color illustrations on expensive paper.

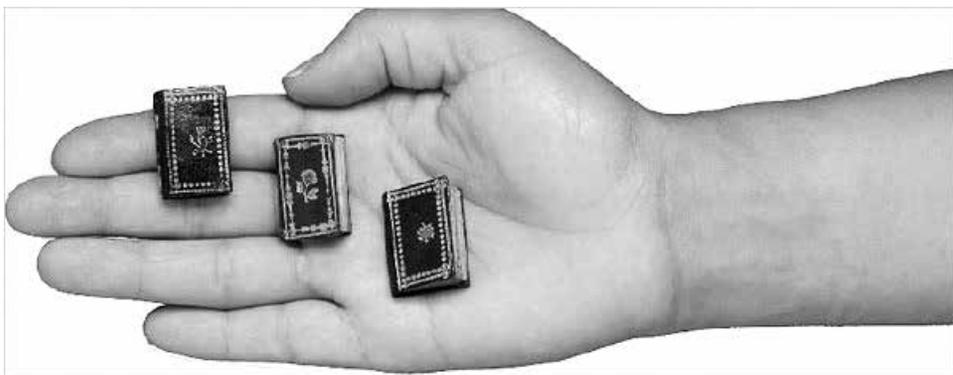
In descending order, collectors categorize such books as macrominiatures (three to four inches in height), miniatures (one to three inches), microminiatures (one quarter-inch to one inch) and the greatest of the least, the ultramicrominiatures (less than one quarter inch).

Moveable type obviously aided the cause, but amazing feats were accomplished by calligraphers dipping pen in ink. Esther Inglis, a French Huguenot working in Edinburgh in the late 16th century, produced remarkable little books written in a simple elegant script that, when magnified, turned out to consist of minute squiggles.

When the hand eventually reached its limits, type designers took over. Henry Didot, a French engineer and engraver, created a two-and-a-half-point type in 1819, the smallest ever (this sentence is printed in 11-point type), only to be overtaken a half-century later by an Italian two-point type called occhio di mosca, or "fly's eye," first used in 1878 to print Dante's *Divine Comedy* in a 499-page volume measuring 2 1/8 inches tall and 1 1/2 inches wide.

The two-point barrier still stands, but dimensions have continued to shrink. By a process of photo reduction over a seven-year period, a Worcester, Mass., publisher squeezed verses from *The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam* into a 1932 book measuring 4 millimeters by 6 millimeters (the required unit of measurement for miniature books, as a sixteenth of an inch is too large). In 1978 the Gleniffer press of Paisley, Scotland, printed *Three Blind Mice* in a volume 2.1 millimeters square. Seven years later it produced an edition of *Old King Cole* precisely half as large.

Yes, there are erotic miniature books. Less predictable are one-off editions like *1918-1923 German Hyperinflation*, a miniature book bound in a German banknote from the Weimar period, or James Lamar Weygand's *Papers of Eastern Europe*, a travel book incorporating swatches of toilet paper from beyond the Iron Curtain. Like all miniature books, they pose an insoluble problem. For late night reading how do you clip on the Itty Bitty Book Light?



Publishers Weekly

Miniature Books: 4,000 Years of Tiny Treasures

(article originally published in Publishers Weekly®, April 23, 2007)

Published in conjunction with a May 16 - July 28 exhibition at the Grolier Club in New York, this handsome volume traces the history of books ranging in height from three inches to less than a quarter of an inch. Included are books of many kinds, often containing beautiful illustrations—illuminated medieval and Renaissance devotional books, including the world's smallest *Bible*, chained to its own little lectern; Arabic and

Indian scriptures; and the complete works of Shakespeare in a miniature revolving bookcase. Some of these books were intended for amusement, such as those made for Queen Mary's dolls' house; others have more practical uses, such as small traveling libraries and little Hebrew books that could be concealed in times of persecution. The smallest book ever is a *New Testament* printed in 24-karat gold on a silicon chip. There are elegant bindings in materials such as leather, mother-of-pearl and gold filigree. In their informative text, Bromer, a rare book dealer, and Edison, a collector, discuss the diverse contents of these tiny volumes, as well as papermaking, printing processes and publishers. Their delightful book is a feast for the eye, with more than 260 color illustrations in which most of the books are pictured in actual size.

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The Miniature Book Society is an international non-profit organization founded in 1983 and chartered by the state of Ohio, USA. Its purposes are to sustain interest in all aspects of miniature books; to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas; to serve as a clearinghouse for information about miniature books.

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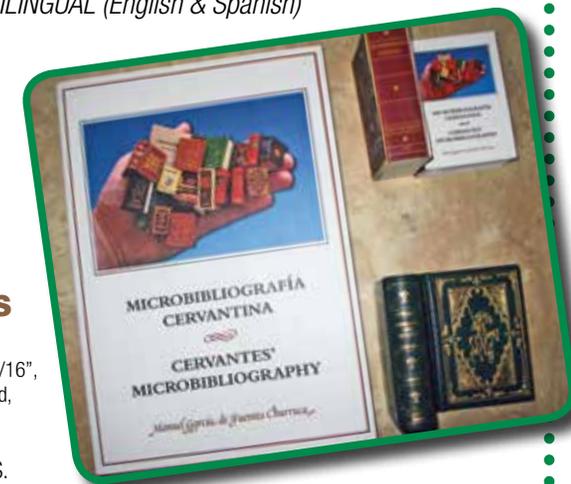
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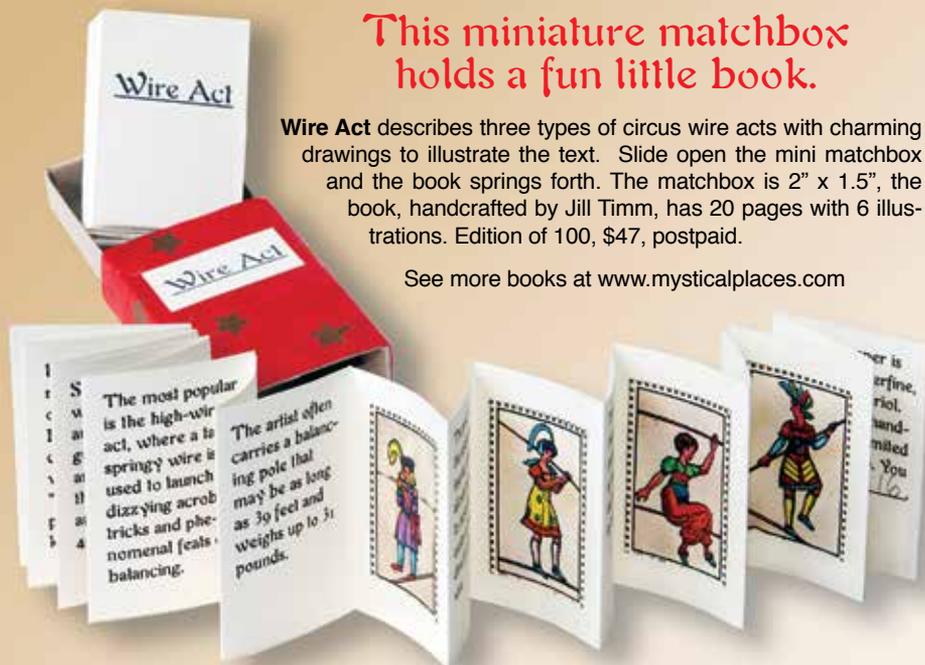
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