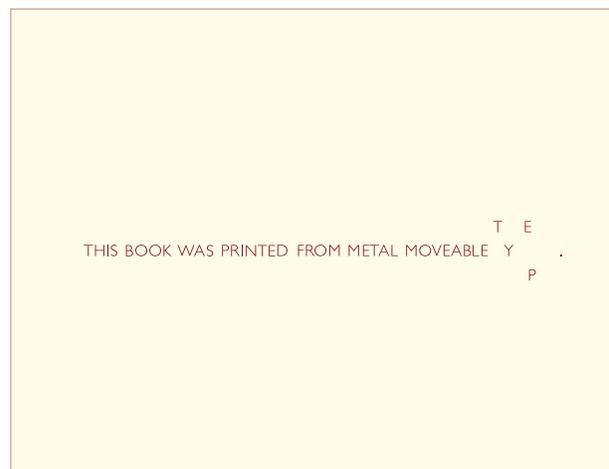
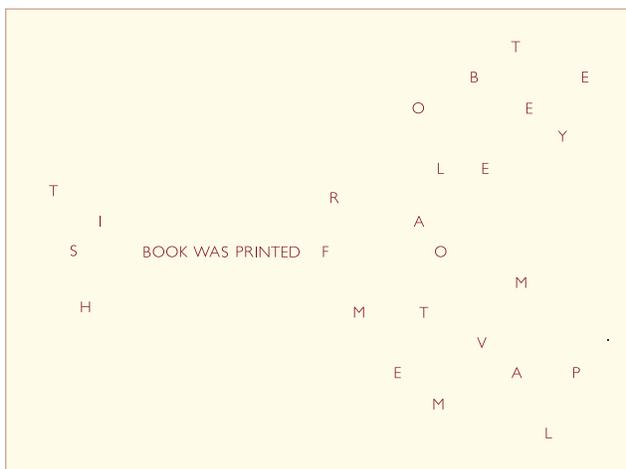
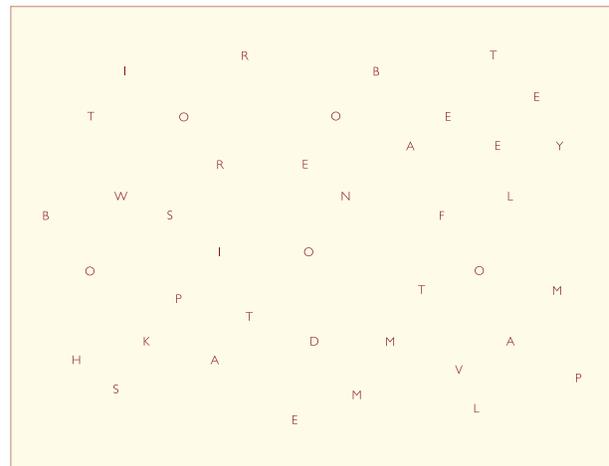
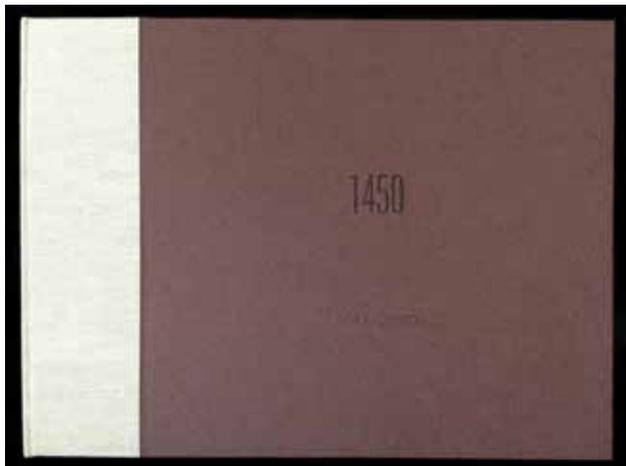


Linda K Johnson

CREATIVE RESEARCH: ARTIST BOOKS PORTFOLIO

Creative scholarship is focused on the design and development of narrative structures where form and content are integrated in the form of artist books. This research direction explores the physicality of the book format as a medium for artistic expression providing an intersection between the applied, fine, and literary arts. Informed by a graphic design practice, editioning is an integral part of my process. I employ various printing and image making techniques with a preference for letterpress printing. In creating artist books the method and message are interdependent; the content, form, paper, printing, and binding are partners in the process and the product. The artist books included in this portfolio were designed, printed, editioned, and hand assembled. My artist books have been, and continue to be, exhibited nationally and internationally. They have been purchased for inclusion in major collections, both private and public, including Tate Britain, The National Museum of Women in the Arts, Harvard, Yale, UCLA, The New York Public Library and The Sackner Archives of Visual and Concrete Poetry.

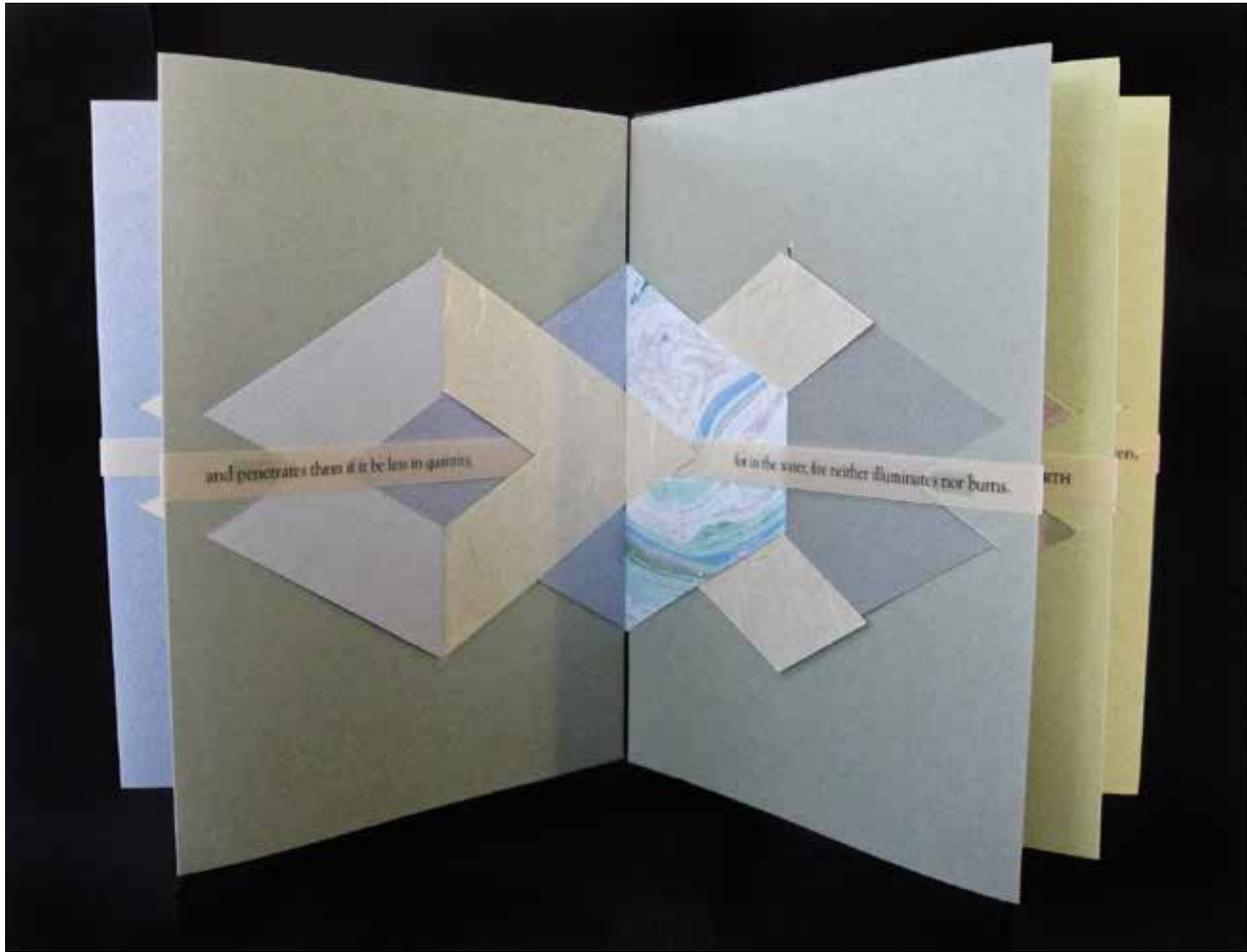


1450

An homage to Gutenberg’s invention of metal movable type and the letterpress. The letterforms on page one are randomly scattered about the page. The reader turns the next 15 pages to reveal the concept and message. Letterforms move into place to form a single line of text “This book was printed from metal movable type.” Text is letterpress printed from handset 12 point San Serif metal type. The book is a multi-signature sewn bind with hard covers. Images shown above are of the cover, pages 15, 7 and 2.

7 x 9.5 x .25 inches Limited edition of 25

Currently on exhibit at Asheville Bookworks.

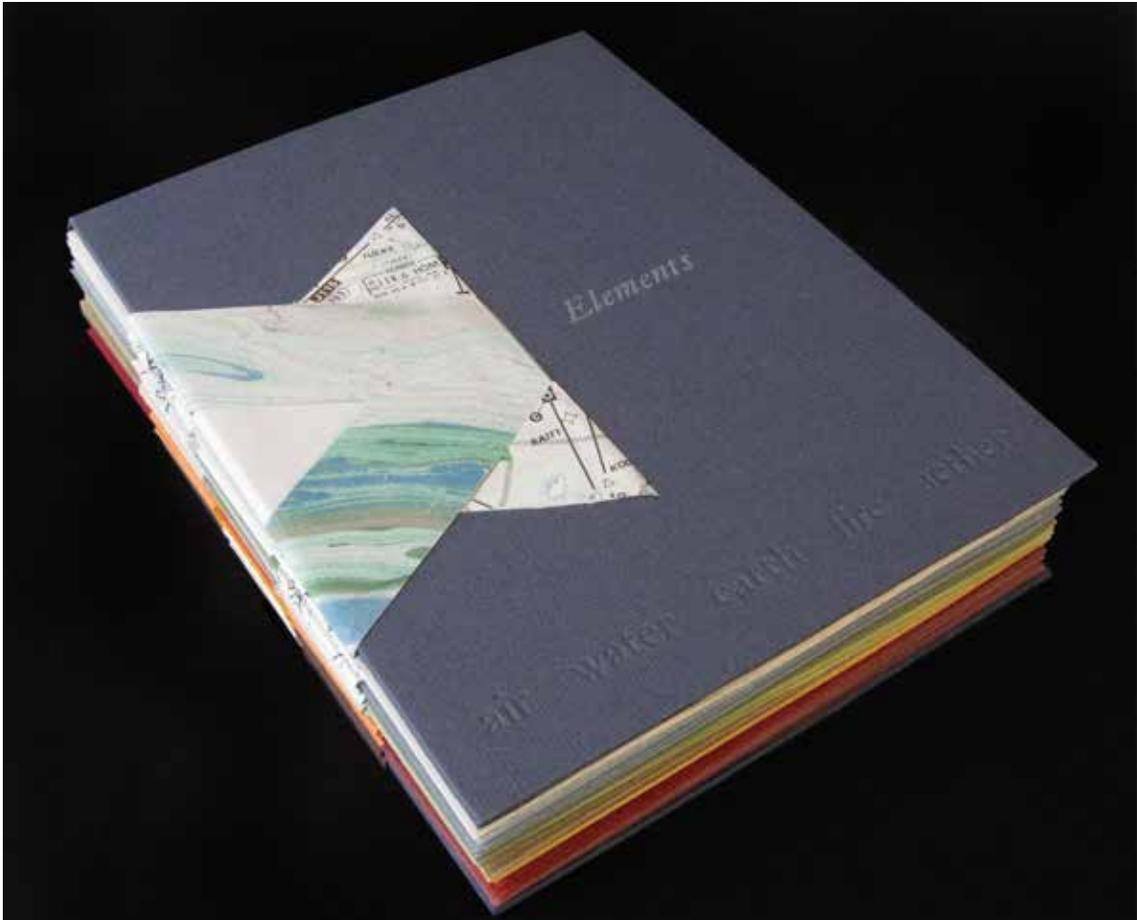
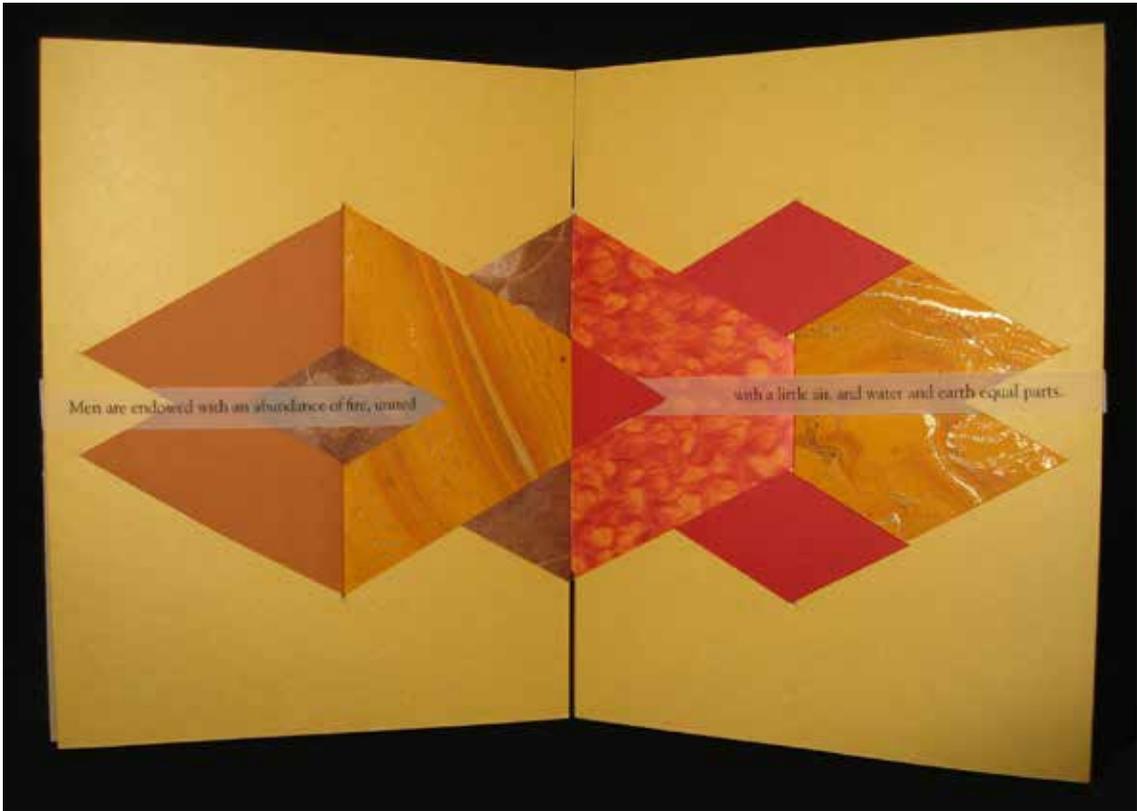
**Elements**

Inspired by the five classic elements; air, water, earth, fire and aether, *Elements* is a woven cacophony of handmade, commercial and re-purposed papers. The text is excerpts from the classic tale *The Virgin of the World*. Covers are letterpress printed from handset metal type and the book is bound by weaving accordion folded interlocking papers.

8 x 5.5 x 2 inches in the process of editioning.

Currently on exhibit at Canadian Book Arts and Bookbinding traveling exhibitions.

Elements (interior pages and cover)



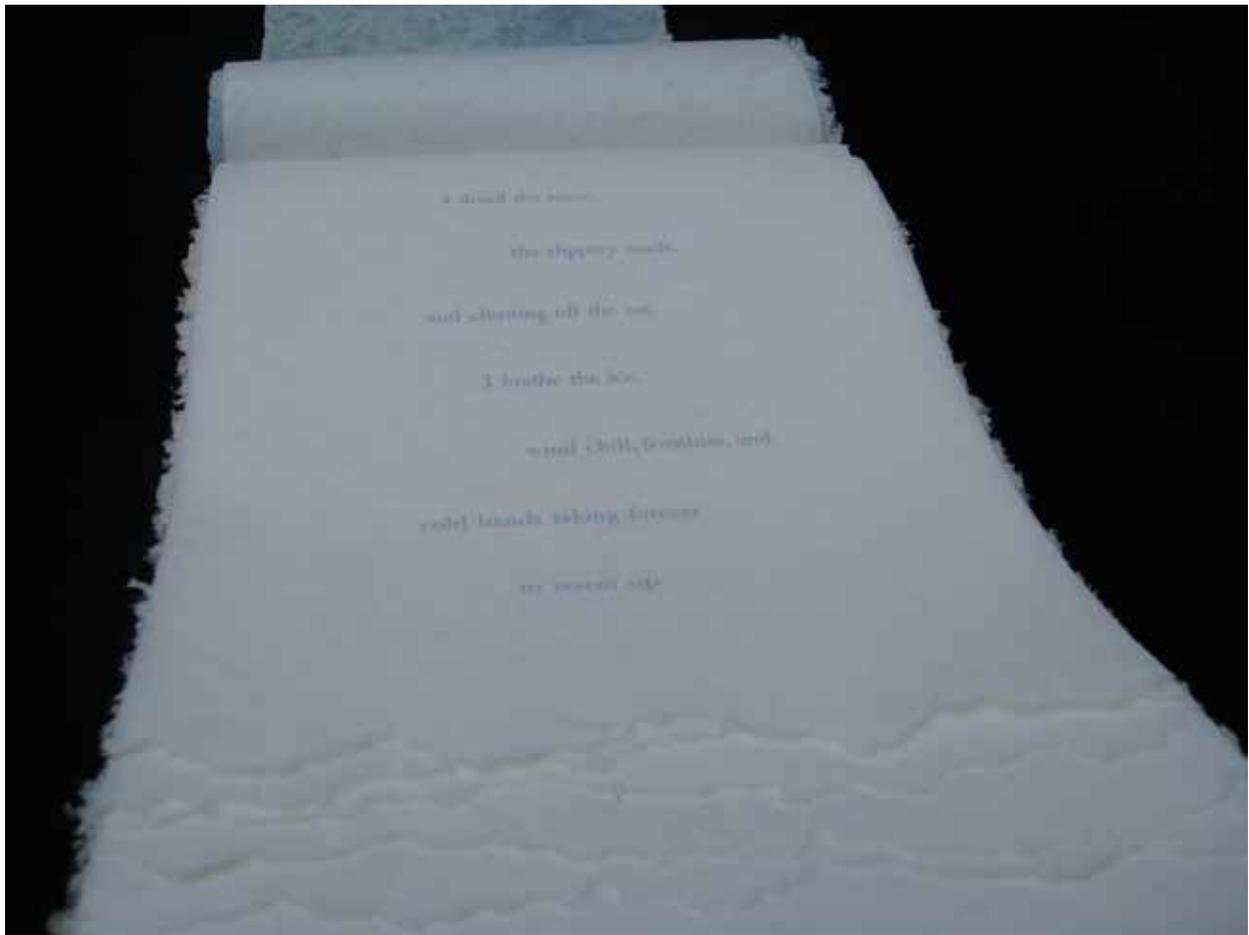


Seasons of Winter

The poetic musings of winter's harshness and wonder are letterpress printed from handset metal type onto cotton paper towel. Bound with an invented stab binding with Amate paper covers and Awagami fly sheet. Written by Randy L. Mayes.

15 x 8 x .25 inches Limited edition of 25

Seasons of Winter (text page)





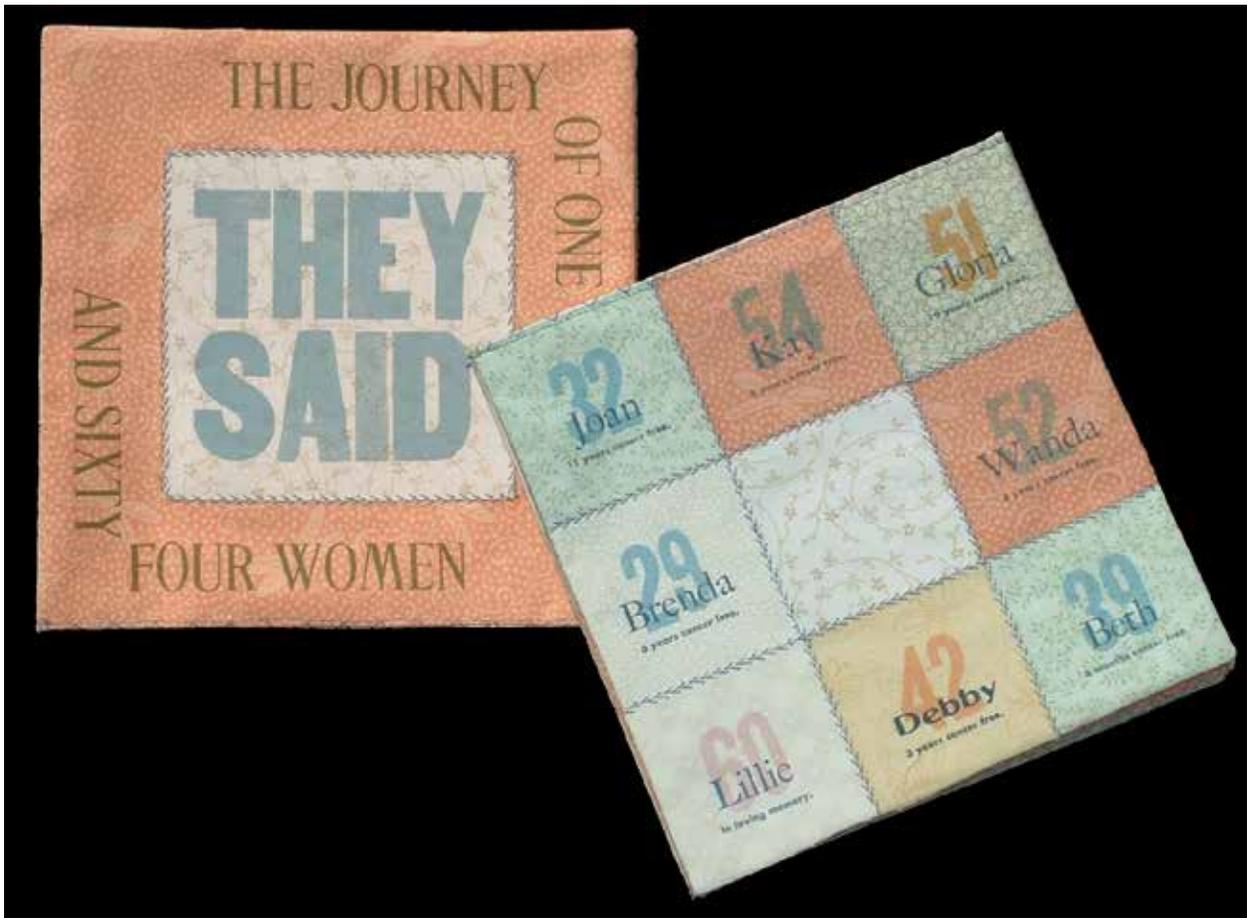
They Said

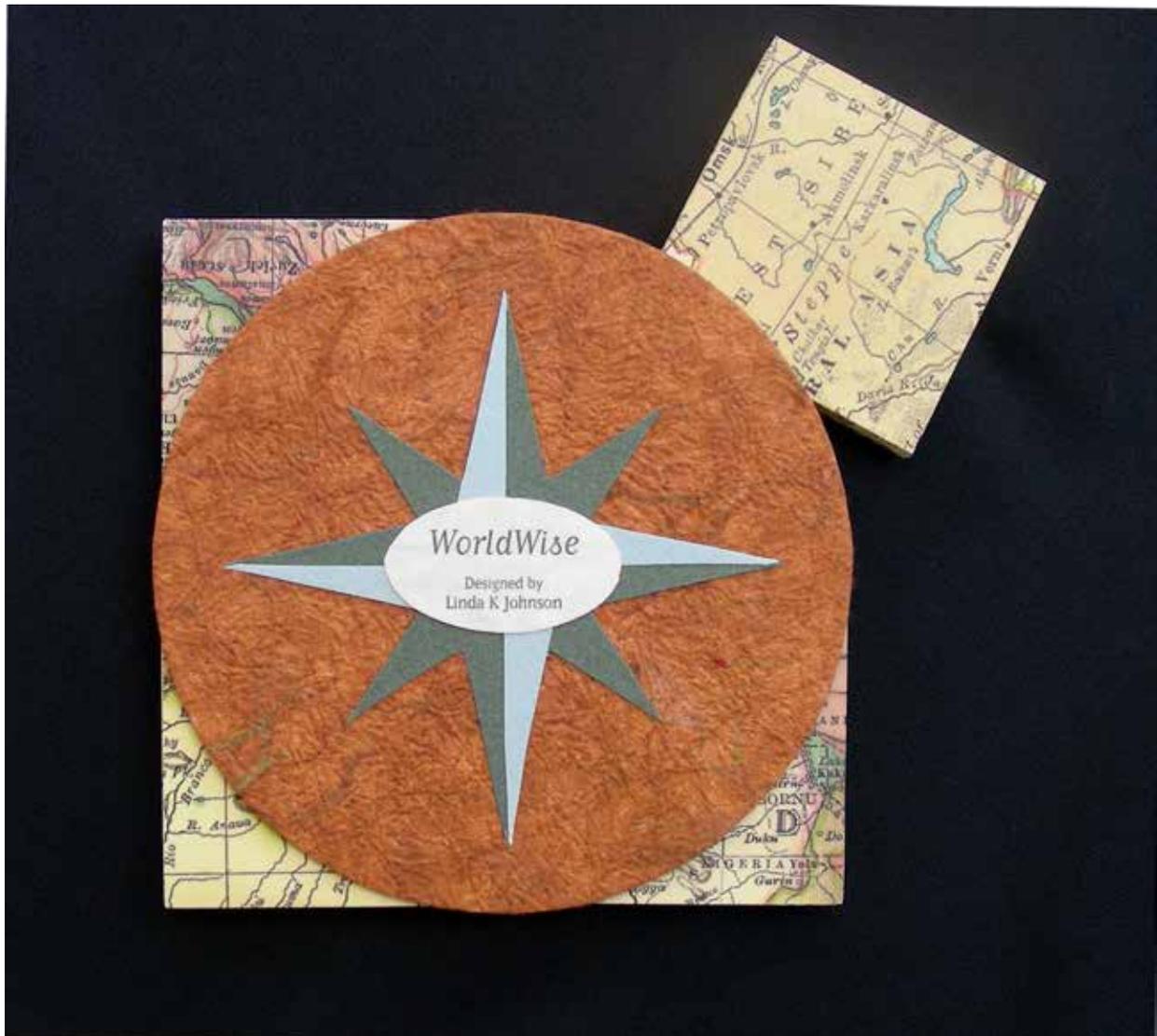
Letterpress printed from handset wood and metal type onto cotton fabric, machine sewn into a quilt like book structure. *They Said* is about the life changing experience that is breast cancer that juxtaposes the journey of one woman with the journey of 64 other women.

closed: 9 x 9 inches, open: 27 x 27 inches Limited edition of 8

cover and detail of reverse side next page.

They Said (cover, colophon and panels from "64" side)





WorldWise

Four small books contain 32 proverbs that are letterpress printed on Nepalese Lama Li papers, folded into digital reprints of nineteenth century maps. Each book contains proverbs from a quadrant of the world and fits into its appropriate corner of the circular case that is wrapped in Thai Unryu Reversible closed: 5 x 5 x .25 inches, Limited edition of 125

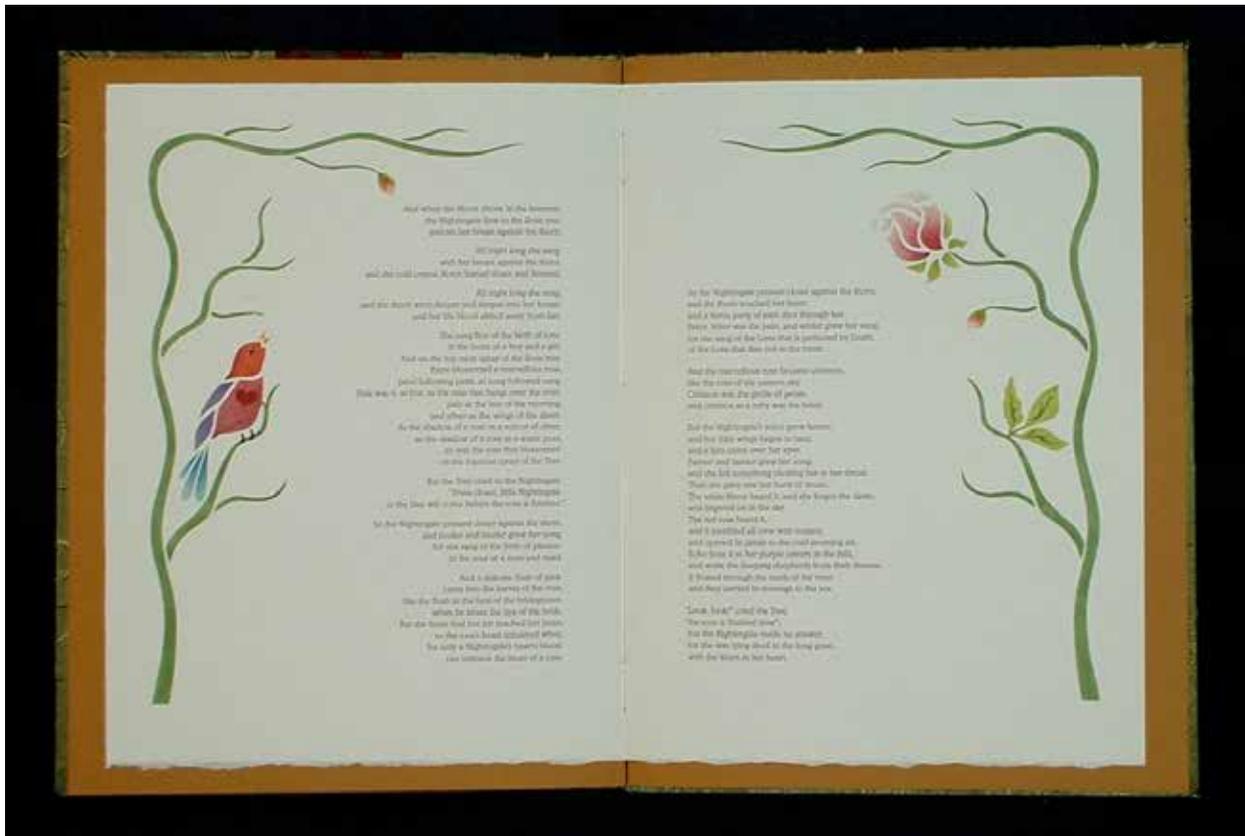
Funded by the National Museum of Women in the Arts Fellowship

Currently on exhibit at the National Museum of Women in the Arts

detail of open book, next page.

WorldWise (book open)





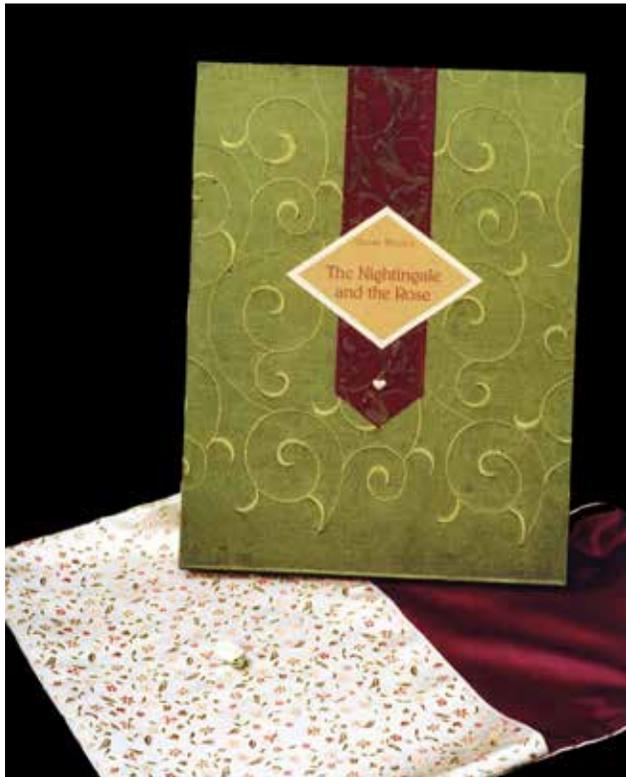
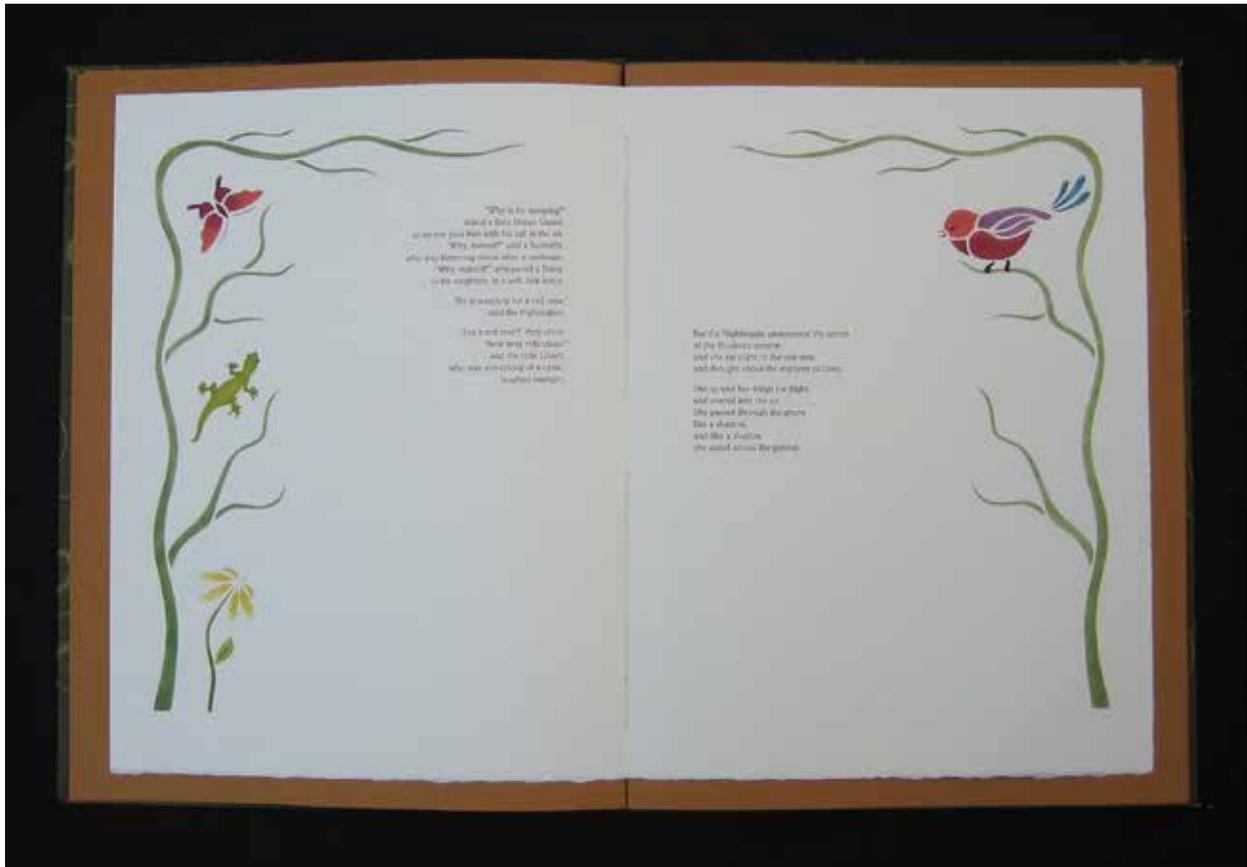
The Nightingale and the Rose

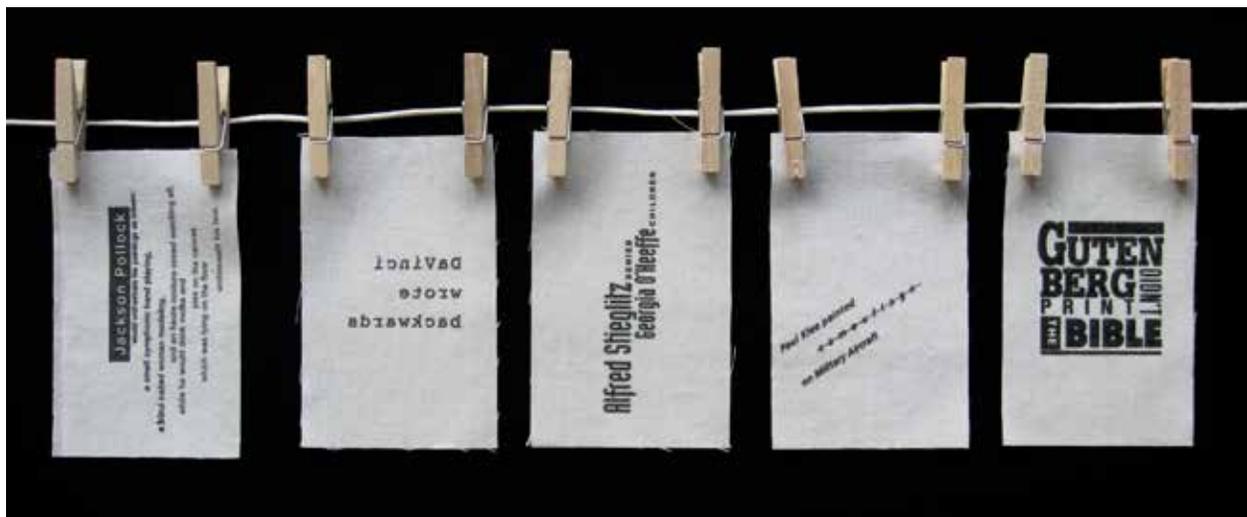
A children's story written by Oscar Wilde is presented in a large format book with a exposed sewn spine binding. The text pages are letterpress printed from photo polymer plates with pochoir illustrated borders. The book with cloth wrapped hard covers is housed in a brocade slip case.

closed 15 x 11 x .5 inches. Limited edition of 25

cover, slip case and another page spread next page.

The Nightingale and the Rose (cover and interior spread)



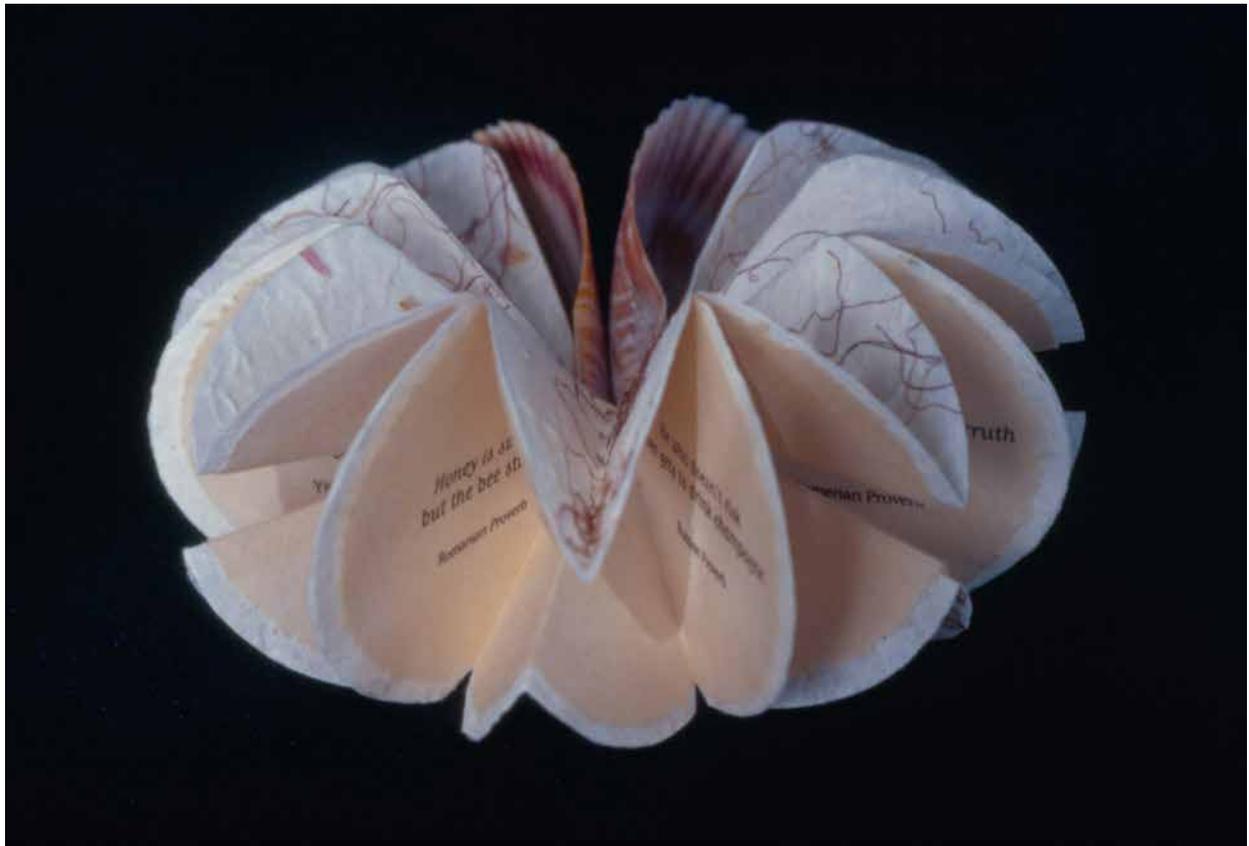


On The Line

Interesting facts and rumors about well known artists and designers silkscreen printed on cotton muslin. The binding structure encourages viewer participation in hanging the rumors on the line.

closed: 5.5 x 5.5 x .5 inches, on the line: 27 x 5 inches Limited edition of 125

Currently on exhibit at the National Museum of Women in the Arts, main gallery floor



Pearls of Wisdom

A miniature book of quotes from wise men and women laser printed onto watercolor dyed rice paper. Each page is inserted into a folded outer page of handmade papers with sea shell covers.

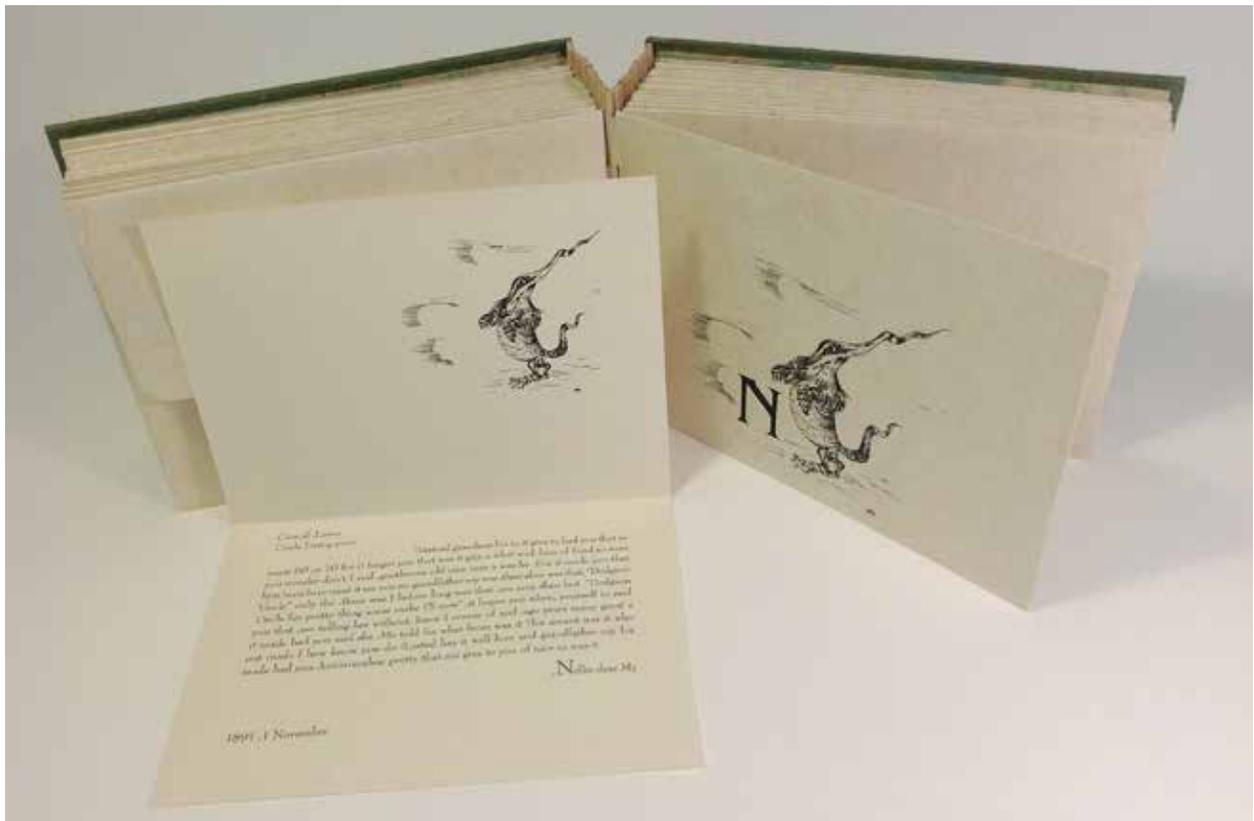
closed: 2.5 x 2.5 x 1 inches. Limited edition of 20



Loose Ends

Loose Ends was written as a progressive writing project with seven women. The structure was designed to reflect the interdependent lives of the four women in the story and the writing process. Laser printed on Neenah Classic papers with hand-cut illustrations, tapestry hard covers and a double accordion structure with a sewn fore edge bind.

closed: 9 x 6 x 1 inches
Limited edition of 50

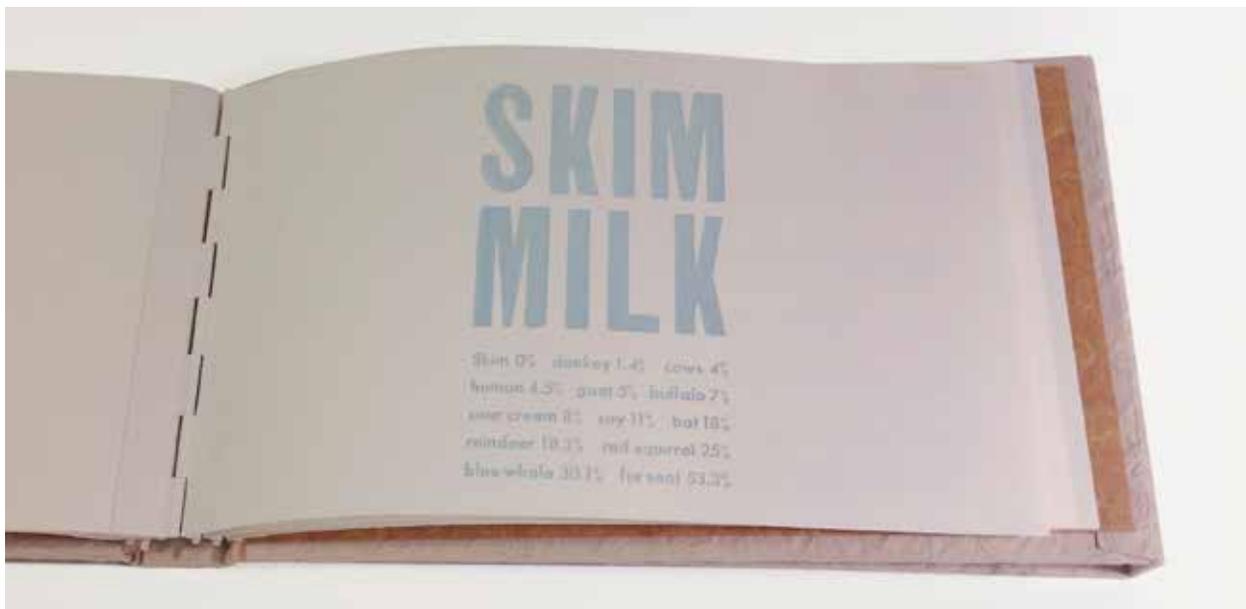


Twenty-Six Letters

An abecedarian of 26 letters written by Lewis Carroll printed on Italian parchment, slipped into envelopes bound with a piano hinge structure. Illustrations by Yvonne van Rietschoten, based on the original illustration style of Thomas Tenniel.

5 x 7 x 4.25 inches Limited edition of 20

Florida Book Artist Prize



The Incomplete Guide to Milk and Honey

Stories and facts about milk and honey letterpress printed on Twinrocker handmade papers, bound in a dos-a-dos book structure with a piano hinge bind.

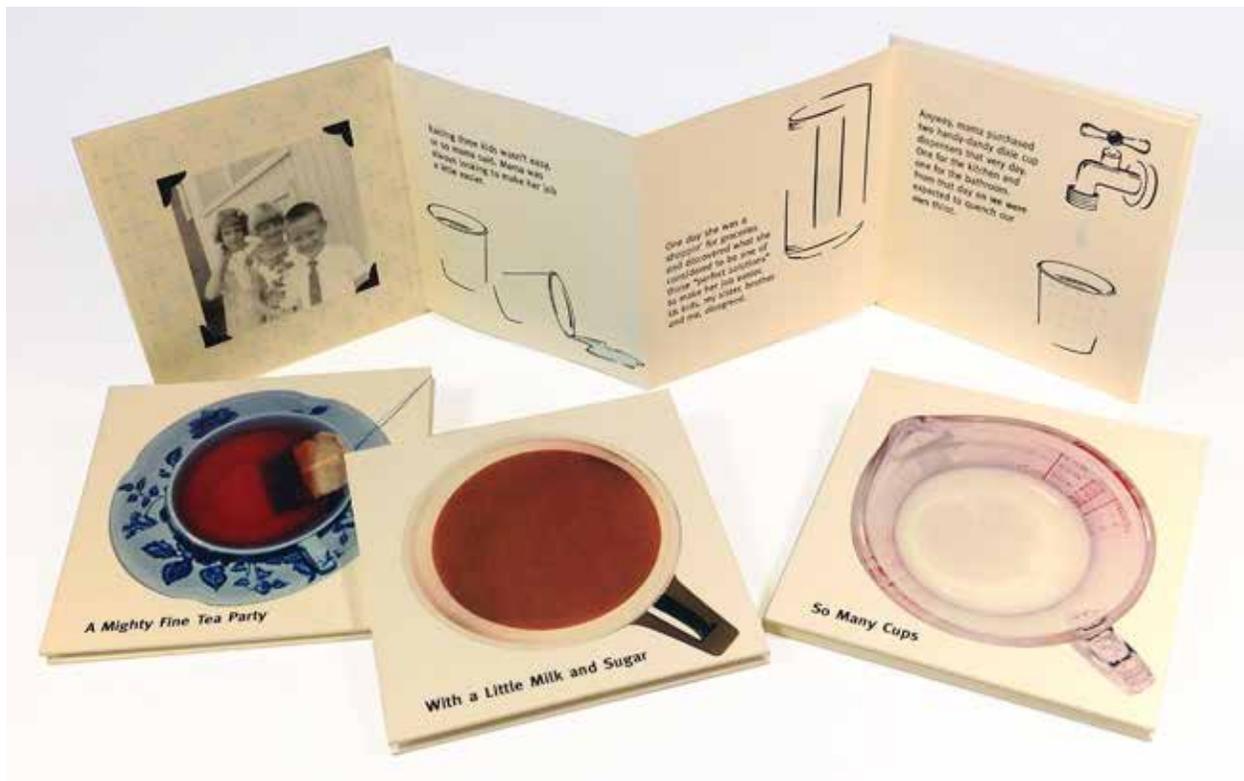
closed 5.5 x 9 x 1.5 inches Limited edition of 10



An Old Lady, Who Swallowed a Worm and A Few Other Critters

An old folk tale re-written with a south Florida twist housed in a tunnel book format. Digital illustrations and text are ink-jet printed and hand cut then assembled with accordion folded side panels.

open: 5 x 6 x 10 inches, open: 27 x 27 inches Limited edition of 50



The Cup Runneth Over

A set of six coaster sized books letterpress printed from photo polymer plates on Frankfurt by Zerkall cream paper. Case bound, accordion fold books with hard covers. Each book contains a short, humorous autobiographical story from my childhood with a cup at the center of the memory.

boxed set: 4.5 x 4.5 x 2.5 inches. Limited edition of 20