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The **BOOKER'S DOZEN** 2008

Catalogue issue

ONE OF THE PRIMARY MISSIONS OF THE IDAHO CENTER FOR THE BOOK is to reward and encourage bookmaking. Accordingly, this 3-D issue of The *ICB Newsletter* has been designed to promote Idaho bookmakers – and to inspire Idahoans to make their own books. As well, this issue serves as a catalogue for *Booker's Dozen*, the ICB's biennial traveling exhibition of fourteen books handmade by Gem Staters.

Should readers wish a "real-time" view of the works judges have selected for this year's show, they may do so at one or more (or all?) of the following venues throughout the calendar year:

- January Idaho Center for the Book/BSU
- February Moscow Junior High School Library
- March University of Idaho Library (Moscow)
- April Coeur d'Alene Public Library
- May East Bonner County/Sandpoint Library
- June Boise Public Library
- July Ada Community Library (Boise)
- August Marshall Public Library (Pocatello)
- September College of Southern Idaho Library (Twin Falls)
- October Eli Oboler Library/ISU (Pocatello)
- November Idaho Falls Public Library
- December David O. McKay Library/BYU-Idaho (Rexburg)

Judges for "Booker's Dozen 2008" include **Cort Conley** (Idaho Commission on the Arts Literature Director and ICB Advisory Board member), **Barbara Michener** (Idaho book artist, ICB featured book artist, summer 2007, and past "Booker's Dozen" selectee), **Troy Passey** (Idaho artist and book artist, and past "Booker's Dozen" selectee and judge), and **Tom Trusky**, ICB Director.

RUTH A. BARNES It's All Gregg To Me

8 x 12" (open)

"This altered 1938 book has flowing Gregg shorthand throughout – no English translations. (It is an advanced learning text.) I was charmed by the graceful curlicue markings but thought, 'It may as well be Greek!'"

"Glued to blank margins are sections of an 1887 Spelling and Language Arts school book. A beginning reader looking at the precise rows of cursive text in this earlier volume would be as baffled as I was, seeing the Gregg shorthand."

"Text from the two volumes are balanced in an open fan. The book may lie flat or stand up"



GRETCHEN JUDE Michel Foucault's 'Minor Perverts Whom 19th Century Psychiatrists Entomologized'

6 x 5 3/4" (closed)

6 x 46" (open), eight panels with pockets, inserts; back panels blank

"This modified accordion-fold book, constructed of brown parcel wrap, contains picture postcards that tell the story (in episodes) of a failed romance. The cross-cultural, same-sex relationship described by the narrator is juxtaposed with snapshots of locales in Japan – all of which are empty of people. The subjective experience documented in the postcards is further juxtaposed with objective (and archaic) sexological terminology taken from *Michel Foucault's History of Sexuality, Volume 1*. Through these juxtapositions, the book deals with themes of disjuncture and disorientation, blending autobiography with other genres – while exploring the cultural and socio-political discourses that structure individual experience."



BECKY DODGE Que Sirrah Sirrah or Chicken Recipes

3 x 8" (1-loop binding)

Beside a name and description, a charming and colorful hand-painted chicken appears on twelve rectos of this slim volume. Versos seemingly provide what tasty recipe they "garnished" – or their current barnyard status.



GABE LINN Isolable

4 1/2 x 2" (closed)

6 x 30" (open), fifteen panels, text and visuals on both front and back

Linn's title means "capable of being isolated." His clever and niftily designed biblio facsimile of an iPod makes readers literally "see" the results of being so plugged-in that a listener may be blind to atrocities, injustices, and disasters.



JOE MURGEL Breakfast – 2 Weeks

3 1/4 x 4 1/4 x 7/8" (wrapped, single rivet-bound), fourteen pages atop a sculpted "bowl"

"I often wondered about my eating habits. With the unfortunate news of high cholesterol as a child, I had to regulate my dietary intake. After my cholesterol was lowered, I kept the same or a similar diet. That diet eventually became habit rather than a conscious health necessity. Years later, after not paying attention to what I ate, I decided to track my breakfasts for two weeks. I was intrigued to find out that there was very little variation. It is amazing, the kind of information that we find out about ourselves, if we take the time and pay attention."



ROBERT REEVES Milk & Honey

8 1/2 x 5 1/2" (saddle-stitched)

Faux opulent "vellum" paper serves as the boards or covers for this thin, provocative, eight-page work. Its text block consists of real and Xeroxed pages from *The Boise Weekly* – specifically, its "Dining Guide" to the City of Trees. Reeves has printed in red ink brief texts and simple line illustrations. The latter are frequently the emaciated outlines of starving or abandoned children, or of tanks, guns, and soldiers in battle gear. Initially, each page has a single word in Helvetica Bold ("INDIA," "IRAQ," "BOSNIA," etc.). The last recto, however (illustrated with an exploding atomic bomb) reads "BOISE." The final (verso) page has no illustration, only a question: "What are you doing tonight?"





KATIE JO RUPERT
Artist

4 x 4" (closed)

Watercolors, photographs and oil pastels appear on square and triangular panels in this intricate Flower Fold book. All are by the bookmaker and all illustrate her blossoming as an artist in a variety of media.

SCOTT SAMUELSON
Crane Dance

10 1/4 x 15 1/4 x 1" (closed), housed in accompanying box

"Crane Dance celebrates the Greek myth of Theseus penetrating the labyrinth and coming triumphant from the maze, making merry by imitating the courtship dance of the crane. In woodcuts and linocuts, in poems and essay (printed letterpress and inkjet), this book praises movement, nature, and myth.

"Binding style: Drumleaf. Cover: leather binding (with inlaid labyrinth). Endsheets: Lami Li.."



EARLE SWOPE
Behind Anderson's Camera

8 1/2 x 8 3/8 x 3 3/8"

Swope's elaborate bookwork is a dimensional recreation of Idaho pioneer photographer J. F. Anderson's Pony Premo No. 6 camera. Panels with outer walls showing life-size color photographs of the camera have text on their inner walls chronicling the owner's life and career. A viewfinder at the back of the camera holds reproductions of a selection of Anderson's photographs. Depicted are Anderson's children and friends, Native American men, women, and children (often in regalia), hunting and fishing trips, and eastern Washington and north and central Idaho scenery – all circa 1900-1925.



MELISSA SCHULTZ
The Respectable Girl's Guide to Living with Tourette Syndrome with Coprolalia

6 x 3" (closed)

Schultz has created a dynamic, inter-active Accordion-Tunnel book in reds and browns whose contents are held in check by a small polka-dotted paper belt. Opened, the volume reveals modishly dressed young women posing by text which advises conditions noted in the volume's title may be kept in check by snacking, drugs, and psychotherapy.

The final tunnel section of the volume has a jaggedy tunnel framing a young woman positioned on the back panel of the accordion tunnel fold. Text on the base or floor of this section advises: "Or just let it out!" Readers may do just that by pulling four tabs labeled "*#@!" on either side of the first accordion tunnel panel. These reveal – in small, jaggedy windows – various oaths and exclamations not found in respectable exhibit catalogues.



KATHLEEN SORGE
American Quilts

5 1/4 x 5 1/2" (closed), opens to French Door text block, fold-down side panel

"This book was made in memory of my mother who has passed away. She was a great mom and a wonderful teacher. She taught me to quilt and it is something I would like to pass on to my daughter.

"There are samples of three quilt patterns and the commentary [on the fold-down side panel] explains the patterns. The vellum on top of the quilt pattern represents a quilting template – a design that is sewn onto the top and through the thickness of the whole quilt after it is pieced together. Three different quilt patterns, three different design patterns.

"Both sides of the pages should be opened at the same time."



EARLE SWOPE
Halliburton Code of Ethics

7 1/2 x 5 1/4" (Plastikoil spiral bound)

Transparent acetate boards and green sponge "endsheets" surround a sixteen-page textblock on water-soluble Dissolvo® paper that contains eight numbered (and fictional) promises made by Halliburton to employees, the American public, and the world. The first states: "Halliburton will compete fairly with other companies for government contracts"; the last, in reference to ex-employee and current American Vice-President Dick Cheney, pledges: "Halliburton encourages current and former employees to refrain from shooting other human beings."



LESLIE TWITCHELL
Oldest

6 x 8 x 1 1/8" (Plus cloth-covered box with state outline cut-out)

"Oldest is a three-dimensional pop-up book about six historic structures in Idaho. Each of these old structures has an interesting story to tell. They speak of the people who built them and of the era in which they were built. Together, they tell just a small part of the history of Idaho.

"The structures included in the book are: Cataldo Mission (1853), Shoshone County Courthouse (1862), Beth Israel Synagogue (1896), I. B. Perrine Bridge (1927 and 1976), Idaho Falls LDS Temple (1945) and Holt Arena (1970)."



KRIS WATKINS
Lady Ash

6 x 4 1/4" (closed), Circle Accordion book

Watkins' delicately elegant watercolors and fragile leaf-prints decorate this poetic reminiscence of vanished landscapes near her home. The author/artist consoles readers by explaining that, though plants and animals have disappeared (and though the speaker observes "our memories fade"), a decaying Ash survives and still provides sustenance: "her roots remain / to feed the soil, / along the ridge."

When this accordion fold book is splayed open, readers discover hidden on otherwise blank inside panels a filigreed network of brown roots and rootlets.


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