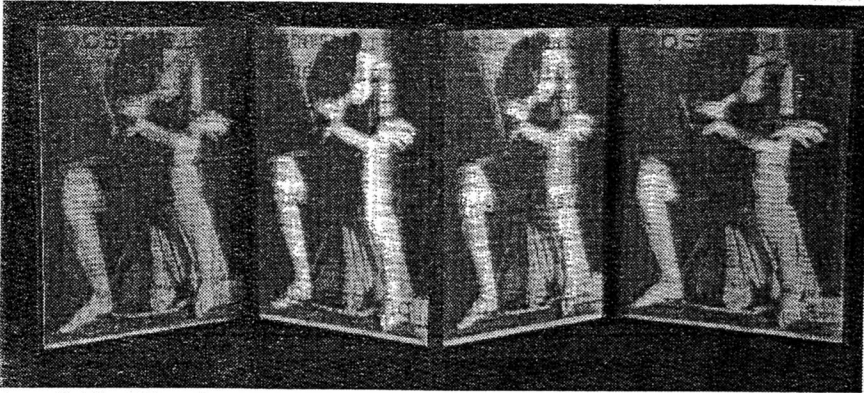


Women and Books: Uncovered



Anne Beidler, *Obsession*.

A national juried exhibition of twenty-four women book artists.

Mindy Belloff	Anne Beidler	Elizabeth Buckley
Maureen Cummins	Gwen Diehn	Diane Fine
Holly Hanessian	Martha Hall	Julie Harris
Susan Hensel	Tracy Honn	Kay Kenny
Roberta Lavadour	Emily Martin	Sky Pape
Martha Schermerhorn	Alice Simpson	Gail Smuda
Susan Rotolo	Sandy Webster	Ashley Worley
Deborah Phillips Chodoff		Lee Marchalonis
Susan Kapuscinski Gaylord		

October 18 - November 20, 2001

Opening Reception: October 18, 7:00 - 9:00 pm



Milliken Art Gallery

580 East Main Street, Spartanburg, SC * (864) 596-9177/9181

A PUBLICATION COVERING THE VISUAL ARTS IN THE CAROLINAS

CAROLINA ARTS

Converse College Presents an Exhibition of Artists' Books

Converse College in Spartanburg, SC, will host *Women and Books: Uncovered*, a national juried exhibition of artists' books, from Oct. 18 through Nov. 20, 2001, in the Milliken Art Gallery. Curated by Teresa Prater, associate professor of studio art at Converse College, the exhibition focuses on women book artists whose content explores women's issues.

Twenty-four artists are included in the exhibition. Gwen Diehn, Ashley Worley, Sandy Webster, Lee Marchalonis and Anne Beidler are from the Southeast. Elizabeth Buckley, Deborah Phillips Chodoff, Maureen Cummins, Holly Hanessian, Roberta Lavadour, Julie Harris, Martha Schermerhorn, Mindy Belloff, Alice Simpson, Diane Fine, Gail Smuda, Tracy Honn, Emily Martin, Susan Rotolo, Kay Kenny, Susan Hensel, Susan Kapuscinski Gaylord, Martha Hall, and Sky Pape are from New York, Iowa, Oregon, New Jersey, Maine and New Hampshire.

Many of the works found in the show explore personal issues such as body image, breast cancer, child abuse, marriage, relationships and the home. Deborah Phillips Chodoff's books, for example, take a personal look at the chores of housework and the emotional overload of mothering. Other books, such as Susan Hensel's *Creation*, explore a feminist view of women mythology.

Artists' books are an art form that has been in existence for more than 100 years but has experienced an increase in popularity in the past two decades. Unlike handmade books, which are often found in gift shops and craft shows, the artist book is distinguished by the

content found within its pages. Like any art form, it has an aesthetic quality and can take many forms. Artists' books often take the form of a traditional codex book, which opens on the spine, and can be created using computers or letterpress. Other formats found in the exhibition include accordion, concertina, pop-ups and Japanese stab binding. One of the exciting features of artists' books is the use of nontraditional materials, many examples of which can be found in this show. Julia Harris, whose work incorporates found natural objects, uses a turtle shell as the container for the handmade pages in her book, *Fertility*. Mindy Belloff, a ceramic artist, creates books that are suspended from the ceiling in the manner of a carpenter's plum bob.

Many artists who work with artists' books come to it from other mediums, such as printmaking, photography and painting. Many of the books found in the show include these mediums in their construction. Depending upon its medium, the artist book can be a one-of-a-kind or be a limited edition series.

This is the second book show curated by Prater, who teaches a class on book arts and is herself a book artist. The Converse College show is being held in conjunction with her books class so that students can assist in the hanging of the exhibition and have hands-on experience with artists' books. Guest artists will be brought in for workshops for the class and public during the exhibition dates.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or call 864/596-9177 or 864/596-9181.