

PRESS RELEASE

Handmade Books Crafted in a Digital Age

The Art of the Book '08

The Saskatchewan Craft Council will be displaying 75 of the finest handmade books and book art works created by members of the Canadian Bookbinders & Book Artists Guild, in the SCC Gallery in Saskatoon. The juried touring exhibition celebrates the 25th anniversary of the Canadian Bookbinders & Book Artists Guild – CBBAG.

Books made by hand? In 2010? In an age of e-books and digital communications? As Peter Sramek notes in his exhibition catalogue essay, “In an age of quick and easy solutions – prepared foods, TV entertainment, email correspondence, and video cell phones, the book arts represent a slow practice, one which engenders thoughtfulness and meditation, attention to detail and tactile experience.” His introduction to “The Art of the Book ‘08” states, “Books are markers of culture, containers, records, proof of human thought, creativity, knowledge, and artistic creativity. As such, they act as touchstones in the complex world of human experience.”

The works in this exhibition will certainly expand your idea of what defines a “book”. Tradition and creative innovation, time-honoured techniques and stretching the limits – they’re all here and they are outstanding in displaying imagination and fine craftsmanship.

The international roster of artists includes two Saskatchewan book makers – Martha Cole and Kristina Komendant. Small auxiliary displays of work by the Saskatchewan chapter of CBBAG will be at McNally Robinson bookstore in Saskatoon and the Saskatoon airport while “The Art of the Book ‘08” is exhibited at the SCC Gallery.

Exhibition Dates: February 26 – April 5, 2010
Opening Reception: Friday, February 26, 7 to 9 pm

SCC Gallery, 813 Broadway Avenue, Saskatoon SK S7N 1B5
Open to the public 1 to 5 pm daily

For more information contact: Leslie Potter or Judy Haraldson, 653-3616, ext. 25
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