

Published by Impact Press at the Centre for Fine Print Research, UWE Bristol, UK

ARTIST'S COVER PAGE: *MEMORY WALK*, ROBBIN AMI SILVERBERG, 2018, PHOTO: DORKA HUBNER (SEE PAGE 4)

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Artists' Books Exhibitions in the Bower Ashton Library showcases, UWE, Bristol, UK

Theresa Easton artists' books  
Monday 3rd February - Sunday 1st March 2020

Theresa Easton is a Newcastle, UK based printmaker using printmaking and artists' books to provide a platform for her interpretation of social history and cultural commentary. Heritage, activism, archives and community engagement inform her art practice. As an artist with a socially engaged practice, Easton enjoys a collaborative approach to making artwork and developing ideas alongside participants.

2019 saw Easton contribute a Chap Book and Zines to exhibitions exploring questions and issues around the 2016 referendum result. *Take Back Control* at the Crypt Gallery in London exhibited 70 newspaper headlines from the referendum vote alongside 30 artists. Easton produced an 8-page screenprinted Chap Book, 'The Daily Obscure' referencing a newspaper in Robert Tressell's, 'The Ragged Trousered Philanthropist'. Written in 1910, the novel notes the influence and power of the daily newspaper. Incorporating letterpress, *The Daily Obscure* offers a critique of the role both analogue and digital media play in shaping our lives and proposes an alternative grassroots response.



*Migration and Capital series*

The group exhibition *Uncharted Territories* at St Barnabas Press Cambridge, reflected on the divided society created by the referendum. The 'Migration and Capital' series of work by Easton explore themes around being working class, an artist and trade unionist. All three zines reflect Easton's interest in the heritage of printmaking and its role in communicating messages using broadsides and pamphleteering. The work documents prevalent newspaper headlines alongside human stories discounted by mainstream media.

In 2018 Easton was commissioned by Senate House Library to create a body of artists' books inspired by the exhibition *Queer Between The Covers*, an exhibition exploring over 250 years of Queer Literature from the library's collection. Drawing on aspects of historical oppression of gays and lesbians in the last 150 years, the design of the books has a structure that accentuates the subjects covered in each book.



*Djuna Barnes, Turkish fold book*

The resulting artists' books are *Djuna Barnes, Maud Allan, Oscar Wilde* and *Gays the Word Bookshop*: each presents a record of the struggle for equality and fight against LGBTQ+ persecution. There is seriousness to the experience suffered by Maud Allan which is revealed through each unfolding of the book. The playful antics of *Djuna Barnes* is captured in a Turkish fold book, emulating tales of Barnes's long velvet coat stuffed with Chap Books, ready to be exposed to the next customer. *Oscar Wilde's* stitched concertina book weaves through ancient Greece and Victorian Britain. *Gay's the Word* flag book design celebrates collective action and solidarity. Running through the flag book, traditional letterpress captures the essence of slogans, giving volume to text and type.

Alongside exhibitions and commissions, community participation and collective production feature as a driving force in her work. One of the co-founders of the trade union, Artists' Union England (AUE), Easton's practice is steeped in her activism and community values. 2019 saw the five-year anniversary of AUE marked by a collective zine documenting the stories behind the trade union.

Bower Ashton Library  
UWE, Bristol, Kennel Lodge Road, Bristol BS3 2JT, UK.  
<http://www.bookarts.uwe.ac.uk/exhibitions/>  
<https://theresaeaston.wordpress.com>

*Drop Dead Gorgeous: Fine Bindings of La Prose du Transsibérien*

North Bennet Street School, Boston, USA

21st February - 30th April 2020

Featuring the full recreation of an avant-garde, 1920s publication by Kitty Maryatt of Two Hands Press, with 24 exquisite fine binding interpretations.



*La Prose du Transsibérien* - binding by Coleen Curry

North Bennet Street School, 150 North Street, Boston MA 02109, USA. <https://www.nbss.edu/>

*Treasured Objects - The Peoples Show*

The Weald & Downland Museum, Singleton, UK

22nd February - 11th May 2020

Angela Thames will be showing many of her hand made artists' books at The Weald & Downland Living Museum from 22nd February to 11th May 2020 in an exhibition "Treasured Objects - The Peoples Show" to help celebrate the museum's 50th anniversary.

She has been given the opportunity to show at least 20 artists' books from her own collection alongside an eclectic mix of objects from 30 personal collections of people who have some link to the Museum; these will include collections of visitors, staff, volunteers, associates, tutors, contractors and anyone else with a connection to the museum.



On 23rd February Angela will be at the museum to give an informal talk about her collection of artists' books, her inspiration and her work as a printmaker, maker and collector of small unique books.

"A People's Show turns the spotlight on our visitors own collections and gives the opportunity to display them in a public setting. The first People's Show was held at Walsall Museum and Art Gallery in May 1990, and is said to have been inspired by a discovery of a private 'museum' of native American artefacts in a local resident's attic. The Walsall People's Show proved so popular that further People's Shows were held across the country and by the end of 1994 over half a million objects had been loaned by the public to similar exhibitions.

So not only will this exhibition celebrate 50 years of the Weald & Downland Living Museum but also 30 years of the Peoples Show and we think it about time to revisit this very popular event."

Normal admission charges apply.

The Weald & Downland Living Museum, Singleton, near Chichester, PO18 0EU, UK.

<http://www.wealdanddownland.co.uk>

<https://www.angelathames.co.uk>

THE BOOK IS ON THE TABLE

Angelo Ricciardi - *The Book is on the Table*

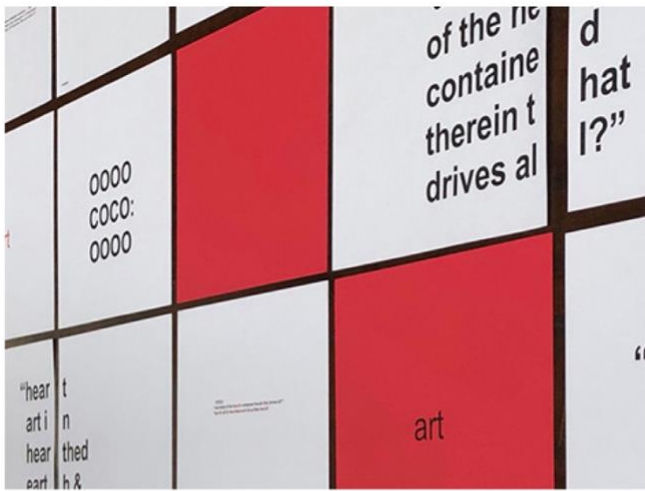
Curated by Vincenzo Cuomo

Biblioteca Universitaria di Napoli, Italy

1st - 8th February 2020

Opening 1st February 2020 11.15am

The Biblioteca Universitaria di Napoli, just over a year returned to the city completely renewed in its spaces and services, today presents itself as a cultural laboratory, a place not only open to specialists but to an increasingly wider and heterogeneous range of users.



An exhibition of almost all his twenty-years production of artists' books – "a field of formal experimentation, only apparently restricted: that of de-creation, the subtraction of value, the side note, the quote, the misprint, of the loving collection of production waste, of the collage of what falls at the margin." – writes Vincenzo Cuomo in *The refuse is on the table*. Angelo Ricciardi thus tries to open up to new possible glances a place, that of the artist's book, intended only for professionals so far.

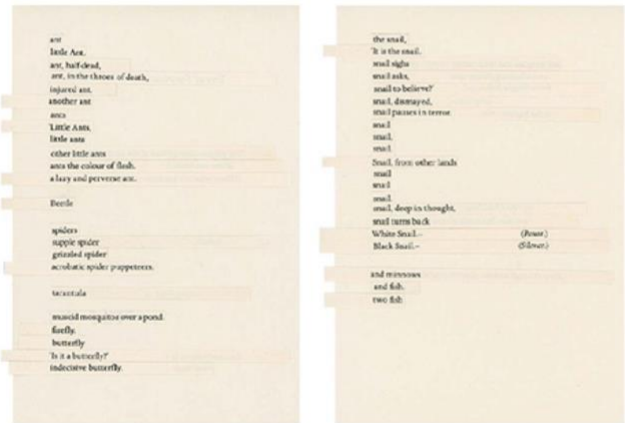


Angelo Ricciardi lives and works in Napoli where he was born. He is author of numerous artist's books, many of them present in important public and private collections: Archivio del '900, Mart, Rovereto; MoMA Library, New York; Liliana Dematteis Collection, J. Watson Library, Metropolitan Museum, New York; CLA Centre de Livres d'Artistes, Bruxelles; Antonio Cossu Collection, Trento; Printed Matter, New York; Manuela and Alessandro Gori Collection, Prato; Anaël Desablin Collection, Bruxelles; Judith Hoffberg Collection, UC Santa Barbara Library, Santa Barbara, CA; The Center for Book Arts, New York.

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 via Paladino 39, Napoli, Italy.  
<http://www.bibliotecauniversitarianapoli.beniculturali.it>  
[bu-na.promozioneculturale@beniculturali.it](mailto:bu-na.promozioneculturale@beniculturali.it)

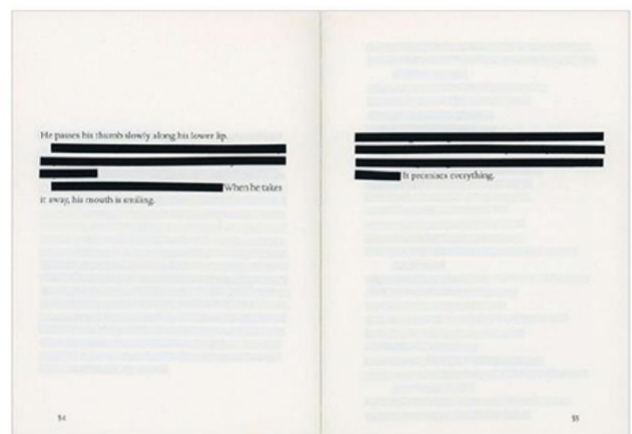
Carolyn Thompson *Post Moderns*  
 Eagle Gallery/EMH Arts, London, UK  
 15th February - 14 March 2020

Carolyn Thompson's recent work *Post Moderns* originates from the 50 texts found in the Penguin Modern Box Set (published 2018), which includes seminal works by Kathy Acker, James Baldwin, Samuel Beckett, William Burroughs, Truman Capote, Allen Ginsberg, Martin Luther King, Jr., Audre Lorde, Vladimir Nabokov and Susan Sontag, amongst others.



Carolyn Thompson, *After Lorca: Taxonomy*, 2019, a four-page work that lists all the many creatures detailed within the selection of poems in Federico Garcia Lorca's *The Dialogue of Two Snails*, grouping each with other creatures that seem similar.  
 Book leaves, glue, 4 pages, 16cm x 11cm

Thompson re-imagines and distills the original texts in a variety of different ways ranging from direct intervention into the books themselves, individual page-specific works that are typed, drawn, incised or sewn, to digital prints. An exhibition of the 50 works is now on show at the Eagle Gallery/EMH Arts, London. PDF catalogue available.



Carolyn Thompson, *After Berger: Tenda (A love story)*, 2019, an adaptation of John Berger's homage to his uncle, in his book *The Red Tenda of Bologna*. Words in the Penguin Modern edition have been deleted, or masked out with the use of black tape, to reveal a different story in the text that remains. Found book, masking tape, each 16cm x 11cm

Eagle Gallery EMH Arts, 159 Farringdon Road, EC1R 3AL  
 Tel: + 44 (0) 20 7833 2674. <http://www.emmahilleagle.com>  
 The gallery is open Wednesday to Friday: 11am – 6pm,  
 Saturday: 11am – 4pm during exhibitions.