Exhibition Checklist

1. Albert Ayon/Opale Massari
   Lipstick-mix d’une femme
   Paris: Editions Gallimard, 1913

2. Arman
   Pense Temps
   Paris: Louis Vuitton, 1971

3. Enrico Badin/Alberto Gironi
   La Anti-Origine
   Paris: Pathe Impression Union, 1964

4. Hans Bellmer/Mgr. Bouvier
   Les Mysteres du Confessionnal
   Paris: Editions Art & Valeurs, 1975

5. Georges Braque/Guillaume Apollinaire
   Si je meurs là-bas

6. Alexander Calder/c. sculptures
   Samovar
   Paris: Editions de la Herme, 1974

7. Alexander Calder/J. Prouvost Film
   Paris: Maeght Editeur, 1973

8. Marc Chagall/Paul Éluard
   Si je mourais là-bas
   Paris: Editions Art & Valeurs, 1975

   Gargantua
   Genève: Editions d’Art Albert Skira, 1967

10. Salvador Dalí/Lewis Carroll 12.
    Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland
    Barcelona: San Francisco: Limestone Press, 1990

11. Francesco Clemente/Alberto Savinio
    The Departure of the Argonaut
    Paris: Éditions de l’Herméne, 1974

12. Marc Davis/Various Authors
    The Temple of Love
    San Francisco: Arion Press, 1984

13. Jean Dubuffet
    La Bête à rage
    Genève: Editions d’Art Albert Skira, 1975

14. Fritz Eichenberg/Desiderius Erasmus
    In Praise of Folly
    New York and Baltimore: Aquarius Press, 1972

15. Max Ernst/Benjamin Péret
    Le Dur Désir de durer
    Paris: Louis Broder Éditeur, 1966

16. Joan Miró/Alfred Jarry
    Ubu Roi
    Paris: Éditions Art & Valeurs, 1975

17. Jean Miró/Robert Desnos
    Les poétdes de l’enfer en Les Nouvelles-Hébédoues
    Paris: Maeght Editeur, 1974

18. Jean Miró/Alfred Jarry
    Ubu Roi
    Paris: Éditions Art & Valeurs, 1966

19. Helen Frankenthaler/William Carlos Williams
    Valentine for Mr. Wonderful
    New York: Tyler Graphics, 1992

20. Ernest Fuhr/Blaise Pozy, Old Testament
    Assured: Jepun, Polea & Co. 1967

21. Nam June Paik
    Ubu Roi
    New York: Tyler Graphics, 1992

22. Robert Motherwell/Rafael Alberti
    El Sueño
    New York: Tyler Graphics Ltd., 1983

23. Alice Neel/Edgar Allan Poe
    The Fall of the House of Usher
    New York: Art and Poésie, 1976

24. Donald Sultan/David Mamet
    Warm and Cold

25. Helen Frankenthaler/William Carlos Williams
    Valentine for Mr. Wonderful
    New York: Tyler Graphics, 1992

26. Henry Moore/Various Artists
    Le Poète–Les Poètes
    New York: Pace Editions, 1976

27. Robert Motherwell/Rafael Alberti
    El Sueño
    New York: Tyler Graphics Ltd., 1983

28. Robert Rauschenberg/Arthur Rimbaud
    A Samarain au Sol
    New York: EEC, 1986

29. Joan Miró/Robert Desnos
    Les poétdes de l’enfer en Les Nouvelles-Hébédoues
    Paris: Maeght Editeur, 1974

30. Jean Miró/Allard Jarry
    Ubu Roi
    Paris: Éditions Art & Valeurs, 1966

31. Jean Mitchell/Arthur Korn
    Poems
    New York: Tyler Graphics, 1992

32. Robert Motherwell/Rafael Alberti
    El Sueño
    New York: Tyler Graphics Ltd., 1983

33. Alice Neel/Edgar Allan Poe
    The Fall of the House of Usher
    New York: Art and Poésie, 1976

34. Louise Nevelson
    In Praise of Folly
    New York: Atelier Mourlot, 1968

35. Pablo Picasso/Pierre Reverdy
    Sable mouvant
    Paris: Maeght Editeur, 1966

36. Robert Rauschenberg
    Opal Gospel, 9 American Indian Poems
    New York: Racolin Press, 1971

37. Odilon Redon/Gustave Flaubert
    La Tentation de Saint Antoine

38. Lucas Samaras
    Book
    New York: Pace Gallery, 1968

39. Fritz Scholder and Leonard Baskin
    Poet & Artist: A Book of Plains Indians
    Massachusetts: Gehenna Press, 1994

40. Ben Shahn/Rainer Maria Rilke
    For the July of a Single Week
    New York: Anchor Muench, 1968

41. Donald Sultan/David Mamet
    Warm and Cold

42. Rufino Tamayo/Bible, New Testament
    A Passion of Saint Jean
    Monaco: Club International de Bibliophilie Jaspard, Palmis, 1999

43. Antoni Tàpies/Octavio Paz
    La Poésie–Les Poètes
    Paris: Maeght Editeur, 1978

44. Various Artists
    19 Life
    Born: E. W. Kantoff, 1964

45. Andy Warhol
    The Index Book

46. Paul Wunderlich
    The Song of Songs
    Paris: Aquarius Press, 1970

Livre's d'artistes: Selections from the Ritter Collection

June 8 – August 6, 2006

The University of Arizona Museum of Art

Main & South Galleries
The University of Arizona Museum of Art is pleased to present Livre d'artiste: A Century of Artists' Books – a special exhibition devoted to this unique and distinctive product of French modernism, the livre d’artiste, a highly specialized form of artistic production, and one that may be unfamiliar to many of its visitors.

The livre d’artiste is a specific yet variable genre, so much so as to nearly defy definition. Scholars, curators and critics continue to debate its fundamental definition. Scholars, curators and critics continue to debate its fundamental definition, yet remaining unable to firmly pin it down. Even the term, livre d’artiste, complicates matters: a literal translation from the French, as “artists’ books” or “books of the artist,” was predicated on an urbane European cosmopolitanism and developing at the end of the 19th century and matured through the 20th.

The genre – a myriad of skilled craftsmen. It may be that the livre d’artiste, as a genre, so contradicts expectations because it exists in a poetic space where the “definite” and the “phantasmal” overlap. Each book, with its often unpaginated sheets, provides a series of encounters; looking becomes an act of meandering, rather than of reading in the more linear sense. This holds true equally for the contemporary examples presented in the exhibition, which expand the tradition of livre d’artiste and offer surprising ways. In every case, the experience of looking, first intended for the collector’s private gaze, has been transformed into something more public.

The exhibition, which joins eighteen wood engravings by Georges Braque (1882–1963) with selections from a suite of poems by Guillaume Apollinaire (1880–1918). It is an oversized volume encased in a custom-made box, or étui, and is a testament to the important and enduring relationship between museums and private collectors. Mel and Robin Ritter, for example, are guided by their passionate interest in livre d’artiste to ensure that the University of Arizona Museum of Art has this opportunity to present such an exceptional selection. The exhibit is on view in the exhibition, which joins eighteen wood engravings by Georges Braque (1882–1963) with selections from a suite of poems by Guillaume Apollinaire (1880–1918). It is an oversized volume encased in a custom-made box, or étui, and is a testament to the important and enduring relationship between museums and private collectors. Mel and Robin Ritter, for example, are guided by their passionate interest in livre d’artiste to ensure that the University of Arizona Museum of Art has this opportunity to present such an exceptional selection.

Dr. Lisa Fischman
Chief Curator
May 2006

Unbound: The Movable, Remarkable livre d’artiste


Inventiveness through time, for the liveliness and crisp precision of his images reveals the basic conventions of the tradition.

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