

In case of any queries contact:

Sarah Bodman / Tom Sowden
Centre for Fine Print Research
UWE, Bristol School of Creative Arts
Kennel Lodge Road, Bristol BS3 2JT
United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0) 117 32 84915
Fax: +44 (0) 117 32 85865
Email: Sarah.Bodman@uwe.ac.uk / Tom.Sowden@uwe.ac.uk
www.bookarts.uwe.ac.uk

You are being invited to take part in a research study, please take time to read the following information carefully. Ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information.

This is one part of the two-year, Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC)* funded project *In an arena including digital and traditional artists' publishing formats - what will be the canon for the artist's book in the 21st Century?* (March 2008 – February 2010). This research project intends to open a responsive exploration with a collaborative, international audience of people involved in the field of book arts. Our aim is to extend and sustain critical debate of what constitutes an artist's book in the 21st Century in order to propose an inclusive structure for the academic study, artistic practice and historical appreciation of the artist's book.

We will be asking for views via online responses to a forum, through interviews and questionnaires, case studies, seminars, book-surgeries and a conference. Each participant will be asked a series of questions that will be recorded in the format received, by: email, post, online or verbally on a digital device. The questions will range from historical and current practice and views on artists' books. This may also include any other relevant information the participant may wish to contribute during the interview, forum, questionnaire, etc.

We have asked you to participate because of your involvement with artists' books. It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you do decide to take part you will be given this information sheet to keep and be asked to sign a consent form. If you do not wish to be identified then please make sure that you clearly state this in any electronic responses if you are joining the online discussion forum, or by contacting us at the address above. You can refuse to answer any of the questions asked without having to state a reason why. If you decide to take part you are still free to withdraw at any time and without giving a reason. Past and current projects are archived at www.bookarts.uwe.ac.uk if you would like to see examples of how we have used multiple participants previously.

Large texts, podcasts and transcripts of specific recorded interviews will be edited for publication, so if we have interviewed you for this purpose we will supply you with a copy of the edited text for approval and/or editing before it is published. Our aim is to publish as much documentation of the project as possible to promote a better understanding of the artist's book. Any usage of the information supplied by you for use other than the purposes of this project would need to be approved by you. Unless you request that your contribution is destroyed, audio/text and visual data gathered will be kept within the Centre for Fine Print Research and UWE Archive facility with no determined destruction date.

* The AHRC funds postgraduate training and research in the arts and humanities, from archaeology and English literature to design and dance. The quality and range of research supported not only provides social and cultural benefits but also contributes to the economic success of the UK. For further information on the AHRC, please see the website www.ahrc.ac.uk

The final publication for this research project will be a manifesto, co-authored by Sarah Bodman and Tom Sowden, available as a free download e-book to be published in 2010, with regular project updates and a continuing online forum available at www.bookarts.uwe.ac.uk/canon.htm. Alongside the final publication, we will produce an online archive of the survey exhibition on our website, edited texts from interviews, case studies, images, data and edited transcripts from the two seminars and conference also as free downloads.

A directory of studios, publishers, artists, bookshops, libraries and galleries will also be made available. If you would like your details to be included please sign on the consent form and we will email you the information form to fill in and include your specialisms. This facility will again be a free download PDF on the website, for people to contact each other if they want.

The outcomes of this project will be announced through related websites, mailing lists, discussion forums, newsletters and journals. This will allow maximum dissemination to the field of practicing artists, academics, students, museums and collections, artist's book curators, art librarians, dealers, publishers and researchers.

This research project has been approved by UWE Bristol's, FCA Research Ethics Sub-Committee. We do not anticipate anything going wrong, but if you feel you have any complaints about the interview or our conduct as interviewer/s please feel free to contact our Director: Professor Stephen Hoskins at the above address.

We will archive the research project for viewing at www.bookarts.uwe.ac.uk/canon.htm.

Thank you for taking part in this project

Sarah Bodman

Tom Sowden