

New Traveling Exhibition from the Guild of Book Workers with 50 New Book Artists' Work form Across the Country

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The Guild of Book Workers traveling exhibition will travel from June 2021 to September 2022. The opening and close dates for “Wild/LIFE” should be confirmed with each venue before travel and to check local public health precautions in place due to COVID-19.

EXHIBITION

“Wild/LIFE: Guild of Book Workers Triannual Exhibition”, June 2021 to September 2022

DESCRIPTION

This exhibition features approximately 50 works by members of the Guild of Book Workers, an book artists organization that promotes interest in and awareness of the tradition of the book and paper arts by maintaining high standards of workmanship, hosting educational opportunities, and sponsoring exhibits. Members were invited to interpret the theme of “wildlife” in any way they wish, be it literal or abstract, humorous or serious. In a biological sense, wildlife describes the myriad of creatures sharing this planet, interacting and adapting, all connected to each other and their environment. "Wild" also describes an untamable essence that survives despite the constraints of society and culture. As craftspeople, knowledge of materials and keen observation of how they behave (and often how they refuse to comply) is an integral part of the practice of book making, and a reminder of how traditional bookbinding materials originate in nature.

The exhibition opens at the American Bookbinders Museum in San Francisco, CA in June 2021, and will continue to travel to five additional venues across the country, closing in the fall of 2022. Works include fine and edition bindings, artists books, broadsides (letterpress printing, calligraphy, and decorative papermaking) and historical binding models. Both the bindings and framed works to be exhibited were selected by a jury to ensure that they are of excellent quality.

EXHIBITION SCHEDULE

American Bookbinders Museum- San Francisco, CA.
June 2-August 7, 2021

Robert C. Williams Museum of Papermaking- Atlanta, GA.
September 3-Dec 7, 2021

North Bennet Street School-Boston, MA.
January 1-Feb 11, 2022 (*Tentative*)

Collins Memorial Library, University of Puget Sound- Tacoma WA.
February 21-April 22, 2022

Cushing Memorial Library, Texas A&M University- College Station, TX.
May 2- June 24 2022

(Please note that dates are subject to change. Check with the venues before making travel arrangements.)

Lloyd Library and Museum- Cincinnati, OH.
July 5-September 22, 2022

BOOK

The exhibition catalog, *WildLIFE: Guild of Book Workers Traveling Exhibition*, includes an introduction for the current Guild President and remarks from the curator and jurors of the show. Published as a special edition of the *Guild of Book Workers Journal*, which will be available for purchase online. (*Not yet released*)

ONLINE EXHIBITION

Online exhibit goes live this summer 2021, including additional works submitted for juroring but not seen in the traveling exhibition.

<https://guildofbookworkers.org/content/wildlife><https://guildofbookworkers.org/galleries>

For previous Guild triannual exhibitions visit online at
<https://guildofbookworkers.org/galleries>

CREDIT

“Wild/Life: Guild of Book Workers Triannual Exhibition” is organized by the Guild of Book Workers

Note to editors: Selected high-resolution images for publication only are available through request. Email exhibitions@guildofbookworkers.org to request the link.

ABOUT THE GUILD OF BOOK WORKERS: <https://guildofbookworkers.org/about>

The Guild of Book Workers was founded in 1906 to "establish and maintain a feeling of kinship and mutual interest among workers in the several hand book crafts." Among its early members are well-known artist-craft workers such as bookbinder Edith Diehl and printers and typographers W.A. Dwiggins and Frederic W. Goudy.

The Guild still believes, as did its founders, that there is a responsibility to sustain the crafts involved with the production of fine books. Its members hope to broaden public awareness of the hand book arts, to stimulate commissions of fine bindings, and to stress the need for sound book conservation and restoration.

Over 100 years later, the Guild is still vital, with regular traveling exhibitions, a journal, ten regional Chapters, and an annual Standards of Excellence seminar. Guild membership exceeds 800 and has expanded internationally. The organization is still run by volunteers. GBW is incorporated as a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization based in New York.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: Guild of Book Workers

Instagram: @GuildofBookWorkers

ABOUT THE AMERICAN BOOKBINDERS MUSEUM <https://bookbindersmuseum.org/>

The American Bookbinding Museum was founded in 2009 by a commercial bookbinder. In 2015, with the support of generous donors, ABM moved its growing collection to the current location, making San Francisco the official home of North America's only bookbinding museum. By telling the story of the book, the American Bookbinders Museum furthers the public's understanding of and appreciation for the art, history, and craft of western bookbinding.

The institution's core programming includes a permanent collection of 19th and early 20th century bookbinding machines, tools, and ephemera, a comprehensive, 60-minute audio tour of the primary collection, three rotating special exhibitions each year, and educational events and lectures featuring bookbinding and book arts experts.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: The American Bookbinders Museum

Instagram: @american_bookbinders