



THE  
PUBLIC  
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and  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
**Press Release**

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## More than Just Words, Books are Forms of Art at the Public Library

Artists' Books on Display in the Atrium and Cincinnati Room at Main Library Downtown

Two exhibits of artists' books – books created by artists – are on display at the Main Library (800 Vine Street) through early September: *Bookworks 10*, the Cincinnati Book Arts Society's (CBAS) annual exhibit of regional artists' books, and the Keith Kuhn Memorial Artists' Book Exhibit *More Than Words: The Book as Art*.



Work from Margaret Rhein of Westwood is featured in both of the artists' books exhibits at the Main Library. Pictured here is *Las Devinettes*, one of the featured books in CBAS's *Bookworks 10* on display in the Atrium.

*Bookworks 10*, CBAS's tenth annual exhibit of traditional and contemporary handmade books, is on display in the Atrium of the Main Library through Sunday, September 6. This year's exhibit showcases more than 15 handmade books crafted by local artists like Alice Balterman of Hyde Park and regional artists like Mary Jo Flamm-Miller of Chillicothe. Each piece demonstrates the variety of techniques and approaches used in traditional and contemporary bookmaking.

(Visit the Library on Flickr to see more of *Bookworks 10*!

[http://www.flickr.com/photos/cincinnatipubliclibrary/sets//72157619496281444/.](http://www.flickr.com/photos/cincinnatipubliclibrary/sets//72157619496281444/))

In conjunction with the *Bookworks 10* exhibit, selections from the Main Library's own collection of artists' books is also on display. The Keith Kuhn Memorial Artists' Book Exhibit – *More Than Words: The Book as Art* features more than 60 books made by regionally and nationally recognized artists. Many of the books are hand-made, one-of-a-kind objects that represent a wide range of forms. The exhibit – on view through Monday, September 7 in the Main Library's Cincinnati Room – was named in honor of former Library Services Director Keith Kuhn who passed away in 2008. Expanding the

Library's extensive collection of one-of-a-kind artists' books was one of Mr. Kuhn's passionate pursuits. Under his direction the unique collection grew in size and also in scope.

### ABOUT THE ARTISTS' BOOK COLLECTION

The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County's Artists' Books Collection contains stunning examples of the "book as art" by well-known international, national, and local artists. The collection grew out of Alice S. Plaut's interest in livres d'artiste. In the late 1950s, Mrs. Plaut – who, at that time, was the Head of the Art and Music Department – recognized the importance of this fascinating new contemporary art form. She began actively collecting volumes of rare and important works, along with materials devoted to that era's trends in modern art. In recognition of her leadership, the Plaut Fund was established in 1968 to create a collection of artists' books for the Library. The collection continues to grow through additional purchases made by the Friends of the Public Library and donations made by other book lovers including book artists. For more information about the Library's Artists' Book Collection, visit [http://www.cincinnati.org/main/artistsbooks.html#/.](http://www.cincinnati.org/main/artistsbooks.html#/)



*St. Helen Book* by Rhonda Gushee is one of the featured works in the Keith Kuhn Memorial Artists' Book Exhibit – *More Than Words: The Book as Art* on display in the Cincinnati Room.

### ABOUT THE CINCINNATI BOOK ARTS ASSOCIATION

The Cincinnati Book Arts Society is a non-profit organization comprised of professionals and amateurs from all quarters of the book, paper, and printing arts – bookbinders, paper makers, printers, paper marblers, as well as book artists, archivists, and conservators – for the purpose of creating a spirit of community among hand workers in the book arts and those who just love books. For more information about CBAS, visit [http://www.cincinnatibookarts.org/.](http://www.cincinnatibookarts.org/)