

Workshops

I am primarily interested in the many forms of movable and/or sculptural books, although I do also teach beginning bookbinding on a regular basis at the University of Iowa. Below is an alphabetical list of many of the workshops I have taught in the past. I am happy to tailor workshops to meet the needs of the participants.

20 Single Sheet Books:

A one-day workshop introducing single sheet folded books. These techniques take maximum advantage of a sheet of paper. These versatile forms are much more fun and immediate and much less intimidating and expensive than other methods of making books. These folding techniques can be used to make single books or applied to any print media, from Xerox, inkjet or laser printers, to offset lithography to intaglio, silkscreen, lithography or letterpress to make editions. Using just scissors, glue stick and other simple tools, learn to make books ranging from the simple concertina to the complex tetraflexagon.

Carousel books:

A one or two day workshop introducing the methods of constructing carousel books, sometimes called star books. A Victorian era book often produced as souvenirs or novelties, this format is now mostly used in children's books. Why should they have all the fun? A carousel book can be viewed section by section and also opened fully to create a book in the round. Students will make models and also construct their own individual examples using their own drawings, photographs, rubber stamps, collages etc.

Content and the Artist's Book:

A one or two day workshop exploring both the development of content first then finding the proper format and also beginning with a format and seeking appropriate content. A variety of bookbinding techniques combined with writing exercises and other brainstorming activities will yield a number of mock-ups for artist's books. Students may bring structural formats and/or their own writings if they would like them included in the discussions.

Criss-Cross Binding (formerly know as the Secret Belgian):

A one-day workshop assembling a model of this book. This binding was invented by Belgian artist Anne Goy and introduced to the United States by Hedi Kyle. This hard cover book can be made with paste paper or other decorated papers or book cloth. The two covers and the spine piece are constructed of binder's board covered with paper or cloth; each piece is separate until sewn onto the text block. The text block is sewn separately. The covers are sewn onto the text block using a pattern of stitches, which traps the spine in place with a set of loops back and forth across the spine between the front and back covers. This binding yields an attractive and very sturdy book with a decorative pattern of colored waxed linen threads on the spine. Can be combined with the Cross-Structure binding in a two-day workshop.

Crossed-Structure Binding:

A one-day workshop making paste papers and assembling a model of this book. This contemporary binding resulted from Carmencho Arrugui's study of pre-16th century bindings. This variation was developed by Hedi Kyle and uses a heavy cover paper with paste paper patterns on both sides. The cover is constructed from one long strip of two sided paste paper. The cover is folded in such a way that the covers are double thicknesses of the paste paper and the text block is sewn directly into the cover using strips cut into one end of the paste paper. These strips are laced through the spine and folded around to form a decorative pattern of crossing strips of the paste paper on the spine. This is a non-adhesive binding. Can be combined with the Criss-Cross binding in a two-day workshop.

Editions with Single Sheet Books:

A two-day workshop dedicated to designing and producing your own edition of a single sheet folded book. Using a photocopier machine, participants will make a variety of books to keep and multiple copies of one book to exchange with the class. Class participants will be introduced to a variety of single sheet book formats. These formats take maximum advantage of a sheet of paper. Brainstorming techniques and other exercises will assist in the development of the content of the editions.

Flexagons:

A one or two day workshop exploring and explaining the many varieties of flexagons. Flexagons are mathematical models made of folded paper. Math phobics fear not, all will be revealed! Hidden inside each flexagon are concealed faces, which appear, disappear and reappear as the flexagon is manipulated. These fascinating structures present many possibilities for combining words and images. Students will make models and also construct their own individual examples using their own drawings, photographs, rubber stamps, collages etc.

Jacob's Ladders and Japanese Screen Hinges:

A one or two day workshop introducing the basic and related techniques of these two structures. It's a toy, it's a book, it's the Jacob's ladder! This 2,000-year-old Chinese toy has many wonderful applications for contemporary artist bookmakers. The book can be read straight through like any accordion book or hold one end and flip the ladder sections to reveal the hidden scenes. Construction and operation of the Jacob's ladder will be fully explained. The Japanese screen hinge is an equally versatile device. This hinge allows for full 360-degree rotation, books can be read through and then reversed and read through again. The hinge is very strong and very light and allows your accordion books to take on more sculptural arrangements. Students will assemble models of each structure and make their own individual examples using their own drawings, photographs, rubber stamps, collages etc.

Magic Books or Now You See It, Now You Don't:

A two-day workshop exploring a number of book structures, which have elements, which appear and disappear, when the structures are manipulated. Various books ranging from a single sheet book to 2 and 3 dimensional flexagons to magic wallets and Jacob's Ladders will be presented. Students will make models and also construct their own individual examples using their own drawings, photographs, rubber stamps, collages etc.

Magic Boxes:

A two-day workshop introducing the construction techniques of this unique box form. This intriguing variation on the Jacob's ladder makes a lidded box with divided compartments. The lid can be opened in two directions and different compartments are revealed depending on the opening direction chosen. The Jacob's Ladder is a 2,000-year-old Chinese toy, it and its variations have many wonderful applications for contemporary artist bookmakers. Construction and operation of the Jacob's ladder will be fully explained. Students will assemble a model of the magic box using a variety of patterned Japanese papers.

Pop-Up Books:

A one or two day workshop introducing a wide variety of pop-up techniques, including many single piece and multi piece techniques. Participants will explore the concepts of paper engineering and construct samples and projects of their own.

Tunnel books:

A one or two day workshop introducing a variety of methods of constructing tunnel books, single sheet and multi panel. The tunnel book, developed in the Renaissance for studying perspective, is sometimes called a peephole book, it is an accordion of multiple panels bound on both sides and viewed from the front, giving a 3-D effect. Students will assemble models and make their own individual examples using their own drawings, photographs, rubber stamps and/or collages.

Volvelle, Changing Wheels, Image Dissolves and Slides:

A one or two day workshop introducing the various techniques used by paper engineers to make one-image change into another. The secrets of Victorian wheels, turning wheels, slides and dissolves will all be revealed. Using provided patterns; students will construct models of these techniques and then progress to constructing their own moveable images using their own drawings and/or photographs.