

Call for Papers

Book live!

8th - 9th June 2012

International symposium and related live events
at London South Bank University

Book live! is a collaboration between the Centre for Media and Cultural Research (CMCR) at LSBU and bookRoom Research Cluster at UCA Farnham. Co-organised by Emmanuelle Waeckerlé (Reader in Photography and Relational Practices at University for the Creative Arts and BookRoom lead academic) and Professor Richard Sawdon-Smith (Head of Arts & Media at London South Bank University)

The event will bring together theorists, researchers and practitioners to stimulate a dialogue across disciplines on **the ability of the book to keep up with digital culture and the emergence of new modes of writing, of photographing, of reading, or archiving and of disseminating 'on the page' work.** The purpose of this conference is to examine the current 'transforming' and 'expanding' of the book rather than its virtual disintegration.

In addition to this call for papers and presentations the conference will include international guest speakers from the broader world of publishing, photography and experimental writing as well as short presentations of book works and a series of live experimental and durational 'readings'.

This will include keynote speakers **Sharon Helgason Gallagher** (founder and director of D.A.P and ARTBOOK in New York) and **Joan Fontcuberta** (photographer, artist and all-round critic of contemporary culture from Barcelona) as well as a performance of the full twelve hours of **John Cage's *Empty Words*** (first published in 1979 by Wesleyan University Press) by Sylvia Alexandra Schimag (Germany), coinciding with the release of the complete recording by Editions Wandelweiser.

Since the 1960's the book has been reclaimed by photographers, writers, musicians and thinkers as a space for both experimentation and dissemination of their ideas; a familiar space with its own structure, boundaries, history and economy which is there to be explored or transgressed. A world wide interest in artist's book, as a creative practice and field of study, has grown significantly in recent years, partly reflecting a return to, and recognition of, the aesthetic of materiality in an increasingly digital culture. With this an interesting dialogue between electronic and print culture has started to take place. Could Cyberspace become a new dimension in Ulysses Carrion's 1960's definition of a book? (more than just an assemblage of pages but a 'space time continuum' for the unravelling of verbal, visual, or sonic narratives.)

Beyond the conference we will be bringing together papers and other contributions as a publication in its own right; an interesting survey of current thinking and innovative practice informed by both the themes and the findings of the conference. Edited and designed by bookRoom press, and published by RGAP.



CALL FOR PAPER AND PRESENTATION max 25 minutes

Call for papers, presentations, panels and 'readings' dealing with (but not limited to) the following themes and research questions;

- How has digital technology allowed the book to expand its boundaries, both in space and time?
- Innovative convergence of traditional craft skills and advanced technologies in the making, reading, archiving or disseminating of books.
- Interdisciplinary experiments that addresses the cultural translations between traditional skills and advanced technologies.
- Explorations that reconsider the contemporary or future role of the book socially, culturally, politically.
- Innovative or disastrous explorations and transgressions of ebook readers.
- What do we gain and lose with on screen 'reading'?
- How is conventional publishing adapting to fast changing digital economy?
- What has become of collecting in our digital culture?
- What is knowledge now that computers can provide and keep everything?
- High culture versus digital culture

Deadline for abstracts: 15th January 2011 - Decision sent before 15th February
Please send abstracts to Emmanuelle Waeckerle (ewaeckerle@ucreative.ac.uk)

Submissions from doctoral students and early-career postdoctoral researchers are encouraged, as well as submissions from non-academic publishers, collectors, artists writers and thinkers.

A submission should consist of a zipped folder containing:

- **Individual paper:** up to 500 word abstract with a 50 words summary, up to 200 words artist statement, a curriculum vitae headed with author name(s), organization affiliation (if any), contact address, telephone, and email address (2 pages maximum). All in pdf format
- **Panel proposal:** up to 500 word abstract with a 50 words summary, of the panel's theme, details of the panel's chair (up to 200 word artist statement) and contributors, a curriculum vitae headed with author name(s), organization affiliation (if any), contact address, telephone, and email address (2 pages maximum). All in pdf format
- **Project presentation;** up to 500 word abstract with a 50 words summary, up to 200 words artist statement, a curriculum vitae headed with author name(s), organization affiliation (if any), contact address, telephone, and email address (2 pages maximum). All in pdf format. Website link or 2 images (jpg max 2MB each) of documentation and youtube or vimeo link for video documentation.
- **Experimental or durational reading or performance;** up to 500 word abstract, 200 words resumé, A curriculum vitae headed with author name(s), organization affiliation (if any), contact address, telephone, and email address (2 pages maximum). All in pdf format. Web link or 2 images (jpg max 1MB) of documentation. Website link or 2 images (jpg max 2MB each) of documentation and youtube or Vimeo link for video documentation.

For more information contact Richard Sawdon Smith sawdonsr@lsbu.ac.uk
Emmanuelle Waeckerlé ewaeckerle@ucreative.ac.uk

Registration

Full Conference

Early Bird Rate: £150/£75 concessions

Standard Rate: £200/£100 concessions

Single Day

Early Bird Rate: £80/£35 concessions

Standard Rate: £120/£55 concessions

Performances only

(Saturday 9am to 9pm; 'Empty words' and other durational readings)

£15/10 pounds concessions

The Early Bird Rate will be available from 1 April 2012, when registration opens, until 1st May 2012, after which the standard rates apply.