Calligraphy and Handmade Paper

a traveling exhibit of the 2008 juried portfolio published by Hand Papermaking, Inc.

BACKGROUND... As part of its non-profit, educational mission, Hand Papermaking offers a biennial series of themed portfolios showcasing distinctive handmade papers. Visit http://portfolios.handpapermaking.org for a current listing, photos, and details. In partnership with The Robert C. Williams Paper Museum in Atlanta, traveling exhibits are offered, to share these exceptional papers with new audiences worldwide.

CALLIGRAPHY AND HANDMADE PAPER... The imagery and processes used in these remarkable pieces focus on the inherent artistry and meaning of the calligraphic mark as it interacts with the handmade paper. Many of the pieces are hand lettered: there is elegant pen work and brush calligraphy, but also unusual methods of inscribing such as writing with pulp. Lettering methods are sometimes enhanced with techniques such as letterpress, dye resist, photo intaglio, debossing, and suminagashi. Paper rises from its traditional supporting role to offer equal partnership in the realization of the image. For some images, the paper speaks quietly carrying fibers that have cultural, historical, or geographical connections with the written mark. In other works, the paper calls more attention to itself with curious inclusions, bold colors, or a highly burnished surface. Whatever the method, the finished pieces demonstrate the shared importance of calligraphic image and well-made paper.

THE EXHIBIT... The exhibition includes 15 pieces by 28 artists, each matted in an 11” x 14” black frame. A matching wall label accompanies each piece. Roughly 30-50 feet of wall space is required. Copies of the portfolio booklet are made available for visitors’ reference in durable notebooks imprinted with the venue name, dates, and an acknowledgement of any exhibit underwriters. See the original portfolio prospectus (attached) for additional information including names of artists, jurors, and essayist.

PROMOTION... Each exhibition is promoted in Hand Papermaking Newsletter and on sites, blogs, and social media of Hand Papermaking and Robert C. Williams Paper Museum. A postcard can be designed and printed for an additional fee, and mailed to the venue area, using our lists and those of the exhibit site.

COST... The exhibition fee for approximately one month at one venue is $800 plus insured shipping. The entire fee is due when specific dates are booked.

REQUIREMENTS... The exhibit space must be in a secure, indoor location, protected from extreme temperatures and direct sunlight. The venue must be insured against theft or damage, and assume all liability for visitors. The exhibit should be inspected thoroughly upon delivery, and inspected again when taken down and re-packaged, noting any imperfections on the form provided.

CONTACT... For questions about exhibiting The Art of Pulp Painting or any of our other traveling exhibits, please contact:

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Pictured top to bottom, details from
To view full images of all 15 works, visit http://portfolios.handpapermaking.org