

# Artist Book News

Featuring Work by Professional Book Artists - October 2011

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## The Quilts of Gee's Bend

Remarkable works of art, from a tradition that dates back four generations, are made by women who live in a rural African, American Alabama community. The goal was to improvise with established designs to create a unique composition. Materials such as old clothes, cornmeal sacks, denim jeans and fabrics that fit the color palette were used. This book honors the unnamed women who made these unusual and stunning quilts. **The Quilts of Gee's Bend** is a tunnel book, inkjet printed on Epson paper, Japanese paper and vellum. 8.5" x 6.5". Edition 4, \$250.



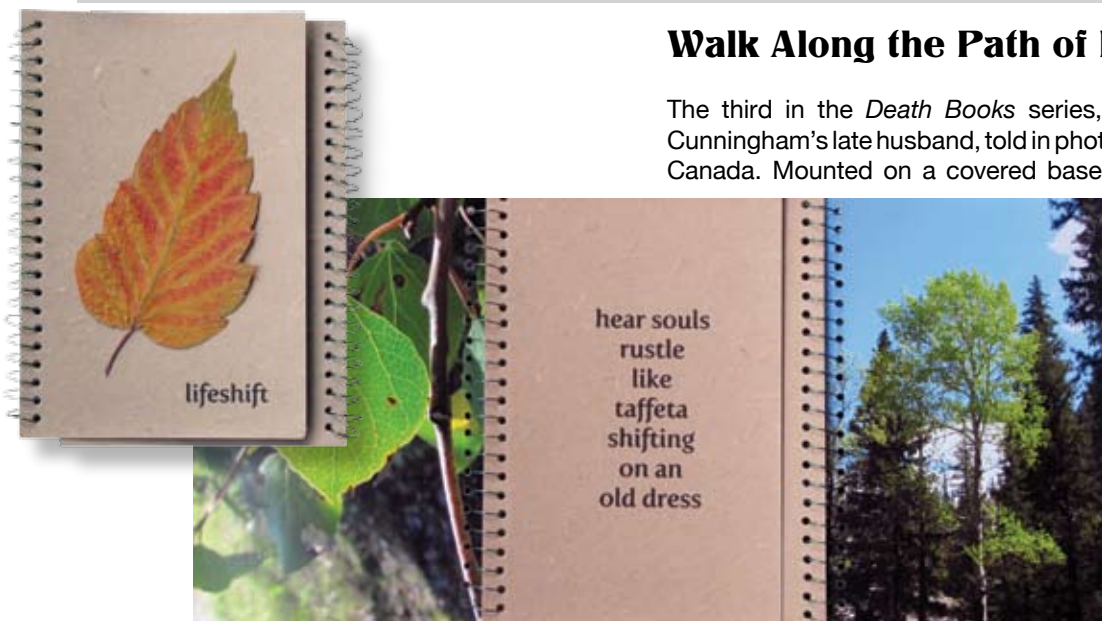
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## Walk Along the Path of Life

The third in the *Death Books* series, **lifeshift** pays homage to artist Linda Cunningham's late husband, told in photographs of Banff National Park in Alberta, Canada. Mounted on a covered base, the double-bound (copper-wire spiral)

book walks through the mixed spruce and aspen forest towards ultimate destruction. Enclosed in a protective slipcover, the book consists of six photographs, original inkjet-printed text, and a unique fall leaf. **lifeshift** is 6.5" x 5.25" x 1". Edition of 3, \$400.

Linda M. Cunningham  
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[www.artistbooknews.com/cunningham1.html](http://www.artistbooknews.com/cunningham1.html)



## A Collection of Erotic Haiku

**Box of Eros** contains a collection of 24 erotic haiku housed in a lidded box. When the lid is removed the box opens flat, a stiff-leaf bound book affixed to each wall of the box. The box is covered with hand printed book cloth, the pages printed via archival inkjet on rag paper. Eight writers contributed haiku's written especially for this edition. Artwork by Heidi Zednik. **Box of Eros** is an open, variable edition, copyright 2008. Dimensions (closed) 4.5" x 3.25" x 3.25". Price on request.

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# Chinese Paper Cuts Series

These artist books are crafted with authentic paper cuts imported from China. Paper cuts are a very distinctive Chinese art form originating from the 6th century when women used to paste gold and silver foil cuttings onto their hair at the temples, and men used them in sacred rituals. Later, they were used during festivals to decorate gates and windows. After hundreds of years of development, paper cuts have become a very popular decorative folk art. The main cutting tools are scissors or an engraving knife on very thin rice paper. Many crafts people are remarkably good at cutting the themes of daily life. It is easy to learn, but very difficult to master the art of paper cutting.

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## Singing to the Birds

**Bird Songs** is a wood dowel piano hinged book of rare duo-color paper cuts from China. Four intricate paper cut illustrations of women playing different musical instruments to a variety of

beautiful birds. Comes with a dramatic clamshell case. Book size is 11.5" x 6". Unique, \$595.

## Curious Cats

Five Cats and 5 cat poems from writers you will recognize fold into this charming little book. The cats are Chinese papers cuts mounted on stiff pages that unfold like a nautilus. One section holds a parchment paper 10 page signature with the poems that also unfolds like a nautilus. Closed size is 3.5" x 5", opens to 19" long, comes with matching clamshell case. Edition of 2, \$295.



## Potted Gardens

Chinese potted gardens, similar to the Japanese Bonsai, have been famous for many centuries and are often described as "soundless poetry" or "living sculpture". In a pot no larger than a wash basin, craftsmen create a miniature natural scene using stunted trees and plants, and rocks. **Potted Gardens** is an unfolding book of authentic paper cuts. Book size is 4.5" x 4.25", comes with a clamshell case. Edition of 10, \$195.



## Tiger Year

This book sparkles with gilded pages showcasing 6 authentic paper cuts for the year of the tiger, the text tells about the sign of the tiger, lovers and spouses, parents and babies, friends and enemies, health and home, and career and finance for those born in year of the tiger. **Tiger Year** is 18 rigid pages, piano hinged with wood dowels with gilded Tyvek hinges, pages are 6.75" x 6.75", comes with stunning gilded case, unique, \$495.

## Commune Women / Commune Workers

Two very similar books about Chinese land reform under Mao. What was it like? With text and illustrative paper cuts made from thin rice paper, imported from China, mounted on stiff pages with an interleaving parchment. Both come with a dramatic clamshell case.

**Commune Women** describes and shows the family life under Mao. Size is 6.5" x 6.5", unique, \$495.

**Commune Workers** describes and shows the workers life under Mao. Size is 5" x 6", unique, \$495.

