

umbrella

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BUMBERSHOOTS GALORE IN SEATTLE

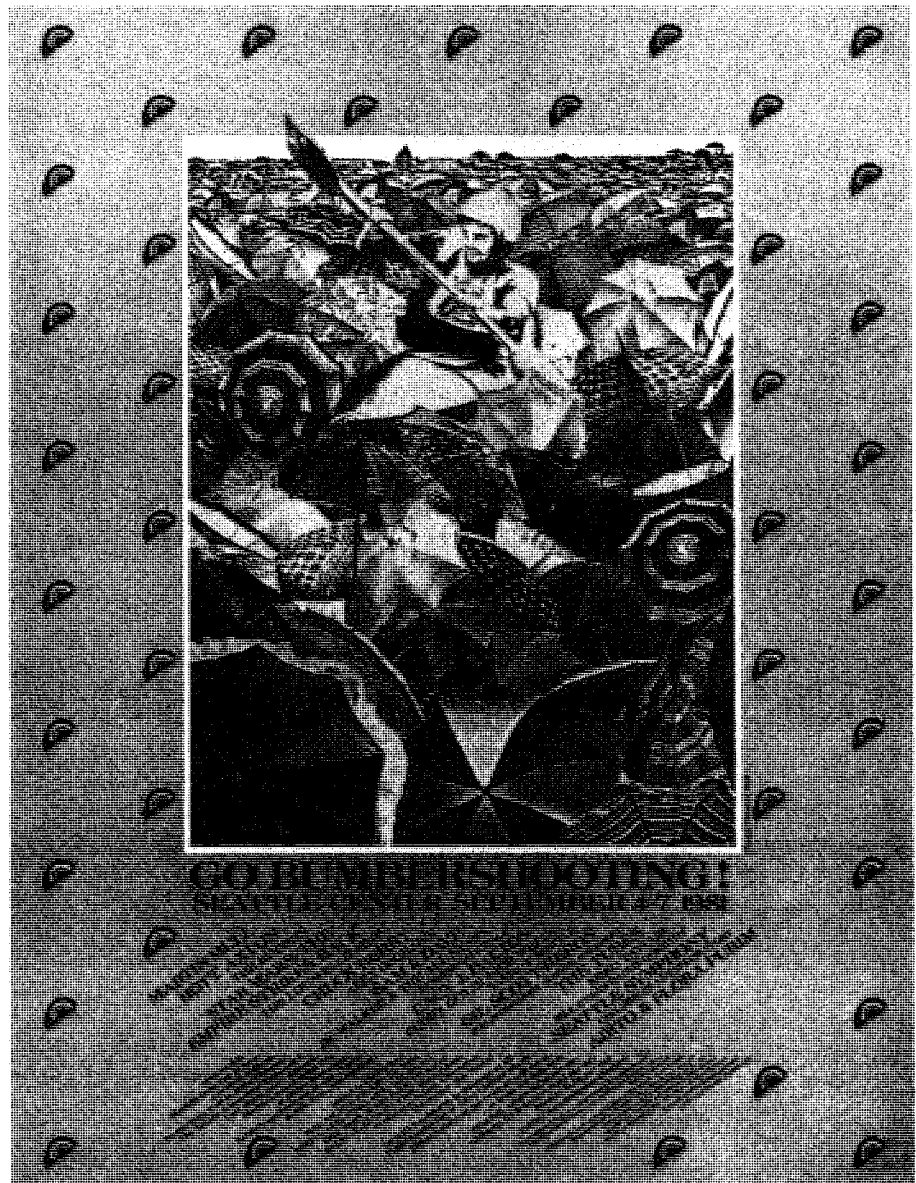
Over the Labor Day weekend, Seattle held its 11th annual Bumershoot Festival, a celebration of rain featuring visual arts, music, dance, entertainment and good food. Unfortunately it was sunny and warm during all the four days of the rain festival, but it did not dampen anyone's spirits. As usual people turned out in the thousands. Bumershoot has become a popular event in Seattle, and the poster that announces it receives quite a bit of attention. In fact, it has become an event in itself. This year's competition had over fifty of the area's artists designing around the theme "Go Bumershooting."

Beanne Hull designed the winning entry, and it was by far the best conceptual solution. A kayaker paddling through a running rapids of umbrellas became the symbol for this year's festival. The black and white on gray airbrushed, Xerox collage, bordered by a sprinkle of tiny rainbow arcs was transformed into the 1981 poster. Beanne became a bit of a celebrity as she was featured on the evening news and in the newspapers. Her story is a fascinating one, since she came to Seattle from Cape Town South Africa to be with her husband-to-be (whom she met in Greece). She graduated from the University of Capetown in graphic design and presently designs for the City of Seattle. She maintains a studio at home where she does illustration and printmaking. She's torn between being a serious printmaker and doing what a client wants, finding poster design to be a good blend of the two.

Her work will be seen more frequently around Seattle in the coming years and no doubt there will be other competitions to win, but there won't be anything that compares to holding a place in the Bumershoot Hall of Fame!

—Janet Rekosh

Janet Rekosh is an artist herself, using the theme of umbrellas in her own work. She recently had a show at the University of Washington.



BOOKWORKS: 1982 Conference in Philadelphia

Philadelphia will host an international conference, **Bookworks: 1982**, a conference of artists, writers and publishers, through the auspices of the Foundation for Today's Art, a non-profit public organization. The dates will be 1 - 3 October 1982 at the Moore College of Art.

It is apt that Philadelphia hold this conference next year, due to the fact it is celebrating its three hundredth anniversary, the home of Benjamin Franklin, who loomed so large in the history of printing, and in keeping with the precepts of Marcel Duchamp, much of whose work is housed at the famed Philadelphia Museum of Art. So in the city where the history of printing and publishing has loomed so large, it is fitting that next year artists from all over the country and abroad converge to explore issues of interest in the art of bookmaking.

One of the goals of the Conference is to bring people together to gather the state of the art of book production and marketing; to gain direct access to information on the craft of the fine press, printing and new sources of book-making technology; to exchange ideas among artists, writers and publishers in order to develop a critical vocabulary for expanded medium of bookmaking, and to bring to the surface the need for textual and visual bookwork information.

To facilitate these goals, prominent persons in the field of production, distribution and acquisition will participate in order that there be an opportunity to observe and discuss the range of works being produced, from handmade books to various editions of multiples. Open and free to the public will be a Book Fair, exhibitions and workshops as part of the cultural institutions throughout the Philadelphia area concurrent and during the month of October. There will be workshops, lectures, seminars, panels and events to gather in people who have occupied themselves with the growing and expanding art arena of artists' books, bookworks, independent publishing, with related extensions in the form of performances, audio and video works.

PLANNING GROUP

Included in the Planning Group is Michael Kostiuk, Project Director; Peter Frank, Kenneth Friedman, Judith A. Hoffberg, George Quasha, Don Russell, and Roland Turner.

The Project Director is asking all bookmakers and those interested in attending next year to send him your name and address, since a questionnaire will be sent out soon to all potential participants to gain direct access to the planning operation. Write to Michael Kostiuk, Project Director, Foundation for Today's Art, 2017 Chancellor Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103. Tel. (215)667-8886.

Be sure to put this on your calendar and plan ahead. There will be an update on this Conference in every issue of *Umbrella* until next October, so please keep reading this newsletter. This will be an exciting and important Conference for all artists who publish books or periodicals.

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FROM THE EDITOR

If you haven't noticed on the masthead, the reference to the National Endowment for the Arts is now gone. *Umbrella* as all other newsletters was disregarded in grants for Services to the Field. The "peer panel" just disregarded newsletters in a wholesale fashion. I think they forgot their sense of responsibility and the basic meaning of "Services to the Field." As you know, there is no longer such a category in the 1982 guidelines, so *Umbrella* will try to survive without that small government grant that just helped pay the printer anyway.

As for the newsletter itself, there probably will be a change in scope next year, largely due to focus and a need to zoom in on important issues, interpreting in a critical way some of the movements and developments which will transpire in the next year. And without government assistance, perhaps we can be a bit more critical when the need arises of aid and assistance or lack thereof of this administration.

Renewal notices will be going out in the next six weeks, and Canadians should note that I have had to add additional postage to their subscription rates because the newsletter has to go first class to Canada, and that is very expensive compared to bulk rates in America. Sorry, but that is a fact of life.

We plan to have a surprise for you in the November issue—a little gift for all the readers so look out for it. It may be a forecast of coming events, changes in the scope, a different pace.

Deadline for the next issue is 10 November. Please do not forget! Thanks.

—jah