



111 Front Street, Gallery 214  
Brooklyn, NY 11201-1007

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347-731-6559  
www.centralbookingnyc.com

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Contact: Anica Archip  
917-862-8710  
[Anica.nvc@gmail.com](mailto:Anica.nvc@gmail.com)

**Central Booking Art Gallery presents 'Natural Histories',  
An exhibition where art explores science**  
(September 10 – November 8, 2009)

*New Art Space Opens in Brooklyn's DUMBO Area,  
Providing Rare Accessibility to the Breadth of 'Book Art'*

New York, NY, September, 2009 - **Central Booking**, a unique international art space specifically dedicated to the entire breadth and scope of "the book" as art launches its inaugural show, *Natural Histories*; this exhibition traces a range of artistic responses to an ever changing external and internal environment, touching on the mere presence of human intervention. *Natural Histories* is the first in a series of exhibitions where art explores science; the opening reception is Thursday, **September 17, 2009, 6-9PM** in the DUMBO section of Brooklyn.

Curated by **Maddy Rosenberg** (artist/curator) and Jon Coffelt (artist/curator) *Natural Histories* transforms the gallery into an evocative space that creates its own natural habitat from the elements of each artist's personal response to their concept of nature.

Some of the artists exhibited are **Judy Hoffman**, whose leaf-like formed paper book works are separately displayed, created an installation of found materials mostly organic with a contamination of inorganic materials that "grows" out of the ground and walls to invade the space. The Swedish artist **Leonard Forslund** contributes a unique book whose textural pages beckons to be touched, unlike his more typically formal work. And we know how in **Ana Mendieta's** work her own body became inextricably intertwined with the natural world; here in a rarely exhibited artist's book she focuses on her etchings.

**Cosme Herrera** interprets formal landscape tableau within the confines of his inlaid wooden mythologies. **Josh Willis's** seemingly bucolic miniatures are whole environments in themselves but seen together create a dreamlike world. **Mary Frank** has long explored the natural world in her work and the human place within it. **Tina Flau** who is fascinated by her own garden in the outskirts of Berlin, uses a native historical German text on natural history as the impetus for her artist's book, with each illustration becoming its own printed plate. **Donna Maria de Creeft's** images collaged from text become incorporated into a series of flags and **Michelle Wilson's** text becomes the soil for her plant as it actually grows between the bindings of a book.

The softly transparent cloth drawings of **Desirée Alvarez** juxtapose the bold ink imagery with the delicacy of the fabric. The strongly graphic collaged prints of **Martin Mazorra** reflect human social mores echoed in the aviary world. The seemingly innocuous proliferation of butterflies by **Sabra Booth** contains the disturbing subtext of their exploding male population in central Texas, while **April Vollmer's** painted creatures foreshadow her print work as they ominously fly out of the sky at us in their amoral quest to survive.

**Complete list of featured artists:**

Amina Bech	Julie A. McConnell
Ana Mendieta	Leonard Forslund
Antonia Contro	Martin Mazorra
April Volmer	Mary Frank
Chris Jordan	Michelle Wilson
Cosme Herrera	Robin Holder
Desirée Alvarez	Sabra Booth
Donna Maria de Creeft	Sandra Hartleb
Doug Baulos /Janice Kluge	Sara Garden Armstrong
Elisabeth Woerndl	Steven Daiber
Gerhard Mantz	Tammy Wofsey
Heidi Neilson	Tina Flau
Helga Eilts /Jule Rump	Travis Childers
Holly Sears	SP Weather Station
Josh Willis	Zane Berzina
Judy Hoffman	

**Central Booking** gallery was conceived by respected and accomplished artist/curator, **Maddy Rosenberg**. Its objective is to create a distinctive space where the virtually infinite forms and range of book art and prints can be seen in one place, while simultaneously providing both established and emerging practitioners of the genres with an outlet for their work.

“Book art,” explains Rosenberg, “can be anything from a pamphlet done inexpensively on a copy machine to a letterpress codex bound book integrating words and images to a sculptural piece that is an object itself.”

Central Booking’s layout combines the informality of a store with the selectivity and installation of a gallery; the physical layout is arranged into two distinct but integrated spaces: **Gallery I** is dedicated to book art and prints, while **Gallery II** is reserved for curated thematic exhibitions. These exhibitions will showcase an unusually broad variety of genres while always integrating the participation/work of at least one book artist.

**Additional Attractions**

Central Booking will host screenings, book launches, musical events, special lecture series, discussion panels and workshops on topics of interest to both a specialized audience and the general public.

Building on its own interactive orientation, Central Booking also has a major online presence that will continue to grow. The website is a virtual gallery with easy purchase of art work; a center of educational information, including a magazine highlighting the artists and their works, scholarly articles and related news items; a home for special web-based projects; subscription series for the purchase of certain works at limited-time special pricing; portfolios of prints of select artists available for purchase; and an events calendar.

**The Central Booking Team**

Maddy Rosenberg, Executive Director/Curator, has surrounded herself with the following experts in their respective fields: Jon Coffelt, Curator; Agnes Murray, Consultant; Emily Bicht, Administrator; Heidi Neilson, Designer/Webmaster; John Avelluto, Registrar; Omar Olivera, Technical Advisor; Jennifer Chisnell, Editor/Researcher; Ameer Pollack, Collections Coordinator.

**Central Booking**

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Hours: Thursday-Sunday, 12-6 PM

<http://www.CentralBookingNYC.com>