Artful Books
Although I work in clay, it was not the pottery from Rookwood that caught my imagination, but the fact that both Maria Longworth's and my studio flooded from time to time - I wondered how Rookwood creates such amazing work - even before moving up the hill. From there, research created impressions through words and images - only a small fraction of which ended up in this book. It is hard to say just what captured the imagination of so many people that against all odds, starting with the floods, the company has survived with much of its philosophy intact. Maybe the rook is really a phoenix.

Carol Freid

What We Imagine Seeing

A favorite tree in the Hauck Garden is the Magnolia. Finding magnolia leaves on the path during a visit, I imagined them dotted with soot, the kind of soot that once covered the early garden. I began to embroider the leaves with French Knots using the knots to represent the relationship that exists at times between nature and hostile elements (burned fossil fuels) within an environment, creating a strangely beautiful and yet potentially damaging state.

Carol Freid

The Story is the Surface

Cornelius Hauck's vision of nature and gardens is the core of Hauck Garden and two acres planted with 900 trees, scrubs, and bushes is the result. I became enchanted with the bark on the trees in the garden and the story the bark weaves of cold winters, wet springs, dry summers, infestations, and the impact of industrialization. This is a story without words, a journey over time and the legacy of a man who loved nature and imagined a forest within a city.

Carol Freid

Sooty Acres - The Past is Present

Photographed in monochrome, this visual narrative depicts an early Cincinnati garden impacted by soot from near by factories burning wood and fossil fuels. The graphite marked sheets layered over the photos suggests a ghost like landscape created by the soot and the embroidered felt covers suggest the impact of these oily particles becoming embedded on the surface of plants illustrating our impact on nature. A story reflective of a world we created and continue to live in today.

Carol Freid

Gloria's Inspiration

Inspired by a quote from Gloria Steinem, I recall my attendance at UC part-time while working. I feel that the experience helped me develop into the person I am today, someone with a sense of character strength and a desire to spread my 'flame' to others. UC fostered that flame and continues to foster strong, independent women whose inner 'flames' ignite others.
Bearcats have been symbols of UC at least since the early 20th century. Wooden plaques of the map of Ohio were used as pages, on which was described a brief history of the University of Cincinnati, and on which were displayed Bearcat and State of Ohio patches.

---

Wielders 2019

I composed Wielders in response to the 2019 observance of Walt Whitman 200. The photographs are excerpts from my New York/Golden Door series, printed with quotations from “Song of Myself”. I am new to Cincinnati history and was struck by my subject’s parallels with the Labor History and Urban Studies Archives in the University’s collections.

---

The Triumph of the Machine / D.H. Lawrence ; drawings by Althea Willoughby

This is a custom fine binding of D.H Lawrence’s “The Triumph of the Machine” done by local bookbinder Gabrielle Fox to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Carl Blegen Library, October 13, 2005. The leather binding “design is inspired by the lamps outside the front entrance of Blegen Library. Light represented as knowledge and growth is in both Lawrence’s poem and the architecture of the building”.

---

The Mill Creek/ Twenty-Eight Miles / 200 Years

The Mill Creek begins as a rural stream and travels twenty-eight miles until it meets the Ohio River becoming an industrial urban stream as it runs by factories and train yards. The Mill Creek / Twenty-Eight Miles / 200 Years is a long accordion book that revels in the flow of water, encapsulates history and makes a nod to the many species of fish once found in the Mill Creek including the recent emergence of Small and Large Mouth Bass in its waters.

---

The Unknowns

This is my meditation on the looming possibility of the reversal of Roe v. Wade. I have overlaid manipulated family photographs with digitized Hamilton County Morgue Records of infants and fetuses identified only as “Unknown”. The records can be found on the UC Libraries website.

---

Reach for the Stars 2019

This book was made to encourage college students in their pursuit of a degree. Classes are tough and classes are fun. Make the most of the whole experience is what academic life is all about.
Jessica Ebert  2019  

**Printing History: Impressions of Blegen Library**

Several years ago I heard the head of the Archives & Rare Books Library, Kevin Grace, speak about the interesting and often unnoticed details of Blegen Library, and since that day I have been fascinated by it. Of special interest to me are the printer reliefs and the printer’s marks found on the front of the building and even inside. This accordion book features linoleum block prints of the front of Blegen library, replicas of exterior reliefs featuring honored printers in history (i.e. William Caxton, Benjamin Franklin & William Morris), and the Aldine Press printer’s mark, which can be found in brass near the main staircase. On the reverse of the book there is a blue-green paste paper layer which is meant to mimic the bronze accents on the exterior windows and descriptions of the subject that each linocut represents. (See copies of prints above)

Carolyn Stewart  2019  

**Wicket Dams**

My search of the Rare Books Department at University of Cincinnati began with the role of the locks and dams along the Ohio River with an emphasis on those closest to Cincinnati, Ohio. In my research, I became fascinated with the original dams-the wicket dams. This book looks at the way wicket dams worked and how they impacted development along the river and their effects on commerce.

Beth Belknap Brann  2019  

**Queen’s Icons**

This hand-drawn book is a celebration of our city’s architectural gems of the late 19th century. It was inspired by the historic photo archives in UC’s Blegen Library.

Jan Thomas 2019  

**Shooting Star**

In 1952, Marian Spencer, with her sons, were not permitted at segregated Coney Island, Ohio, Amusement Park. This singular event became the catalyst for a life of public service as a civil rights advocate, community leader, and champion for an alternative education system stressing equal education for all children in Cincinnati.

Patty Bertsch 2019  

**Only in Cincinnati**

This accordion-fold with pockets was inspired by a similar structure I saw in Bound and Lettered, Volume 10, Number 2, by Carol Rawlings. The pages contain a collection of short paragraphs describing the unique history, people, places, festivals, and food I associate with Cincinnati.

Smruti Deoghare  2019  

**200 Years of Red, Black (and White)**

Red, Black, and White (the background space in the UC logo) - the University of Cincinnati colors are more than just college colors. This bold palette of tricolor represents unity in diversity. Over the last 200 years, the University has provided education to people from all walks of life and colors - red, black, white, and all shades in between. I feel the Tangeman University Center is the ideal architectural symbol of inclusivity on campus. With its central clock tower based on Philadelphia’s Independence Hall in shades of White, the Red brick masonry clad student union from 1935, and the charcoal gray almost Black zinc paneling from 2005 enveloping, almost hugging and protecting these old structures, the TUC is the ideal metaphor of preserving the old while embracing everything modern. Indeed, Next Lives Here! The upcycled artwork is my interpretation of this significant structure located in the heart of the campus.
The Cincinnati Book Arts Society (CBAS) began in 1998 and is a non-profit organization comprised of professional and amateur book artists, paper artists, and creators.

Our membership includes bookbinders, printmakers, paper marblers, book artists, archivists, conservation professionals, and book enthusiasts interested in learning more about books and how they are created.

CBAS members collaborate with local venues throughout the city to create inspired exhibits. Members also teach a variety of classes and host workshops featuring professional bookbinders at our studio at Essex Studios.

We also do community outreach classes with other organizations like the Girls Scouts and the Cincinnati Public Library.

Interested in learning more about CBAS?

Facebook: Cincinnati Book Arts Society
Instagram: @cincinnatibookarts
Website: cincinnatibookarts.org