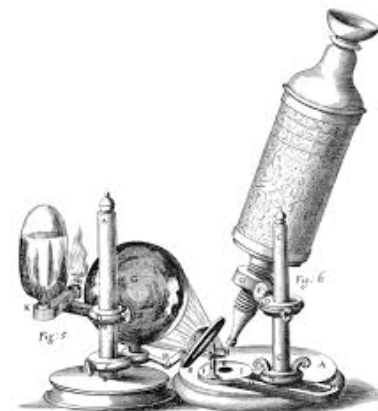


Invitational Exhibition Call for Entry

University of Iowa Center for the Book

Micrographia: Book Art Responses to Early Modern Scientific Books

The University of Iowa Center for the Book (UICB) invites artists interested in participating in an exhibit in conjunction with the symposium *Scientific Books and their Makers*, October 16–17, 2015, at the University of Iowa.



In his preface to *Micrographia* (1665), one of the first visual studies of the microscopic world, the experimental philosopher Robert Hooke argued that knowledge of nature was rooted both in human vision, especially as augmented by tools such as the recently invented microscope, and in human craft. Hooke suggested that without such instruments, humans were ill equipped to apprehend the true nature of reality, hidden just beyond the edge of sight. The microscope challenged the primacy of human vision—augmenting it, but also threatening to override it. In early modern Europe, Hooke's was only one of the many newly revealed worlds that challenged established beliefs about the natural order and humanity's place in it. This symposium and exhibit invite us to consider the vehicle through which these challenges were mounted—the book.

The curators invite you to create an imaginative response 'just beyond the edge of sight' inspired by these enduring philosophical and scientific questions. Artists will respond to a selected scientific book held in the John Martin Rare Book Room or Special Collections at the University of Iowa Libraries. We seek a creative work inspired by the subject matter, design, author, illustrator, imagery, condition, and/or structure of the selected book. Pieces may take the form of a print or a broadside, works in handmade paper, the lettering arts, an artist book or book object.

Examples of some early modern scientific books including those by Robert Boyle, Andreas Vesalius, and Leonhart Fuchs can be seen by searching by author at <http://www.rarebookroom.org>

The inspiration for this exhibition comes from the 1995 exhibition "Science and The Book" curated by Carol Barton and Diane Shaw. <http://www.sil.si.edu/Exhibitions/Science-and-the-Artists-Book/>

THE NUTS AND BOLTS

Early modern scientific printed books will be selected from among those held in the John Martin Rare Book Room and UI Libraries Special Collections and assigned to each artist at random. If you are not in Iowa and not planning a visit soon, let us know and we will work to assign you a book that you may either examine virtually in a digitized version, or that you may visit in person at a library nearer to your location.

Invited artists are symposium participants, UICB students and alumni, current and former faculty, and visiting artists and workshop instructors.

DEADLINES:

July 1—Last date to notify the UICB of your interest in entering. The exhibit is limited to twenty entrants who will be selected at random from the responses received. All entrants will be notified whether or not they have been selected.

July 7—The UICB will provide the twenty participants the title and author of their assigned book.

October 7—Deadline for receipt of shipped or hand-delivered work to the UICB office: 5 PM.

Shipping: Artists are responsible for shipping and insurance costs for delivery to the UICB. The UICB will pay return shipping and \$100 insurance coverage. Works cannot be insured while on display at North Hall and the UICB is not liable for loss or damage to work while in the UICB's possession. We will, however, take utmost care with artworks. Shipping instructions and return ship date will be provided upon acceptance into the show. If you wish to insure your work for more than \$100 for return, please contact us and we can make arrangements with you regarding payment.

Size Limitations & Display: Work will be exhibited in display cases at the UICB's Merker Gallery in North Hall and in the Special Collections Exhibit Space in the Main Library. Maximum size for three-dimensional work is 20"W×20"H×14"D. Maximum size for flat work is 20"W×24"H. Please consider that space for displaying large pieces is limited (think small!). All work should be ready to hang as you wish it to be displayed (i.e. framed, matted, on magnets that you've included, etc). We do have book supports of all shapes and sizes on hand. If you have specific questions on size or display concerns, please contact us at UICB-events@uiowa.edu

Sales: We cannot sell work out of our galleries, but we will give potential buyers any contact and sales information you provide to us. We are planning to produce an online catalog in which sales information, artist websites, and contact information may be included.

Upon receipt, works which cannot fit in the exhibit space or do not adhere to the theme or spirit of the call for entry may be excluded from the exhibition.

Questions? UICB-events@uiowa.edu