



The Book as Art 3.0: No Jacket Required

July 24 through Sept. 18 • An event of the 2015 AJC Decatur Book Festival

Presented by the Decatur Arts Alliance and The Art Institute of Atlanta-Decatur

The third edition of the juried exhibition, *The Book As Art*, returns to downtown Decatur July 24 through Sept. 18. The exhibition, an innovative visual component of the AJC Decatur Book Festival, begins with a gala opening on Thursday, September 3, 2015, sponsored by the Decatur Arts Alliance (DAA), in conjunction with the gallery at The Art Institute of Atlanta-Decatur.

V. 3.0 of *The Book as Art* again will emphasize the art form that can be a delight to the eye, a pleasure to the hand, and made tangible in forms that introduce us to new interpretations of an ancient concept as well as questions and ideas on 21st-century form and format. This is an exhibition that has been described by critics at ArtsAtTL.com and Burnaway.org as, “wildly eclectic” and finding “. . . new and often startling ways to reimagine not just the physical format of a book but also the ideological essence of the content.” Approaching “sheer aesthetic magic” and with examples that “. . .push boundaries and challenge expectations in ways that are both startling and exhilarating.”

The Art Institute of Atlanta-Decatur gallery, in downtown Decatur in the heart of the festival, is ideally accessible to the 85,000 festival attendees. The festival’s popularity testifies to the fact that books are cherished by multitudes in tangible and touchable form even as they morph into new forms and formats.

A Call for Artists with details on entry will be available March 2, 2015, at decaturationartsalliance.org/blog and The Art Institute of Atlanta-Decatur website artinstitutes.edu/atlanta-decatur. Cash awards are offered. Entries will be accepted online at callforentry.org **April 15 through May 29, 2015.**

Decatur Arts Alliance, P.O. Box 401, Decatur, GA 30031
The Decatur Arts Alliance is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization that supports the arts and arts education
in Decatur, Georgia
www.decaturationartsalliance.org



CREATIVITY *for* LIFE

Jurors are Margot Ecke, Athens, Ga.; Arlyn Ende, Sewanee, Tenn.; and Jeff Rathermel, Minneapolis, Minn.. Bios of the jurors are attached.

For information, please contact admin@decaturationarts.org or call 404.371.9583.

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The Jurors:

Margot Ecke is the owner of Smokey Road Press, a letterpress and binding studio in Athens, Georgia. She received her MFA from the Rhode Island School of Design and her BFA from Cornell University. She received a professional printing certificate from the Tamarind Institute at the University of New Mexico and completed her training by earning her diploma in bookbinding at the North Bennett Street School in Boston. Ecke was the Victor Hammer Fellow in the Book Arts at Wells College in Aurora, New York from 2004-2006, where she interned at the press and letterfoundry of Michael and Winifred Bixler. She has taught workshops at the Penland School of Crafts, the Atlanta Printmakers Studio, the North Bennett Street School and the Ink Shop. She was an assistant professor of book arts and printmaking at the University of Georgia from 2006–2009. Her work is exhibited both nationally and internationally.

Arlyn Ende has for five decades curated exhibitions, created fiber artworks, and designed and edited books of her own and for other artists in New York, New Orleans, and in Sewanee, Tennessee, where she currently maintains a studio. Her commissioned textiles are found in public and private permanent collections across the United States, and her fiber collages are exhibited internationally. In 2006, during Ende's tenure as director of the University of the South Art Gallery, she organized and co-curated with Wellesley College's Ruth R. Rogers the *Beyond Words* exhibition and colloquium in Sewanee. This

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ground-breaking juried exhibition of artists' books by American, Canadian, British and Russian artists introduced the scope and vitality of the genre to enthusiastic audiences region-wide. Purchase awards from *Beyond Words* established a growing collection of contemporary handmade artists' books in the Jessie Ball DuPont Library and Archives at the University of the South.

Jeff Rathermel received an MFA in printmaking, hand papermaking, and book arts from the University of Minnesota in 2000, and a BFA in printmaking with a minor in art history from the University of Minnesota in 1997. His work has been shown in numerous exhibitions across the country, including *Metaphor Taking Shape: Poetry, Art and the Book* at Yale University; *Jeff Rathermel: Recent and Revisited* at Carleton College; *Road Trip: A Minnesota/Oregon Book Arts Exchange* at Lane College in Eugene, Oregon; and *Action/Interaction: Book/Arts* at Columbia College Center for Book and Paper Arts in Chicago. His work is included in many public collections, including Yale University, University of Chicago, University of Iowa, Minnesota Historical Society, Minnesota Museum of American Art, and Walker Art Center. He has served as affiliate and adjunct faculty at the College of Visual Arts, the University of Minnesota Department of Art, Carleton College Department of Art, and the Minneapolis College of Art and Design. A recognized artist and expert on book arts, Rathermel also serves as Executive Director of the Minnesota Center for Book Arts.

The Organizers:

Decatur Arts Alliance (DAA) is a nonprofit partnership of artists, business owners, residents and government dedicated to supporting and enhancing the arts in the City of Decatur. Founded in 1989, the Alliance sponsors the annual Decatur Arts Festival, is a founding sponsor of the AJC Decatur Book Festival, and in 2015 continues the success of *The Book as Art* as an event of the book festival. The DAA provides a collaborative environment to coordinate the interests of artists, gallery owners, theater groups, dance groups and performance venues within the city; and helps make Decatur home to a strong arts community. The Decatur Arts Alliance is supported by membership, along with proceeds from the Decatur Arts Festival and the Decatur Wine Festival.

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Contact the Decatur Arts Alliance, at 404-371-9583; admin@decaturationartsalliance.org; or visit decaturationartsalliance.org.

The Art Institute of Atlanta-Decatur, a branch campus of The Art Institute of Atlanta, is one of The Art Institutes, a system of more than 50 schools throughout North America. Programs, credential levels, technology, and scheduling options are subject to change. Several institutions included in The Art Institutes system are campuses of South University or Argosy University. The Art Institute of Atlanta-Decatur is located at One West Court Square, Suite 100, Decatur, GA 30030. For information, visit artinstitutes.edu/atlanta-decaturation, call 866.856.6203 or email aiadadm@aii.edu.

The Place:

The City of Decatur, Georgia, is located just six miles east of downtown Atlanta and is easily accessible from all over the Atlanta Metro area—MARTA's Decatur rail station is directly beneath the square. With more than 200 shops and restaurants within walking distance, Decatur is a popular shopping, dining, entertainment, and arts destination. Visit www.Decaturga.com to learn more.

The AJC Decatur Book Festival is the largest independent book festival in the country and one of the fourth largest overall. In 2014, the AJC-DBF drew more than 600 world-class authors and 85,000 festival-goers to the historic downtown Decatur square to enjoy book signings, author readings, panel discussions, an interactive children's area, live music, parades, cooking demonstrations, poetry slams, writing workshops, and more.

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