



Minnesota Center for Book Arts
At Open Book
1011 Washington Ave S Ste 100
Minneapolis, MN 55415
Telephone: 612.215.2520
Facsimile: 612.215.2545
www.mnbookarts.org
mcba@mnbookarts.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: November 1, 2008
Contact: Curt Lund
Phone: 612.215.2527
Email: clund@mnbookarts.org

**Poetry of Laotian-American writer Bryan Thao Worra featured in
Minnesota Center for Book Arts' twentieth annual Winter Book;
Publication party to be held Saturday, December 13 at MCBA's studios**

Minnesota Center for Book Arts is proud to announce the publication of *Winter Ink*, MCBA's twentieth annual Winter Book. *Winter Ink* is a contemporary take on traditional Asian book arts of woodblock printing, binding, papermaking, Sumi-e ink drawing and calligraphy, featuring the work of Laotian-American writer and poet Bryan Thao Worra, with contributions by numerous local artists.

One of the most widely published Laotian writers, Thao Worra's work frequently explores a wide range of social and cultural themes such as the transient nature of identity and home. His style is frequently experimental and draws from a variety of modern and contemporary influences. His work has appeared in many anthologies and journals including *Bamboo Among the Oaks*, Paj Ntaub Voice, Whistling Shade, Urban Pioneer, Unarmed, the Asian Pacific Journal and the Journal of the Asian American Renaissance, among many others. Full-length collections include *The Tuk-Tuk Diaries: My Dinner With Clusterbombs* (2003) and *On The Other Side Of The Eye* (2007). He was a 2002 Playwrights' Center Many Voices Fellow and is an active member of the SatJaDham Lao Literary Project, working actively to promote the work of Laotian and Hmong artists and writers.

The annual Winter Book publication is the embodiment of MCBA's artistic vision — to preserve and promote both the traditional crafts of bookmaking (hand papermaking, letterpress printing, printmaking and hand bookbinding) as well as the contemporary exploration of the book as art. Since 1988, MCBA's annual Winter Book has engaged artists, designers, papermakers, printers, bookbinders and community volunteers in producing a handmade, limited edition artist's book featuring poetry or prose by a Minnesota author.

The artistry and hand craftsmanship of each Winter Book makes it an avidly collected series, included in museum and rare book library collections across the country and around the world. *Winter Ink* is available in three editions, ranging from the \$30 Chapbook (limited to 150 copies) to the \$475 Deluxe Edition (limited to 26 copies). Discounts are available to MCBA members, or by ordering copies prior to the December 13 publication release.

The public is invited to join the author, the artistic and production team, and MCBA staff and board members at the free *Winter Ink* publication party **Saturday, December 13; 6-9pm**. A reading by the author begins at **7:30pm**.

WHERE: Minnesota Center for Book Arts
in the Open Book building
1011 Washington Avenue South, First Floor
Minneapolis, MN 55415
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As the largest and most comprehensive center of its kind in the nation, Minnesota Center for Book Arts celebrates the book as a vibrant contemporary art form that takes many shapes. MCBA provides workshops in the book arts for adults, teens, youth, families and teachers. Our artist programs include residencies, fellowships, an artists' cooperative, exhibitions, lectures, and studio space and equipment rental. The Shop at MCBA features work by over 140 consignment artists along with bookmaking supplies and gift items. MCBA is located in the Open Book building in downtown Minneapolis, along with The Loft Literary Center, Rosalux Gallery and Milkweed Editions.

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