



Minnesota Center for Book Arts
At Open Book
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High-resolution images available upon request.

**ARTISTS GET A HEAD START ON GLBT PRIDE MONTH
AT MINNESOTA CENTER FOR BOOK ARTS**

WHAT: In conjunction with gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) Pride celebrations taking place across the nation in June, Minnesota Center for Book Arts (MCBA) is proud to present **HERE**, an exhibition of artists' books and works on paper created by GLBT artists from across Minnesota. Work will be displayed in the lobby of the Open Book building in downtown Minneapolis from May 10 through June 29, 2008. A reception celebrating the exhibition will be held June 27, 2008.

The title, **HERE**, is a play on a traditional chant from GLBT protests of the early 1990s: "We're here, we're queer, get used to it." The works on display — which range from artists' books, zines and letterpress-printed broadsides to drawings, paintings and mixed media — remind viewers that even if, perhaps, more people have "gotten used to it," issues facing the GLBT community in the 1990s still have impact today. Diana Eicher's letterpress and screenprinted *Madonna of the Lesbian Wedding Cake* and Holly Magner's broadside *Domestic Partnership is a Colored Drinking Fountain* both address domestic partnership and same-sex marriage but in very different ways, the former using only image and the latter using only text. Brian Ness's zine *Kitten Punch* (distributed free for the duration of the exhibition) discusses issues of gender expression, as well as discrimination within the GLBT community itself, in a whimsical cartoon format. Other works address universal themes of love and loss.

This exhibition is presented in partnership with GLBT Pride Twin Cities and the Twin Cities Pridefest, the official GLBT Pride celebration of Minneapolis-St. Paul, taking place Saturday and Sunday, June 28-29, at Loring Park in Minneapolis. For more information, visit www.tcpride.org.

WHEN: **HERE** will be on display from **May 10 through June 29, 2008;**
MCBA will host a closing reception **Friday, June 27, 6:00–8:30 pm**, free and open to the public.

WHERE: Open Book lobby gallery
1011 Washington Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55415

HOURS: Mondays – Saturdays: 10 am to 5 pm
Tuesdays open late: 10 am to 9 pm
Sundays: 12 noon to 4 pm

Minnesota Center for Book Arts background

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. From the traditional crafts of papermaking, letterpress printing and hand bookbinding to experimental artmaking and self-publishing techniques, MCBA supports the limitless creative evolution of book arts. 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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