

# MCBA

MINNESOTA  
CENTER FOR  
BOOK ARTS

## THE *FORE* EDGE



*Three Preview Party guests view print materials at New Editions 2023.*

On October 27, more than **150 new printed works** made their **MCBA** debut at **New Editions 2023**.

Fortunately, these artists' books are now in stock online!

The following New Editions artists' books were all **made by artists who identify as BIPOC**. These works all combine niche artistic skills—from letterpress gold foil stamping to Coptic binding to

ceramics—with **metaphorical, immersive, and perspective-shifting content**, resulting in book magic!

Click on the images below to view the work on [shopmnbookarts.org](https://shopmnbookarts.org). We welcome your inquiries! For questions, to place a hold on an item, or to request multiple copies of editioned work, don't hesitate to email [theshop@mnbookarts.org](mailto:theshop@mnbookarts.org).

[View All Artists' Books](#)

# FEATURED ARTISTS' BOOKS

*Sophie Wang*

## Do You Speak Second Gen?



**What *is* the second generation a generation of?** One of the things I thought a lot about as I originally made this zine is that there is **no single or universal answer to that question**. This zine contains (12 of) my experiences with my "home" language that in their specificity might be relatable, but



ultimately are just single facets of the infinitely complex and multitudinal experience of growing up as the child of immigrants. So printing this zine on **transparencies overlaid on one another**, which together read, "The second generation is a generation of **[something completely indecipherable/incomprehensible]**" felt like a truer, more valid way to share my thoughts about my experience than on opaque paper pages that stand alone as definitive statements. —Sophie Wang

---

*Alexa Gross*

**Warmth**



*Hand imprint on top of box*

My artwork stems from my mother and grandmother's **strength, survival, and sacrifice during the Chinese Communist Revolution**, their stories, and our relationships with one another. How can I, as an artist and a neuroscientist, give body to memories that are not mine? My work addresses these concepts through the representation of my family history using the unraveling and recycling of **the glove as a metaphor for memory**. I explore matrilineal identity and intergenerational memory using experimental print-based processes. Through my experiments, I adapt printmaking and book arts to create **a new language with which to give life to generational histories**. —Alexa Gross



# Distant Flash

(set of three)



Focusing on the **overlapping realm of photography and travel**, *Distant Flash* explores how the photographic practice can intervene and transform our embodied experience, not replace it, with our own initiative at play. The artwork takes its form in a **three-volume photobook set**. The photographs are deliberately curated and “installed” within the printed mediums, constructing immersive ways of viewing similar to an exhibition in a physical space. Each volume activates one of the **three aspects of experience (Time, Space, and Sociality)** that are altered in the mediation of the photo-taking act. —Doris Liu



*Hannah Moog*

## First Light Flickers



In my work I create **a unified folktale for myself**—one that touches on my lineage, childhood, and relationships. I make humorous and exaggerated interpretations of my relationships and feelings toward my loved ones, often touching on **themes of queer yearning, connection, and small moments of beauty**.

I work in the interactive mediums of books because I find these processes to be deeply satisfying in that someone has to physically touch, unfold, and uncover the object to understand the work. I believe that this



interaction creates life in these inanimate objects. In all the mediums my work takes, I aim to create an **experience of connection and magic with my viewer** that conveys the love and wonder that my characters experience in their world. —Hannah Moog

---

*Kena Kitchengs*

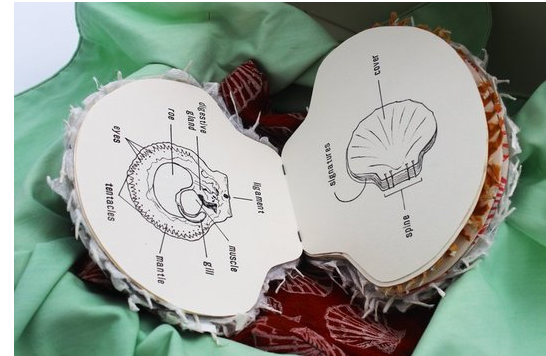
## **The Scallop's Spine, A Book with Eyes**



*The covers are ceramic, made using a real scallop's shell as a mold. Techniques include stamps, collage, watercolor and pop-up. Coptic binding.*

*The Scallop's Spine, a Book With Eyes* is a work that **explores a scallop's bookishness**. Bivalves may appear to us, the book-obsessed, as sea books of sorts. They consist on two 'covers', that is, **symmetric shells that are joined on one**





# The Star Gazer



Based on the Soochow Astronomical Chart of 1193, this planisphere depicts the **Chinese night sky as seen from the northern**





**hemisphere.** The text is based on translations of selected **asterisms (small constellations)** **connected by fragments of original verse,** designed and written so that it is possible to **make lyrical connections in whichever direction the sky is read.** Because depictions within star lore often center figures of male conquest, the Chinese sky is likewise organized around the Great Emperor of Heaven who sits near the northern celestial pole. By marking the sky's axis with the familiar marker 'You are here' in his absence,

this poem is designed to center the reader instead.

To view the stars, turn the disc to **align the desired date with the hour of night.** Face south and hold the planisphere overhead with the corner marked North facing north. **The star map will reveal a celestial poem** that awaits you among the asterisms. Let the eyes wander and read aloud to someone dear. —Monica Ong

*Myungah Hyon*

## **This Moment**



The concept of ‘connecting’ has always been a fascinating topic I have explored extensively throughout my work. Without realizing it, every day, we form connections with others—whether knowingly or unknowingly, these connections have a significant impact on our lives. **Connections influence our thoughts, emotions, and experiences.** The idea of



‘connecting’ is both exciting and challenging, and it drives me to seek out new sources of inspiration and push the boundaries of my art-making.

My latest project, *This Moment*, aims to create a work of art that **profoundly engages viewers and encourages them to be more mindful of their thoughts and emotions.** Through a multi-layered interactive experience, I hope to offer an immersive and captivating experience that inspires people to connect more deeply with themselves and the world around them. As what they write or draw may visibly slip away, it may be inscribed in their minds. —Myungah Hyon

---

Minnesota Center for Book Arts is a community-supported, (501c3) non-profit organization that ignites **creativity and community through the book arts.** Your support keeps our pulse going and enables our creative community to thrive. Join our family of supporters by [becoming a member](#) or [making a donation](#) today!

Learn more: [www.mnbookarts.org](http://www.mnbookarts.org) | (612) 215-2520



MCBA's educational and artistic programming is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support grant and a Creative Support for Organizations grant, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund. Additional support provided by other private funders, MCBA members, and individuals like you.



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

1011 Washington Ave. S., First Floor  
Minneapolis, MN | 55415 US

This email was sent to .

*To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.*

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.