

Text and Reference Books

- 1st Prize:** *Exploring Vancouver: The Essential Architectural Guide*, text by Harold Kalman, Ron Phillips, and Robin Ward; photographs and book design by Robin Ward; additional photography by Ron Phillips. Vancouver: UBC Press. ISBN 0-7748-0410-6. [Designers: George Vaitkunas and Robin Ward; Printer: Friesen Printers]
- 2nd Prize:** *Financial Accounting: An Introduction to Concepts, Methods, and Uses* [by] Brian G. Gaber [et al.]. Toronto: Dryden, a division of Holt, Rinehart and Winston of Canada. ISBN 0-03-922934-3. [Designer: Dave Peters; Printer: John Deyell Co.]
- 3rd Prize:** *Les oiseaux aquatiques du Quebec, de l'Ontario et des Maritimes* [par] Marc Surprenant. Guides nature Quintin. Waterloo, Quebec: Editions Michel Quintin. ISBN 2-920438-82-4. [Designer: Le groupe Flexidee; Printer: Imprimerie Trigaphic]
- Hon. Men.:** *Proceed with Care: Final Report of the Royal Commission on New Reproductive Technologies*. Ottawa: Canada Communications Group - Publishing. ISBN 0-660-15359-9 (2 vols.). [Designer: Quorum Graphics; Printer: Canada Communications Group Printing Services]

There is much more "design" explicitly noticeable in books in this category than in general fiction, non-fiction, and poetry. A text/reference book is made up of a diversity of elements and often has to struggle to keep its reader's interest which is not normally to read it consecutively. Lack of care is tempting since these books typically sell themselves to a large or small, but motivated, target audience. The Vancouver architectural guide is not a coffee-table book but an expanded version of a successful handbook/field guide, of somewhat smaller page size than those now popular for several cities. The typical page contains three photographs reproduced about the size of a slide accompanied by a caption/description of about ten lines set in Gill Sans. The detail and clarity of the photographs, (even the angles and lighting from which they were taken), are a credit to both the photographer's and the printer's art; the visual separation of all these elements in an exceedingly full but never crowded book belies the most careful design allowing excellent value for its price. The accounting textbook shares the same qualities in very different subject matter. Table layout, discreet but effective use of colour, and the use of margins in which to print definitions all show attention to the problems of making a textbook of over a thousand pages more useful and less dull and/or intimidating. The guide to eastern Canadian water birds shares many of the excellent features of the books just described. Most of its illustrations are photographic (half- or full-page in colour); the problems of their selection and reproduction were doubtless significant: birds don't stand as still as buildings do!

The text is clearly separated into sections for quick reference using colour and header-icons (shades of Windows and Macs). Through its Canada Communications Group, the federal government is demonstrating awareness of a need to present its important publications in a more attractive way than was typical of the government document of yore. A decade ago, a two-volume Royal Commission report would still have been designed almost to repel. In the way this one highlights statistics, quotations, and recommendations, and treats its captions, bibliographies, etc., it goes a long step toward meeting the quality standards of attractive commercial work.

Limited Editions

1st Prize: *Anatomy* [by] Michael Torosian. Toronto: Lumiere Press. ISBN 0-921542-07-0.
[Designer, printer, and binder: Michael Torosian]

2nd Prize: *The Articulation of Time, a Commonplace Book*, selected by William Rueter.
Toronto: Aliquando Press. [Designer, printer, and binder: William Rueter]

These two very different books are of almost identical size and share a traditional cover treatment of marbled paper (Rueter's, in three different-sized layers), one speckled with silver, the other with gold. Torosian's continues to produce limited editions containing his own creative work; in this, tipped-on duotone reproductions of his photographs are accompanied by some twenty pages of text set and spaced just as its Optima type demands. The colouration of the gelatin-silver frontispiece, an original photograph, is carried through the endpapers, title page, and slipcase. Bill Rueter, longtime designer for the University of Toronto Press, celebrates thirty years of his private Aliquando Press with an anthology of short poetic and prose texts each set in a different but appropriate style, on different paper, using different typefaces and colours: a sampler of the techniques of traditional printing.

Juvenile Books

1st Prize: *Brewster Rooster*, written by Berny Lucas; illustrated by Russ Willms. Toronto: Kids Can Press. ISBN 1-55074-109-8. [Designer: Russ Willms; Printer: Everbest Printing Co., Hong Kong]

2nd Prize: *Last Leaf First Snowflake to Fall* [by] Leo Yerxa. Toronto: A Groundwood Book, Douglas & McIntyre. ISBN 0-88899-183-5. [Designer: Leo Yerxa; Printer: Everbest Printing Co., Hong Kong]