

Design Citations for Canadian Publications of 1997

For this, the Society's sixteenth annual presentation of design awards, the undersigned panel of three judges spent April 25, 1998 examining a record 347 books published in Canada during 1997, each entered into competition by its Canadian publisher or designer. Producers (platemakers, printers, binders, etc.) are not necessarily Canadian: economic, and formerly also technical, reasons have always taken some production elsewhere. Not every eligible organization submits work to this competition, although each January, the Society makes every effort to locate and notify every Canadian publisher and graphic arts firm known to take book work. Still, those submitted are representative of the quality now expected in the Canadian book industries.

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In judging the merits of a group of well-designed books it is very difficult not to start reading them, because the point in designing books, after all, is first, to make them attractive and then to make them eminently readable. This year's collection of entries was no exception, but the judges managed, with great discipline, to get through the task in the allotted time.

The 1997 submissions fell into the following categories:

- 58 Prose fiction
- 111 Prose Non-fiction
- 34 Pictorial
- 60 Poetry
- 24 Text and Reference
- 50 Children's
- 10 Limited Editions