



*The
Alcuin
Society*

P.O. Box 3216
Vancouver, B.C.
V6B 3X8

May 1995

The Alcuin Society is pleased to announce the finalists for the 1995 Alcuin Citations.

Alcuin Citations are the only national awards for excellence in book design in Canada. Winners were selected from books designed and published in Canada in 1994.

The 1995 finalists were selected from over 300 books submitted by publishers across the country. The categories were: GENERAL TRADE BOOKS – Books for bookstore distribution – (a) Prose, (b) Poetry, (c) How-to books, cookbooks, craft and hobby books, (d) Adult picture and photography books, including, for example, museum catalogues; JUVENILE; LIMITED EDITIONS (numbered and/or signed); and TEXT AND REFERENCE BOOKS.

Judges considered, among other things, sound marriage of design and content, appropriate (not just appealing) cover design, page layout, typography and, where applicable, the balance of illustration and text.

The judges this year were:

Ronald Hagler

School of Library,
Archival and Information Studies,
U.B.C.
Vancouver, B.C.

Roberto Dosil

Praxis Design
Vancouver, B.C.

Dennis Nagy

Allsorts Design Group
Vancouver, B.C.



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ALCUIN SOCIETY CITATIONS PRIZE WINNERS

MAY 1995

GENERAL TRADE BOOKS:

Publisher

Designer

(a) Prose

1. Objects of Concern: Canadian Prisoners of War through the Twentieth Century
2. The File on Arthur Moss
3. Tie - Karen Kain: Movement Never Lies
Why Must a Black Writer Write About Sex?

UBC Press
Lester Publishing Limited
McClelland & Stewart
Coach House Press

George Vaitkunas
Gordon Robertson
Kong Njo
Christopher at Reactor

Honourable Mention:

- The Man Who Created Narnia:
The Story of C.S. Lewis
Without a Guide: Contemporary Women's
Travel Adventure

Lester Publishing
Macfarlane Walter & Ross

Matrix DTP
Concrete Design Communications

(b) Poetry

1. Rebatteur d'Etoiles
2. Collected Poems Vol. III
3. Song for a Far Quebec

Editions du Noroît
Sono Nis Press
Coach House Press

Claude Prud-Homme
Bev Leech
Gordon Robertson

Honourable Mention:

- Learning to Ride

Quarry Press

Paul Verrall

(c) How-to Books, Cookbooks, etc. (1, 2 and 3 - no award this year)

Honourable Mention:

- Detailing Fundamentals for Interior Design

Peguis Publishers

Pat Stanton

(d) Adult Picture and Photography Books

1. Decoys; a Celebration of Contemporary Wildfowl carving
2. Femmes Artistes Inuit
Inuit Women Artists
3. Cité de L'Archéologie Fictive; Oeuvres de Peter Eisenman, 1978-1988

Camden House
Canadian Museum of Civilization
Douglas & McIntyre
Centre Canadien d'Architecture
Canadian Centre for Architecture

Linda J. Menyes
George Vaitkunas
George Vaitkunas
Glenn Goluska

LIMITED EDITIONS

1. L'Empreinte du Bleu
2. The Witkin Gallery 25
3. (no award this year)

Editions du Noroît
Lumiere Press

Martin Dufour
Michael Torosian

TEXT AND REFERENCE

1. The Land Before Us; the Making of Ancient Alberta
2. Bibliography of McClelland & Stewart Imprints, 1909-1985: A Publisher's Legacy
3. (no award this year)

Red Deer College Press
c/o Raincoast Books
ECW Press

Kunz & Associates Ltd.
Paul Davies

Honourable Mention:

- Place Names of Alberta, Volume III:
Central Alberta
A Stone in My Shoe: Teaching Literacy
in Times of Change

University of Calgary Press
Peguis Publishers

Ouchi Design
Laura Ayers

JUVENILES

1. Josepha: a prairie boy's story
2. White Horses and Shooting Stars
3. Tie - La Diabliesse and the Baby
Hairs on Bears

Red Deer College Press
c/o Raincoast Books
Polestar Press
Annick Press
Annick Press

Kunz & Associates Ltd.
Julian Ross
Lizabeth Laroche
Normand Cousineau

Honourable Mention:

- An Inuit Boy Becomes a Hunter

Nimbus Publishing Limited

Kathy Kaulbach

April 21, 1996

To RLH

From RH

Richard: The following is not complete. I need quantities from you and some prices from a bibl. database, and I keep forgetting to get my copy of *End Grain* and the disk/computer together! That is why you see so many "xx"s in the text. But it is substantially complete. I'll submit it on disk (and in hard copy) again when I know what word-processing format the editor or Don Atkins will accept (I also have to find a way to reproduce the hacek). I have slipped a marker into each book at a page or opening which might be considered for reproduction. Please read the last section (after the judges' names) for consideration for next year's awards. Book me (and a guest) for the dinner on June 3; I'll pay for the guest - and my annual membership fee at the same time.

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THE ALCUIN SOCIETY, VANCOUVER

DESIGN AWARDS, PUBLICATIONS OF 1995

For this, the Society's fourteenth annual presentation of design awards, the undersigned judges spent much of April 12 and 13, 1996 examining and discussing the visual qualities of [RLH: HOW MANY?? PLEASE PROVIDE A TOTAL IN EACH CATEGORY] books submitted by their Canadian publishers and/or designers and bearing an imprint date of 1995. Some publishers and designers continue to ignore the Society's requests for submissions to this competition; we can only recognize the best from among what we receive. The books listed and described below are evidence of the high standard of excellence Canadian publishers demand of, and receive from, Canadian designers. A high proportion of the producers (platemakers, printers, binders) are also Canadian but because of technical and/or economic reasons, some production has always been done elsewhere, as noted in the individual citations below.

This is not the first year that books considered by this panel to be excellent in their physical appropriateness and aesthetic appeal have also been considered by other judges to represent the best of Canadian writing. As it happens, however, the British Columbia Book Prizes were awarded the evening of the second day of Alcuin judging and it was notable that several of the books recognized here for their design were nominees or winners for their intellectual content as well. Even if they do not always go hand in hand, excellent content and excellent presentation deserve each other.

Submissions were judged in the following categories as most recently revised by the Society's Design Awards Committee in 1989. (Last year's judges' recommendation that the "how-to ..." subcategory of general trade books be eliminated will be effective beginning with next year's competition.)

General Trade Books: Prose (includes Fiction and Nonfiction)

General Trade Books: Adult Picture and Photography Books

General Trade Books: How-To-, Cook-, Craft- and Hobby Books

General Trade Books: Poetry

Text and Reference Books

Limited Editions (numbered and/or signed)

Juvenile Books other than Texts.

The person submitting is invited to check one of these categories on the entry form accompanying each book but either the Society's Committee or the judges may reassign it. Each book is judged as a whole on the suitability and harmony of all aspects of its materials and design in relation to the book's intellectual content and intended audience. First, second, and third prizes are available in each category, with ties permitted. A book cited for Honourable Mention exhibits some exceptionally noteworthy feature(s), for example a striking and appropriate cover, which brought it, in the eyes of the judges, above the mass even if as a whole it fails to sustain comparison with prize-winners in the category.

General Trade Books: Prose (includes Fiction and Nonfiction)

✓ **1st Prize:** *The Rain Ascends* [by] Joy Kogawa. Toronto: Knopf Canada. ISBN 0-394-28121-7 (217pp., hbk) \$28.95. [Designer: Concrete Design Communications, Inc.; Printer: R.R. Donnelley, U.S.A.]

✓ **2nd Prize:** *Our Tellings: Interior Salish Stories of the Nlha7kápmx People*, compiled and edited by Darwin Hanna and Mamie Henry. Vancouver: UBC Press. ISBN 0-7748-0525-0 (217pp., hbk) \$xx.xx. [Designer: George Vaitkunas; Printer: D.W. Friesen & Sons]

✓ **3rd Prize (tie):** *Exotica* [the screenplay by] Atom Egoyan. Toronto: Coach House Press. ISBN 0-88910-475-1 (158pp., pbk) \$18.95. [Cover designer: Pippa White; text designer: Greg Van Alstyne; Printer: Kromar Printing]

✓ **3rd Prize (tie):** *The Mystic Leeway* [by] Frances Gregg; edited by Ben Jones; with an account of Frances Gregg by Oliver Marlow Wilkinson. Women's Experience Series, vol.6. Ottawa: Carleton University Press. ISBN 0-88629-250-6 (194pp., pbk) \$xx.xx. [Designer: Carrie Coulton Graphic Design; Printer: Love Printing]

✓ **Hon. Men.:** *Edward Poitras: Canada XLVI Biennale di Venezia* [by] Gerald McMaster. Hull: Canadian Museum of Civilization/Musée canadien des civilisations. ISBN 0-660-50753-6 (163pp., pbk) \$xx.xx. [Designer: Timmings & Debay; Printer: HB Technolith]

✓ **Hon. Men.:** *Letter from Vienna: A Daughter Uncovers Her Family's Jewish Past* [by] Claudia Cornwall; foreword by Raul Hilberg. Vancouver; Toronto: Douglas & McIntyre. ISBN 1-55054-115-3 (242pp., hbk) \$26.95. [Designer: Linda Gustafson/Counterpunch; Printer: Best Gagné Book Manufacturers Inc.]

This is normally the largest category. This year's XXX items are not unusual in the problems they pose for judging. A great many, it can simply be said, are "nice" books: of generally good design and in general easily readable. What makes a few stand out from the others, particularly when so high a proportion of these books are unillustrated? Usually two things: (1) care with the many details of excellent typesetting (including size and visual "weight", line-length in relation to the page size, word- and line-spacing, and (2) consistency in the treatment of *all* the design features (not just the obvious ones) including cover, dustwrapper, endpapers, paper-stock weight and colour, preliminary pages, chapter openings, running heads, any ornamentation, and page-numbering, all in keeping with the spirit of the content. The book does not have to look spectacular to get the ultimate recognition. Indeed, it is the comforting feeling of sombre (given its topic) unity without offsetting blemish that makes this year's first-prize winner such a delight. The six prizes and mentions this year all go to different publishers, designers, and printers. The typography is the strongest feature of both the second-prize winner and *Exotica*, the latter a particularly rare achievement in the setting of a screenplay with its dialogue, description of the action, settings, scene changes, etc. *The Mystic Leeway* has a very sensible balance, in an oblong format, of text and illustrations, the latter sharing a margin with index references. *Edward Poitras* is a trilingual exhibition catalogue; for that reason it has more text than catalogues in the "picture-book" category. Its best feature is its embossed French-flap cover and sequence into a good text block; the trilingual picture captions are less successful. The decision to integrate illustrations with chapter openings is an excellent distinguishing feature of *Letter from Vienna*.

General Trade Books: Adult Picture and Photography Books

✓ **1st Prize:** *Rubens to Picasso: Four Centuries of Master Drawings: An Exhibition* curated by Victor Chan. Edmonton: Department of Art and Design, University of Alberta. ISBN 0-88864-281-4 (159pp., pbk) \$xx.xx. [Designer: Susan Colberg; Printer: Quality Color Press]

✓ **2nd Prize:** *Our Boots: An Inuit Women's Art* [by] Jill Oakes and Rick Riewe. Vancouver; Toronto: Douglas & McIntyre. ISBN 1-55054-195-1 (224pp., hbk) \$xx.xx. [Designer: George Vaitkunas; Printer: C&C Offset Printing Co., Hong Kong]

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✓ 3rd Prize: *Ron Thom: The Shaping of an Architect* [by] Douglas Shadbolt; with photographs by John Flanders. Vancouver; Toronto: Douglas & McIntyre. ISBN 1-55054-195-1 (224pp., hbk) \$xx.xx. [Designer: George Vaitkunas; Printer: D.W. Friesen & Sons]

10 Hon. Men.: *Glenn Gould; Some Portraits of the Artist as a Young Man*; story and photographs by Jock Carroll. Toronto: Stoddart. ISBN 0-7737-2904-6 (96pp., hbk) \$40.00. [Designer: Gillian Stead; Printer: The Book Art, Hong Kong]

85 Hon. Men.: *People Who Make a Difference; Des gens peu ordinaires* [edited by Irene Carroll & Jackie Kaiser. Toronto: Viking (Penguin Books Canada). ISBN 0-670-86475-7 (216pp., hbk) \$50.00. [Designer: Concrete Design Communications Inc.; Printer: Paramount Book Art Inc., China]

Treating illustrations is particularly difficult when their originals are of differing technical quality, their sizes and shapes differ, and varying amounts of text and caption must accompany and closely serve them. Exhibition catalogues have long set the standard but this year, only the first-prize winner is a catalogue. Although he had nothing to do with its production personally, this year's "new" judge (see below) absented himself from comment on this category until the other three judges unanimously (and very quickly) singled out the catalogue published by his academic department at the University of Alberta as an ideal fulfilment of the challenge. The two-colour printing permitted a beautiful, if simple, differentiation of headings and commentary. Although it is not technically an exhibition catalogue, the second prize-winner's sponsorship by Toronto's new Bata Shoe Museum must have allowed the publisher to deploy the resources needed for a lavishly beautiful production. The same designer (also acknowledged in the previous category) and publisher are responsible for a splendid biography for third prize. The honourable mention for the book about Glenn Gould is clearly for its thoughtfully juxtaposed and excellently reproduced photographs. Unifying the work of so many photographers is a challenge well met by the designer of *People Who Make a Difference*.

General Trade Books: How-To-, Cook-, Craft- and Hobby Books

✓ 1st Prize: *Umberto's Kitchen: The Flavours of Tuscany* [by] Umberto Menghi. Vancouver; Toronto: Douglas & McIntyre. ISBN 1-55054-422-5 (172pp., hbk) \$xx.xx. [Designer: DesignGeist; Printer: C&C Offset Printing Co., Hong Kong]

10 Hon. Men.: *Dave Hunter's Along the I-75*, 1996 Edition. Mississauga: Mile Oak Publishing Inc. ISBN 0-9696376-5-9 (186pp., wire-wound pbk) \$xx.xx. [Designer: Dave Hunter; Printer: Webcom Ltd.; (cover: Gerrie-Young Printing)]

Once again, only one book in this small category stood out - and once again, it is a well composed coffee-table-type cookbook: a picture book as much as a recipe book. Its Italian theme shines from every page and several thoughtful design features would make it stand out in other categories as well. The book accorded honourable mention describes itself as "a unique driving guide for the Interstate-75 between Detroit and the Florida border." It is only the inventive maps which distinguish it but these are remarkable. In the easy-to-open spiral binding of this guidebook, they seem ideal for consultation in a moving vehicle, even by the driver who can get much useful information in the quickest glance without risking an accident.

General Trade Books: Poetry

10 1st Prize: *Le corps pain, l'âme vin*; [poèmes par] Pierre Ouellet; [illustrations par] Christine Palmiéri. Montréal: Éditions du Noroît. ISBN 2-89018-319-X ([41 leaves, a few printed on two sides and 2 folded, interspersed with 16 leaves of illus. on different stock], pbk) \$xx.xx. [Designers: Christine Palmiéri, Pierre Ouellet, and Claude Prud-Homme; Printer: Imprimeries d'Éditions Marquis Ltée]

✓ 2nd Prize: *Kingsway* [by] Michael Turner. Vancouver: Arsenal Pulp Press. ISBN 1-55152-028-1 (64pp., pbk) \$xx.xx. [Designer: Dean Allen; Printer: Kromar Printing]

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Hon. Men.: *Tambours et morceaux de nuit* [par] Gabriel-Pierre Ouellette. Montréal: Éditions du Noroît. ISBN 2-89018-325-4 (66pp., pbk) \$xx.xx. [Designer: Claude Prud-Homme; Printer: Imprimeries d'Éditions Marquis Ltée]

Poetry in hardback has been a rarity for some time; this year not one was submitted, not even an anthology! But the first prize goes to a book which deserves full casing. In a way it is not comparable with the others because of its skilful and complex incorporation of art with poetry, both presented in a visually compelling way. The flow of the long old (and sometimes ugly) Vancouver-to-New-Westminster street is remarkably conveyed in the layout of the second prize winner. The "feel" of the classic slim book of a few poems comes through only in the book awarded honourable mention this year, which continues the tradition well. Poetry requires close copy editing with detailed attention to text, line breaks, etc. but it is clear that sensitivity to traditional typesetting is no longer a qualification of those editors. The product of the word processors on which most poetry must now be set for economic reasons goes straight to the printer without any refinement of spacing and the neglect shows badly in a very large proportion of the items in this category. They were immediately dismissed from further consideration.

Text and Reference Books

1st Prize: *Personal Tax Planning Guide 1996*, prepared by KPMG; co-editors, S. Brian Fisher, Paul B. Hickey., 5th edition. Scarborough: Carswell. ISBN 0-459-57448-5; ISSN 0838-6064 (312pp., pbk) \$xx.xx. [Designer: KPMG/Carswell; Printer: Webcom Ltd.]
 --[also submitted in the French-language edition]: *Guide de planification fiscale pour les particuliers, édition 1996*; traduction, Monique Lemoine. ISBN 0-459-57449-3; ISSN 0838-6072 (370pp., pbk) \$xx.xx.

2nd Prize: *Introduction to Literature*, 3rd edition [edited by] Gillian Thomas [et al.]. Toronto; Montreal: Harcourt Brace Canada. ISBN 0-7747-3260-1 (650pp., pbk) \$xx.xx. [Designer: The Brookview Group Ind.; Printer: Best Book Manufacturers, Inc.]

3rd Prize: *Flora of the Russian Arctic: A Critical Review of the Vascular Plants Occurring in the Arctic Region of the Former Soviet Union* [by] O.V. Rebristaya [et al.]; A.I. Tolmachev, Russian edition editor; J.G. Packer, English edition editor; G.C.D. Griffiths, translator. Volume I. Edmonton: University of Alberta Press. ISBN 0-88864-269-5 (330pp., hbk) \$xx.xx. [Designer: Alan Brownoff; Printer: Best Book manufacturers, Inc.]

Hon. Men.: *The Practitioner's Goods and Services Tax Annotated*, 5th edition; editor, David M. Sherman. Scarborough: Carswell. ISBN 0-459-57467-1; ISSN 1197-8031 ([xxxvii, 695 + 228 + 98pp., pbk) \$xx.xx. [Designer: Carswell; Printer: Quebecor Ltd.]

That two tax-planning books should show up in this list surprised the judges too! But these represent just the kind of complex text which needs a sense of design to make them usable even by accountants. The Carswell design staff has clearly taken up a challenge with the resources to reform the visual presentation of this type of material. First prize goes to the briefer publication so excellently designed for the lay public to remove at least a few of the horrors of the topic but the clear, if more sombre, presentation the thousand pages of GST data warrants honourable mention. Second prize goes to an anthology crammed with text but designed in a pleasantly open style with an admirable choice of type maps, reproduced from their Russian source, are less visually helpful.

Limited Editions

1st Prize: *End Grain: Contemporary Wood Engraving in North America; [to be completed from RH's copy]*. Mission, B.C.: Barbarian Press. ISBN 2-89018-313-0 (xx pp., hbk in lined slip case; xx copies) \$x00.00. [Designers: Jan and Crispin Elsted; Printer: Jan Elsted]

2nd Prize: *Poem about Nothing* [by] William of Poitiers. Kingston: Lock's Press. [no ISBN] (8 leaves accordion folded, sewn to a tryptich hbk cover; 80 copies) \$xxx.xx. [Designer and printer: Margaret Lock] 110

3rd Prize: *Wee Folk Drawn from Life* by Charles van Sandwyk. North Vancouver: Charles van Sandwyk. [no ISBN] (12 leaves of engravings + 14 guard-sheets, hbk; 40 copies) \$xx.xx. [Designer and printer: Charles van Sandwyk] 110

What a pleasure to see a book clearly, richly, and sharply printed with as much love for the process as the originating artists put into the content and without apparent regard for the labour the judges know to have been involved. The first-prize winner this year is a multi-year effort of printing over a hundred twenty different woodblocks of varying technique, artistic content, and presumably quality of wood, alignment, etc. Jan Elsted had to execute some xx,xxx separate acceptable impressions and appears to have done so with startlingly even results. How many pulls were rejected? Probably only she knows. The original text, the binding, and the slipcase all match the quality of what the book is there for: the woodcut reproductions. On each leaf of Margaret Lock's unusual assemblage of accordion-fold leaves with tryptich cover there is a six-line poem in roman with a six-line translation in italic, headed by a woodcut with a strongly mediaeval flavour in two, three, or four colours, one of the colours always an interesting grained background. Charles van Sandwyk's charming gnomes (elves?, leprechauns?), also the title page and two pages of text, are engravings printed in sepia. The colouration is carried over into the endpapers and cover of a delightful little booklet.

Juvenile Books

1st Prize: *Bone Button Borscht*; written by Aubrey Davis; illustrated by Dusan Petricic [accents needed]. Toronto: Kids Can Press. ISBN 1-55074-224-8 ([32]pp., hbk) \$xx.xx. [Designer: Dusan Petricic and Marie Bartholomew; Printer: Wing King Tong, Hong Kong] P27

2nd Prize: *Let's Play; Traditional Games of Childhood*; illustrated by Dusan Petricic [accents]; written by Camilla Gryski. Toronto: Kids Can Press. ISBN 1-55074-256-6 (47pp., hbk) \$xx.xx. [Designer: Dusan Petricic and Marie Bartholomew; Printer: Wing King Tong, Hong Kong] GU 1203

3rd Prize (tie): *Houses of Adobe: Native Dwellings, the Southwest* [by] Bonnie Shemie. Montreal: Tundra Books. ISBN 0-88776-330-8 (24pp., hbk) \$xx.xx [also available as pbk, ISBN 0-88776-353-7, \$x.xx]. [Designer: May Cutler; Printer: South China Printing Co. Ltd., Hong Kong] E78 27
--[also published (but not submitted) in the French-language edition]: *Maisons d'adobe* ISBN 0-88776-331-6(hbk).

3rd Prize (tie): *The Magic Ear*; story by Laura Langston; illustrations by Victor Bosson. Victoria: Orca Book Publishers. ISBN 1-55143-035-5 ([32]pp., hbk) \$14.95. [Designer: Victor Bosson; Printer: King's Time Ltd., Hong Kong] P28.1

Hon. Men.: *8 o'Cluck* [text by] Jill Creighton; [illustrations by] Pierre-Paul Pariseau. Richmond Hill: Scholastic Canada Ltd. ISBN 0-590-24439-6 (30pp., pbk) \$5.99. [Designer: Yüksel Hassan; Printer: D.W. Friesen] P27
--[also published (but not submitted) in the French-language edition]: *L'heure des poules* ISBN

thought carefully all the way. *Let's Play* is a book of games with a clearly visualized text with catching cartoons. Both third-prize winners totally catch the spirit of their locales, the arid south-west and Japan, in illustration, ornamentation, and even layout. The difficulty of judging may be reflected in the number of honourable mentions. *8 o'Cluck*, as the title might indicate, has to do with farm animals. Its collage of photograph-like animal heads and background juxtaposed with two-dimensionally drawn clothes and other details produces a most unusual lively quality. *Bears, Bears, Bears* is in a somewhat different class: it is a book of photographs and extensive prose, for older children - even perhaps adults. Placing so much information clearly in a three-column format in so inexpensive a book is a design challenge very well met here. Finally, *Poopini's* integration of illustration and other ornamental features and a well set text demands attention. This year, as often in the past, a majority of the children's books acknowledged here are printed abroad. Increasingly common deficiency in the proper setting of text type is noted in the commentary on poetry above. These are even more noticeable, and more significantly detrimental, in the setting of the text of children's books. Over and over again a judge remarked on inappropriate word- or line-spacing or justification, orphan or widow lines on a page, the hiding of text in the coloured background to an illustration, or a blatantly poor choice of type face. Children must to struggle to read text which simply do not "hang together". Text is becoming too often subordinate to illustration in the designer's concern. Many of the submissions got short shrift because of this failing.

Concluding Comments

[RH to add]

Judges

Peter Bartl (Professor, Department of Art and Design, University of Alberta) [have I spelled Bartl correctly? Is he a full Professor?]

Roberto Dosil (Praxis Design, Vancouver)

Ronald Hagler (Professor, School of Library, Archival and Information Studies, The University of British Columbia)

Dennis Nagy (Studio Allsorts, Vancouver).

This year, Professor Bartl joined the other three judges who have served on this panel for several years. Professor Hagler trusts that his compilation of hours of the comments of his fellow judges constitutes a balanced summary of their views as well as his own.

April 21, 1996

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Note for AY & RLH:

In last year's commentary, I wrote

In many recent years, one or another prize has gone unawarded in this category. Design jumbles, if at times pretty ones, have often characterized the output of the amateur in this type of publication. Furthermore, it appears harder each year to distinguish these from, for example, picture, children's, general trade, or even reference books. And the number of submissions dwindles: this year there were but eleven, by far the smallest category except for limited editions. The judges recommend to the Alcuin Society's Design Awards Committee that the category be discontinued since submissions can as well be judged in another category as appropriate.

Both Roberto and Dennis immediately recalled this, then I remembered something more dimly and now wish I had followed up immediately but perhaps it is better to make the change with forwarding to those submitting the books. Now I find that the following sentence, which none of the judges recalled this year, appears in last year's report;

The judges suggest that the Society's Design Awards Committee consider separating fiction and nonfiction categories in future. That the latter now almost always, while the former rarely, involve the use of illustrations provides significantly different design issues.