NEWS & NOTES

Richard Hopkins

I notice recently that some friends and supporters of the Society have been busy publishing new books. The first is one by local author Barbara Hodgson and private press proprietor Rollin Milroy. The following book is already out of print at the publisher but copies are available at some bookstores.

Good & Evil in the Garden. This new book was written by Barbara Hodgson, an author, book designer and photographer known for her innovative fiction and non-fiction which incorporates her own designs and imagery. This is Barbara's first limited edition book, and her first printed and bound entirely by hand.

Good & Evil in the Garden (4 X 6.5 inches, 50 pages) has been set by hand in 12-point Garamont, newly cast at the Pie Tree Press & Typefoundry. The text was printed with a Washington handpress on dampened, all-cotton paper. The engravings by wood engraver Shinsuke Minegishi were printed from original blocks on gampi paper. Signatures were sewn on vellum slips, with sewn headband, lined, and laced into a heavy handmade paper wrap, with a slipcase. All papers were specially made for the project by Reg Lissel. The edition of 45 press-numbered copies (including five hors commerce) is signed by both Barbara Hodgson and Shinsuke Minegishi.

Copies 1-10 of the book were bound by Terry Rutherford. She has designed a binding employing four vellum slips (two natural, two dyed green) laced through the limp vellum case. The title is hand-lettered on the spine by renowned calligrapher Martin Jackson. The frontis in these copies was handprinted on gampi, mounted on Rives BFK, and signed. The book is kept in a clamshell box covered in paste paper made specially by Rutherford. Copies 11-45 were bound by Rollin Milroy with slipcases made by Simone Mynen.

From Mother Tongue Press comes news of a new poetry chapbook entitled Their Breath is the Sky by Canadian author Peter Such. Peter is a writer of novels and other books, plays, poetry, T.V. dramas, documentary films, operas and magazine articles. His novels include the Canadian classics Fallout, Riverrun and Dolphin's Wake. He was an editor of Books in Canada and instituted the magazine's first novel award. He is a founding member of The Writer's Union of Canada, founding Vice President of the Canadian Magazine Publisher's Association, founding Director of the Writer's Development Trust and the ACTRA-Screenwriter's Guild of Canada. Peter teaches writing and theatre part time and lives in Victoria B.C. He is working on finishing three new novels: Ravines, Forevering and The Shrapnel Generation. This is his first chapbook of poetry.

The technical details on the book are too long to enumerate but can be accessed on Mother Tongue's website. Suffice it to say here that the chapbook is 36 pages long and when unfolded (accordion style) is 44 inches long and 11½ inches wide. When closed the book is 11¾ inches long and 5 inches wide. The book was designed, constructed, glued and hand-stitched by Mona Fertig. Letterpress printing and lino-cuts were designed and printed by Peter Haase. http://www.mothertonguepress.com.

The third book was written and printed by a new acquaintance to the Society, Andrea Taylor. The title is Childhood Summers by the Sea. It is a limited edition and contains 10 short poetic prose pieces and 10 linocuts about Andrea's childhood summers on Bowen Island. Childhood Summers by the Sea was published in August, 2003 in an edition of 125 regular copies and 10 deluxe copies (numbered I to X). The regular edition is bound with paste paper over boards and an exposed spine sewing. The deluxe edition is sewn over salmon skin tapes onto wooden boards and contains one of the writings in holograph. Each of the ten linocuts is printed in an edition of 185, that is 135 in the books and 50 available as broadside prints from Andrea's Cotton Socks Press. The writing, design, presswork, linocuts, paste paper and binding are all by Andrea. The type is handset in 16 point Centaur with 18 point Cochin Open for display. To contact Cotton Socks Press e-mail cottonsockspress@telus.net.



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