

# MCBA

MINNESOTA  
CENTER FOR  
BOOK ARTS

## THE FORE EDGE



*Katie Baldwin, Denise Bookwalter, Macy Chadwick, Sarah Bryant, Tricia Treacy*

Last month, MCBA had the privilege of hosting the **Shift-lab Collective**: Katie Baldwin, Denise Bookwalter, Sarah Bryant, Macy Chadwick, and Tricia Treacy. This collective of five women artists, working across the United States, has produced print and book-based projects together for more than a decade. **Shift-lab: Ten Years of Collaboration** is currently **on view in**

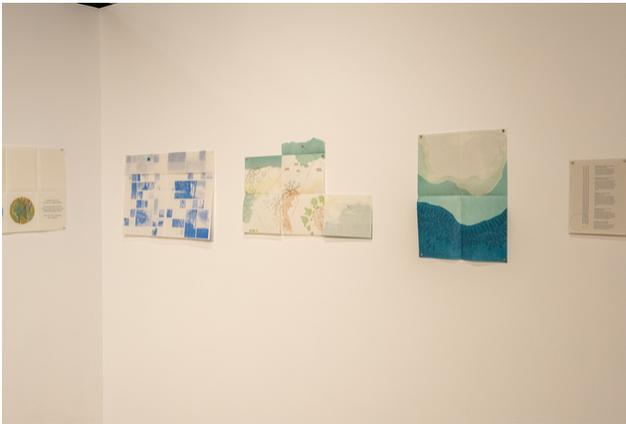
**our Main Gallery through June 1st.** We couldn't resist crafting a special edition of our Fore Edge newsletter to share some of their gallery pieces with you.

**Click on the large 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).

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# TRACE

**Trace** is an investigation of the modifications of five sites by the members of Shift-lab. Single sheet structures represent locations in Alabama, Georgia, New Mexico, North Carolina, and the United Kingdom. An accompanying map visually represents sound recordings made on-site. Denise Bookwalter and Christopher Hall translated and interpreted these recordings visually using Processing. The **Trace Newspaper**, designed by Tricia Treacy and Kellee Morgado and printed by the Newspaper Club in the UK, serves as a documentation of this creative process, telling the story behind the book's construction.



*Components of Trace, an Artist Book by the Shift-lab Collective*



*Trace Artist Book by Shift-lab Collective*



The pieces following are one-of-a-kind books that are responses to Trace. Shift-lab members exchanged printing matrices used to produce their Trace components and challenged each other to use them to make a one of a kind book.

*Katie Baldwin*

## **Fog with Valley**

A laser-cut woodblock received from Denise Bookwalter became the printed element in this sculptural book by Katie Baldwin about landscape and weather.



*Sarah Bryant*

## **A place, the ground**

A polymer plate from Macy Chadwick that traced lines of cracked mud on a New Mexico trail yielded a new series of maps in this piece by Sarah Bryant.



*Shift-lab Collective*

## **Multiple Discoveries**



**Multiple Discovery** occurs when innovations are made independently and simultaneously in different locations. Shift-lab uses Multiple Discovery as a metaphor for their own remote collaborative practice. Working with a common horizon line and color palette, each artist developed imagery for this artist book in separate studios. Printed sheets were then exchanged in batches of ten. Individually, they wrote and printed text gathered from a shared collection of source material that was collated and folded into a unique set of ten copies.



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*Shift-lab Collective*

## **Split Case**



*Split Case Artist Book*

**Split Case** was collaboratively printed by Denise Bookwalter, Sarah Bryant, and Macy Chadwick during a Shift-lab residency at Hamilton Wood Type and Printing Museum in Two Rivers, Wisconsin. It was produced using type and maple rounds available in the collection and colors found in the immediate surroundings. It acts as a response to the museum, its purpose, and the intersecting interests of three artists.

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## Shift-lab Collective

# REF

**REF** is an investigation into the erosion of the physical reference area of the library, and the fundamental shift in the way we ask and answer questions. Working together, members of the collective created fifteen responses to traditional reference texts using dates related to this transition as an organizational principle. Outcomes are housed together in a custom flip-top document box. As an organizing principle for the project, artists selected a set of dates related to the shift away from the use of physical reference texts toward our reliance on algorithmic relevance. References to these dates and events can be found in each component, alongside other themes related to mapping, information, and documentation.



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