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***RICHARD KEGLER: RE:BOUND OPENS WNY BOOK ARTS CENTER FALL EXHIBITION SERIES  
BOOK ARTS CELEBRATES ITS 15<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY HONORING OUR CO-FOUNDER***



Richard Kegler, *McScream* (1987) Woodcut, black ink with hand-colored red and yellow,  
Hosho Japanese paper, 9.5" x 12" paper size/6.25" x 8" image size

*Richard Kegler: Re:Bound*  
September 23-November 3, 2023  
WNY Book Arts Center

WNY Book Arts Center (aka "Book Arts") kicks off its 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary programming on Friday, September 22, 2023 with the opening of *Richard Kegler: Re:Bound*, a survey of Kegler's 40-year career as a printmaker, book artist, and designer. The exhibition will be on view through November 3 with an opening reception to be held on Saturday, September 23 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. Kegler will give a brief artist talk at 6:00 p.m. on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. The exhibition brochure will feature an essay by Dr. Casey Smith.

Officially incorporated in 2008 as the WNY Book Arts Collaborative, Book Arts was founded by Kegler, Carima el-Beahry, Hal Leader and a group of likeminded artists in the former Slotkin Department Store building at 468 Washington Street in downtown Buffalo. Dedicated to printmaking and the art of the book, the new organization offered the local community access to a range of analog printing presses and bookmaking tools rarely found outside of a university setting. Book Arts, then known as “WNYBAC”, offered artists, youths, and community members access to workshops, a print studio and screen print workroom, and a retail store stocked with bookmaking materials and postcards, posters and artworks made onsite. Over the course of the past fifteen years, Book Arts has grown to include active gallery and artist residency programs, onsite and neighborhood-based education programs, and an energetic commissioned artisan market. In 2016, Mayor Byron Brown designated Washington Street, from Clinton to Virginia streets, as the “Washington Street Literary Corridor.” Recognizing the cultural contributions of Book Arts, Just Buffalo Literary Center, and the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library, the Literary Corridor is a testament to the power of art to uplift a community and enhance its revitalization.

With the opening of *Richard Kegler: Re:Bound*, Book Arts celebrates the vision of our founders who saw the potential for a unique arts organization on a once forgotten corner of downtown Buffalo. The exhibition will survey the breadth of Kegler’s storied 40 year-career and include *McScream*, the artist’s Edvard Munch tribute/parody woodcut from the late 1980s, accompanied by a facsimile letter from a large corporation who claimed trademark infringement after derivative products (coffee mugs, watches, postcards) were made with this image. A range of Kegler’s early handmade books and selections from his mail art experiments, which he has characterized as implicating “the post office as the un-knowing collaborator in the final piece,” will also be featured. The exhibition will additionally include:

- rarely screened early video artworks, *Convergence* (1991) and *The Small Glass* (1994)
- recent letterpress experiments, including the trilogy, *Burst* (2021), *Incendiary* (2022), and *Implode* (2023), created using blocks from the Pollack Printing Collection that were cut in a haphazard way, the fragmented text on each selected from scrap boxes of the collection.
- A selection of fine press books, including *Dear Mr. Hunter* (2000), *Cayuga Tale* (2019); *HWT Specimen* (2020); and *Victor Hammer* 2022.

Richard Kegler formed P22 Type Foundry in 1994 and was the founder of the WNY Book Arts Center in Buffalo, New York. From 2014-19, he was the director of the Wells College Book Arts Center in Aurora-on-Cayuga, NY. Richard has spent his career combining an interest in traditional printing crafts with entrepreneurial initiatives. His artwork over the last 40 years has used hand printing and book arts as a focal point. He is director of the documental film *Making Faces: Metal type in the 21st Century* (2011.) His current project *Dry Inc.* focuses on post-digital printing & typography and new printing tool development.

### **About WNY Book Arts Center**

Book Arts promotes the greater understanding of printing and book-related arts through education, creation, and exhibition for a broad and diverse community. Celebrating our 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2023, Book Arts hosts exhibitions, artist residencies, youth workshops, onsite and online artisan markets, community demos and an extensive print studio at 468 Washington St in the heart of downtown Buffalo. For more information, visit [wnybookarts.org](http://wnybookarts.org).

[High Resolution Images Available Upon Request](#)