



ARTIST

Scott McCarney

TITLE

Photogram Letter book

DATE

1986

DIMENSIONS

8.5 in H x 12 in W

MEDIUM

Artists' Books

IMAGE NOTES

Photogram book 8.5 x 10.5" closed, 8.5 x 21" open

CATALOGUE NUMBER

1994.023

CURRENT LOCATION

Artist Books

SCOTT MCCARNEY

BORN

1954

BIRTHPLACE

Troy, NY

GENDER

Male

CITIZENSHIP

United States

CULTURAL HERITAGE

European-American

LIGHT WORK RELATIONSHIP

Artist-in-Residence, 1985
Fine Print Program, 1991
Robert B. Menschel Gallery, 1996
Group Exhibition Main Gallery, 2011

LIGHT WORK PUBLICATIONS

Contact Sheet 51
Contact Sheet 97
Menschel Gallery Catalogue 45
Contact Sheet 164

ESSAYS

Photography is one of the visual arts that is the easiest to adapt to the printed page, and other than the printed word, it is the most common medium reproduced in books, magazines, etc. Given these conditions it would follow that many artists books and small limited edition books would include photographs in one way or another. Scott McCarney makes visual books that incorporate photographs and the unique qualities of the photographic process into their structure. McCarney takes the idea of pictures in books much further by developing the physical format of his books around image ideas. Like many artists who make visual books it is very difficult to get a true impression of McCarney's work through description and second and third generation reproductions. But hopefully

the images reproduced here and the following comments by McCarney will give you some idea of the strength and beauty present in his elegant and very intelligently designed and conceived works. 'Generally my bookworks are the result of combining my experiences as a photographer and graphic designer. It's been five years or so that these two parallel interests have finally converged in the form of books. I'm especially interested in how imagery can be displayed and perceived in traditional and invented formats. I experiment a lot with folding pages and binding blank books to create unique structures. The ideas of play and discovery are reflected in many of the books. My major concern is the idea of completely integrating the elements of my books including, the serial or sequential nature of the images, how the pages are bound, and the type of materials and procedures chosen to hold the book together physically and conceptually. During my stay at Light Work I spent a lot of time in the darkroom and took my paper folding activity into the area of photograms....where my books often deal with the transient nature of light, the photograms are trapping it on the page. At this point I don't know where this is going, but the luxury of time has loosened the structure I'm usually forced to adhere to.' Scott McCarney lives and works in Rochester, NY. (c)1986