

A Group Exhibition

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Installation view, *Books: A Group Exhibition*, Paula Cooper Gallery, New York, January 6 –February 10, 2024.
Photo: Steven Probert.

Paula Cooper Gallery is especially pleased to announce a group exhibition on the subject of the book. The gathering of works will demonstrate the many ways in which contemporary artists have engaged with the book as surface, structure, found object, and philosophical guide.

Reading, collecting, and fabricating books informs a particular way of creative thinking, in which a double-page spread, a fabric-bound volume, or an illustrious typeface become crucial components of works of art. While artists have often made books, and many are involved in the design of books about their own works, this exhibition will focus on how books have infiltrated the very form, shape, and structure of contemporary art.

The exhibition will include works that memorialize the cover or internal pages of a book through photography or print. There will be books on shelves, indicating how intensely revelatory a library can be about its owner, and sculptures incorporating books as found

objects will embrace the book as talisman, gesturing to the acute historical specificity of a volume that originated in a particular place and time.

Moving from an entire library to a single page, books will be taken apart—their pages, covers, or individual illustrations isolated from the whole and repurposed as readymades. Other works will demonstrate the appeal of the book as a rich surface for drawing and painting, or reimagine the familiar form of the book in unexpected materials.

Finally, works informed by specific writings—wherein a text becomes a tool for producing a series of works—will depart from the physicality of the book to engage with its contents.

Artists in the exhibition:

Terry Adkins

Carl Andre

John Baldessari

Jane Benson

Jonathan Borofsky

Carol Bove

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Sophie Calle

Sarah Charlesworth

Bruce Conner

Rafael Domenech

Theaster Gates

Andreas Gursky

Candida Höfer

Douglas Huebler

Seung-taek Lee

Jill Magid

Oldenburg & van Bruggen

Laura Owens

Jorge Pardo

Stephen Prina

Studio K.O.S.

R. H. Quaytman

Walid Raad

Ed Ruscha

Dan Walsh

Rachel Whiteread

Steve Wolfe