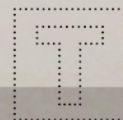
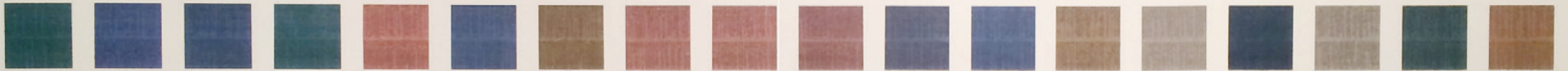


Elemental

Book Works by Cathryn Miller



obscure (adj.) 1 not well-known, attracting little attention; *an obscure little village*, *an obscure poet*, *an obscure job in a big company*. 2 dark, dim; *an obscure room*. 3 make obscure, dim, darken, hide from view; *he obscured the sun*. 4-5 *adj.*, *ob-scure-er*, *ob-scure-est*, *ob-scured*, *ob-scuring*.

obscure (v.) 1 a lack of clearness, clarity in being understood. *The obscurity of the graph makes several meanings possible.* 2 something obscure, something hard to understand, full or vague meaning. *The movie had so many allusions that we didn't enjoy it.* 3 the state or condition of being unknown. *The Premier rose from obscurity to fame.* 4 dimness, lack of light. *The dog hid its obscurity of the thick bushes.* n. pl. *ob-scure-ri-ties*.

ob-serve (v.) 1 observing or keeping or customs: *the observance of the Sabbath*. 2 an act performed as a sign of worship or respect; a religious ceremony.

ob-serve (adj.) 1 observing, quick to notice; *He is an observant in the fields and woods, and will find many flowers that others fail to notice.*

ob-serve (n.) 1 the act, habit, or practice of seeing and noting. *Her keen observation helped her to become a good scientist.* 2 the fact of being seen, observed; being seen. *The burglar escaped observation.* 3 something seen and noted. *The student of bird life kept a record of his observations.* 4 a remark, comment. *She makes wags was my grandmother's observation.* n. 1 *spill the cream*. n.

ob-serve (n.) 1 a place or thing equipped with a telescope, etc. for observing the and other heavenly bodies. 2 a high place or thing for observing facts or happenings of nature.

ob-serve (v.) 1 see and note; notice. *Did you observe any strange change in his behavior?* 2 examine for special purpose; study. *An astronomer observes the sun.* 3 a remark; comment. *Bad weather, the captain observed.* 4 keep, follow in practice. *All hockey players observe the rules.* 5 show regard for; celebrate; to

ob-stinate (adj.) 1 stubborn, not easily persuaded or argument. *In spite of her father's persuasion the obstinate girl went her own way.* 2 hard or treat; an obstinate cough. *adj.*

ob-struct (v.) 1 block up, make hindered. *Fallen trees obstruct the road.* 2 be of, hinder. *Trees obstruct our view of the ocean.* 3 a shortage of steel obstructed the work of the factory.

ob-struction (n.) 1 anything that obstructs, something in the way, an obstacle. 2 had to get over such obstructions as ditches and wires. *Anger is an obstruction to clear thinking.* 3 blocking or hindering. *the obstruction of progress.* n.

ob-tain (v.) 1 get, especially as a result of effort. *He worked hard to obtain the prize.* 2 be in use; be available. *Different rules obtain in different schools.* -ob-tain-able, *adj.*

ob-tuse (adj.) 1 slow in understanding; dull or stupid. *The boy was too obtuse to take the hint.* 2 an angle greater than 90 degrees but less than 180 degrees; an angle greater than a right angle.

ob-vious (adj.) 1 easily seen or understood. *It was obvious that the plan was a mistake.* 2 be doubted; plain. *an obvious mistake.* It is obvious that we should make four. *The scar was very obvious.*

oc-casion (n.) 1 a particular time or event. *Mr. Singh on several occasions.* 2 a special chance, an opportunity. *The trip gave us an occasion to get better acquainted.* 4 a cause; a reason. *The occasion of the quarrel had run away.* 5 *adj.* 1-4 n., 5 *v.*

oc-casion-al (adj.) 1 happening on an occasion, now and then; once in a while.

Synesthesia (Ideasthesia) #1 (detail, page 1 of 18), 2014

Elemental Book Works by Cathryn Miller

Curated by Shani K Parsons

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er-tak-ing (un'dar ta'king) 1 something taken; task, enterprise. 2 a promise, pledge. *n.*

er-tone (un'dar ton') 1 a low or very quiet tone. *It in undertones.* 2 a subdued color; a color seen through other colors: *There was an undertone of brownish all the gold and crimson of autumn.* 3 a quality lying that is beneath the surface: *an undertone ofness in her gaiety.* *n.*

er-took (un'dar tuk') the past tense of *er-take*: *He failed because he undertook more than he could do.* *v.*

er-wa-ter (un'dar wot'ar for 1, un'dar wot'ar for 2) 1 swimming, done, or used below the surface of the water: *er-water plants.* A submarine is an underwater ship. 2 low the surface of the water: *She stayed underwater two minutes.* 1 *adj.*, 2 *adv.*

er-wear (un'dar wer') clothing worn next to the skin, under one's outer clothes, underclothes. *n.*

er-weight (un'dar war') 1 of a person or thing, having a mass that is too small in proportion to what and build: *You are a little underweight, but it is nothing to worry about.* 2 having less mass than is desired, or specified: *He claimed that the roast underweight.* *adj.*

er-went (un'dar went') the past tense of *er-go*: *Transportation underwent a great change with development of the automobile.* *v.*

er-world (un'dar wold') 1 the criminal part of society. 2 in Roman myths, the world of the dead. *n.*

er-sir-a-ble (un'di zī'ra ball) 1 objectionable, displeasing: *That drug was taken off the market because it is found to have undesirable effects.* 2 a person is not wanted. 1 *adj.*, 2 *n.*

er-undid (un did') the past tense of *er-undo*: *He undid his mistakes.* *v.*

er-undid (un dou'tid le) beyond surely; certainly. *adv.*

er-undress (un dres') take the clothes off; not right: *He made undue remarks about the woman.* 2 too great; too much: *A miser gives too importance to money.* *adj.*

er-undulate (un'ju lat' or un'dya lat') 1 waves: *undulating water.* 2 have a wavy surface: *The prairie undulates gently as far as see.* *v.*, un-du-late-d, un-du-late-ing.

er-unduly (un dyū'le or un du'le) 1 impudently was punished unduly. 2 excessively; too harsh, unduly optimistic. *adv.*

er-undying (un di'ing) deathless; immortal undying beauty. *adj.*

er-undearth (un erth') 1 dig up; to unearth a plot. 2 discover, find out: *to unearth a plot.*

er-undearthly (un erth'le) 1 not of this world supernatural. 2 strange; wild, weird, ghostly.

er-und-eas-i-ness (un e'ze nis) a lack of ease restlessness; anxiety: *His uneasiness grew as the drew nearer.* *n.*

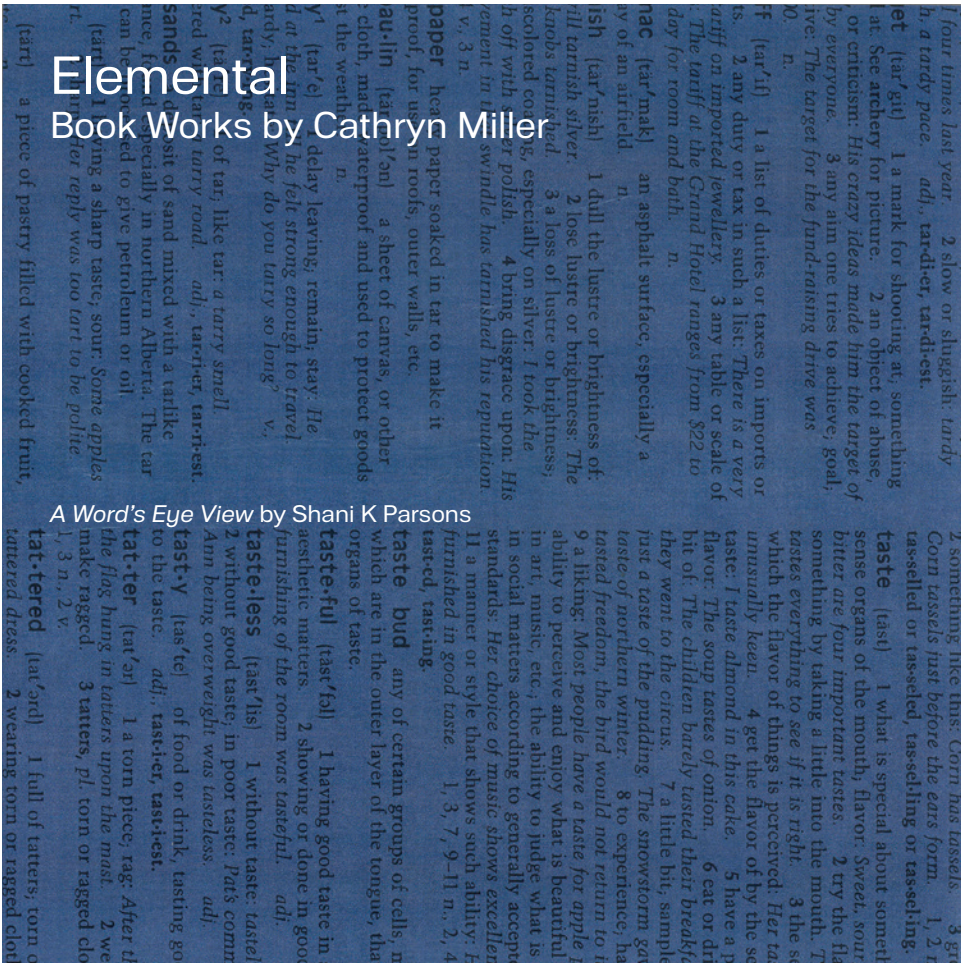
er-und-eas-y (un e'ze) 1 restless; disturbed; 2 not comfortable. 3 not easy in manner, *adj.*, un-eas-i-er, un-eas-i-est.

er-und-employed (un'em ploid') 1 not employed in use: *an unemployed skill.* 2 not having a no work: *an unemployed person.* 3 the unemployed out of work. 1, 2 *adj.*, 3 *n.*

er-und-employment (un'em plōi'ment) a employment; being out of work. *n.*

er-und-ending (un en'ding) continuing; endless.

er-und-equal (un e'kwel) 1 not the same in size, number, or value: *unequal sums of money*; one-sided: *an unequal contest.* 3 not adequate: *His strength was unequal to the task.* *v.*



Synesthesia (detail, page 3 of 18)

el-e-men-tal *adjective* \e-lə-'men-təl\

1. of the nature of an ultimate constituent; fundamental
2. pertaining to rudiments or first principles; elementary
3. starkly simple, primitive, or basic
4. pertaining to the forces or phenomena of physical nature

ELEMENTAL. The word's many facets of meaning encompass that which pertains to first principles, is fundamental or starkly simple, and/or exemplifies the forces or phenomena of physical nature — definitions which speak to both formal and conceptual correspondences between Cathryn Miller's multiform works. Ranging from tiny folded paper accumulations to room-filling installations, Miller's thoughtfully conceived and often laboriously crafted objects represent a sustained investigation of manifold worlds, circumscribing inner/outer, micro/macro, and meta/physical dimensions. Bringing the outside in to her artist's books, she proffers evidence gathered and discoveries made on the cycles of nature and life, from the land on which her shadow falls to the feathers from a goshawk's kill and beyond. Conversely, for her altered books she turns obsolete volumes inside out, transmuting page after page into concrete embodiments of the concepts they once conveyed in words, conferring new life upon these doomed editions in the process.

The word *elemental* also implies a certain necessity and intensity — of focus, purpose, or emotion, and it is this intensity that drives Miller to undertake such effortful or repetitive processes in the making of her work. Her experiences of wonder, anger, and joy — frustration and fascination in equal measure — become tempered through durational labours of conceiving and crafting. In distilling both her feelings and her findings into the personal, poetic, and playful works on view, Miller's observations and experiences are made exquisitely manifest in the tactile materials, (con)sequential structures, and storied logic of both traditional and invented book forms.

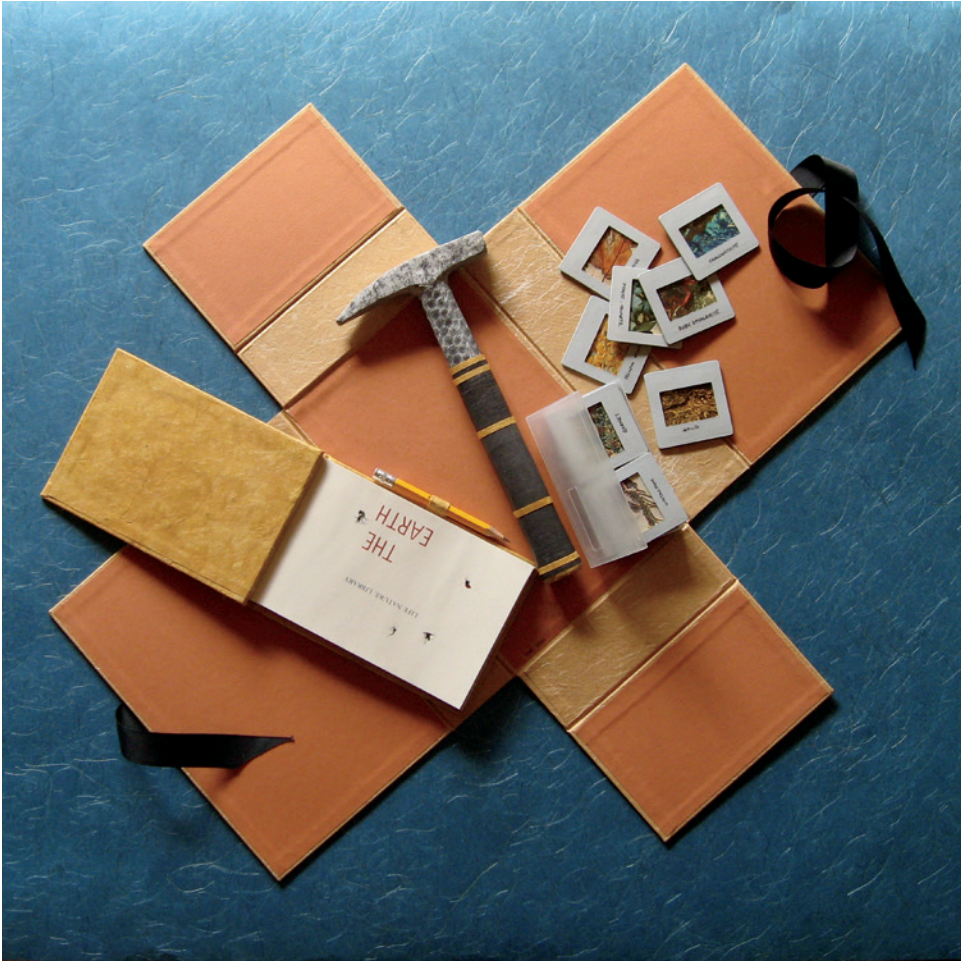
Taking *elemental* as a point of departure, this survey embarks on a series of playful linguistic engagements with Miller's works as a way to consider the recurring themes of her practice. Starting with the root word, *element* (and its ancient association with fire, water, earth, and air) and moving through *elementary* (works replete with childhood memory), we venture forward in time to *experimental* and *experiential* aspects of Miller's process, which speak to conditions of presence/the present. We then make stops to engage with both her newest work (*potent*) and an ambitious work in progress (*potential*), arriving in short order at our final destination (*portent*) with a lighthearted view to the future.



Universe: Foundation, 2012



Skunk Cabbage Board Walk, 2007



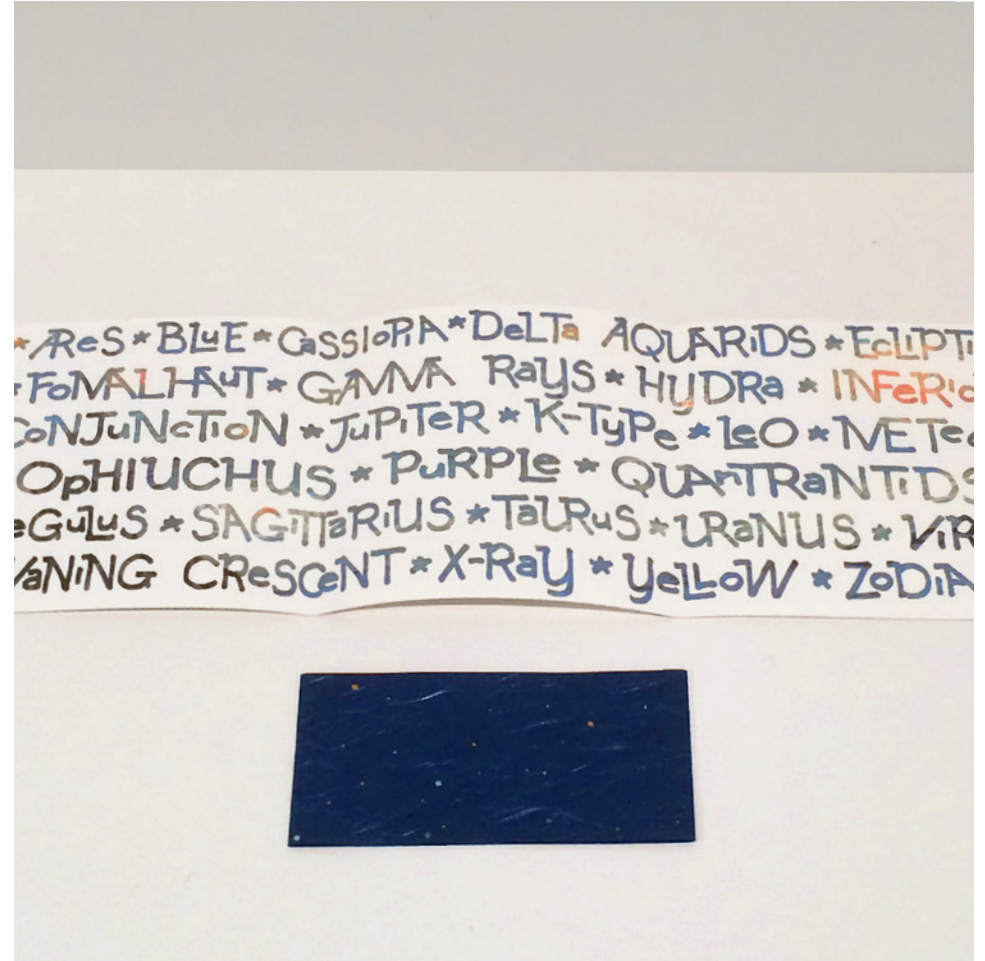
Earth, 2009



Snowy Owl, 2009



A is for Apple, 2011

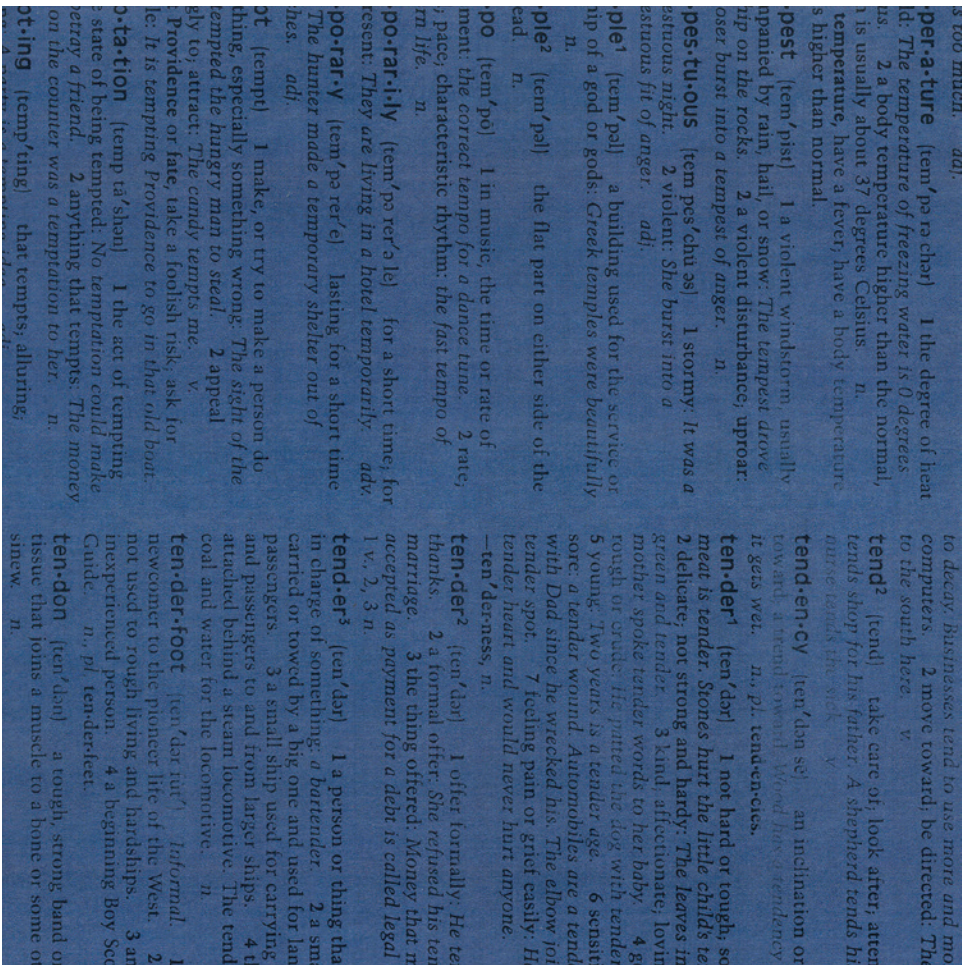


Starry Night: An Astro Logical Nomical Alphabet, 2010



Shell Games, 2010





Synesthesia (detail, page 6 of 18)

ex-per-i-men-tal adjective \ik-'sper-ə-'men-təl\

1. pertaining to, derived from, or based on test, trial, or experience; empirical
2. of the nature of an experiment; tentative

men-tal adjective \'men-təl\

1. of, pertaining to, performed by, or existing in the mind
2. pertaining to intellectuals or intellectual activity
3. pertaining to or affected by a disorder of the mind

AN OBSESSION WITH WORDPLAY

Miller's oeuvre is littered with puns and plays on language, many of which are actualized through the making of experimental structures. Such works are often paradoxical, hybrid, or fleeting in nature, existing as a proof or expression of the artist's concepts and compulsions. Most of the works make use of and respond to pages from sectioned or whole dictionaries that have been discarded, a burgeoning resource for altered book artists in this age of internet-enabled reference.

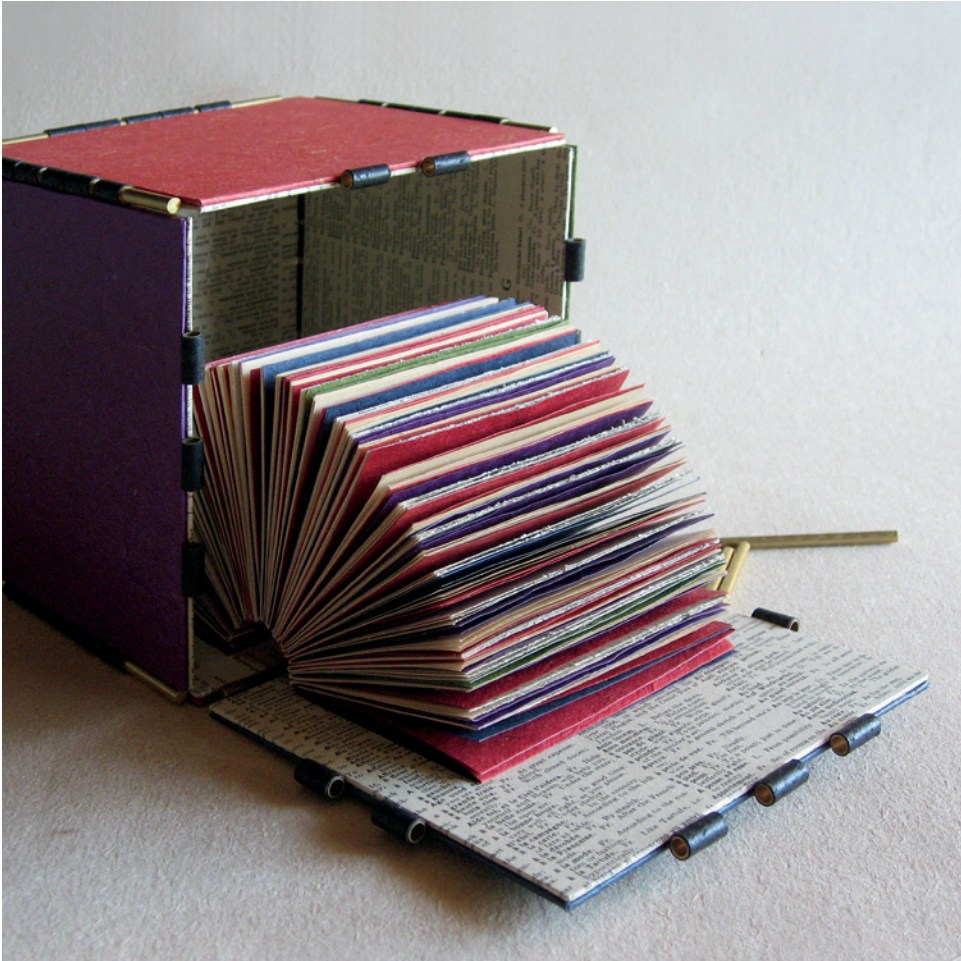
Double Entendre evokes the two-fold meaning of its title simultaneously through incorporation of the *Foreign Words and Phrases* appendix to the 1971 *New Webster Encyclopedic Dictionary* as well as the blending of box and book structures into an integrated whole which must be dismantled to be viewed in its entirety. Once taken apart, the work can also be reassembled inside out.

Tongue Tied has been refashioned from an entire copy of the *Oxford Concise Dictionary*. Constructed from pages that are folded, interlocked, and sewn together so that they do not permit opening, this flexible structure is a sculptural embodiment of the frustration implied in its title.

Point(ed) comprises upward of a thousand interlocking Chinese money folds crafted from the pages of an entire library edition of the *Oxford Dictionary*. Made purely as an expression of concept with total disregard for permanence in its physical form, the work now exists only in images, exemplifying the idea of a "point" not only with respect to shape and concept but also as a moment in time.

Flowery Language is another ephemeral work, taking the form of hundreds of ornate flower shapes fabricated from the pages of discarded dictionaries. Blanketing a series of plinths as part of a room-sized installation entitled *Word View*, the display graced the Saskatchewan Craft Council's Affinity Gallery for the duration of Miller's 2013 exhibition, after which it was destroyed in the process of its deinstallation.

Language Barrier Too, a large-scale work which was also displayed as part of the *Word View* exhibition, comprises hundreds of rolled strips from the margins of the *Oxford Dictionary of Foreign Words and Phrases*, glued and strung together so that the title of the work is encoded in its configuration.



Double Entendre, 2009





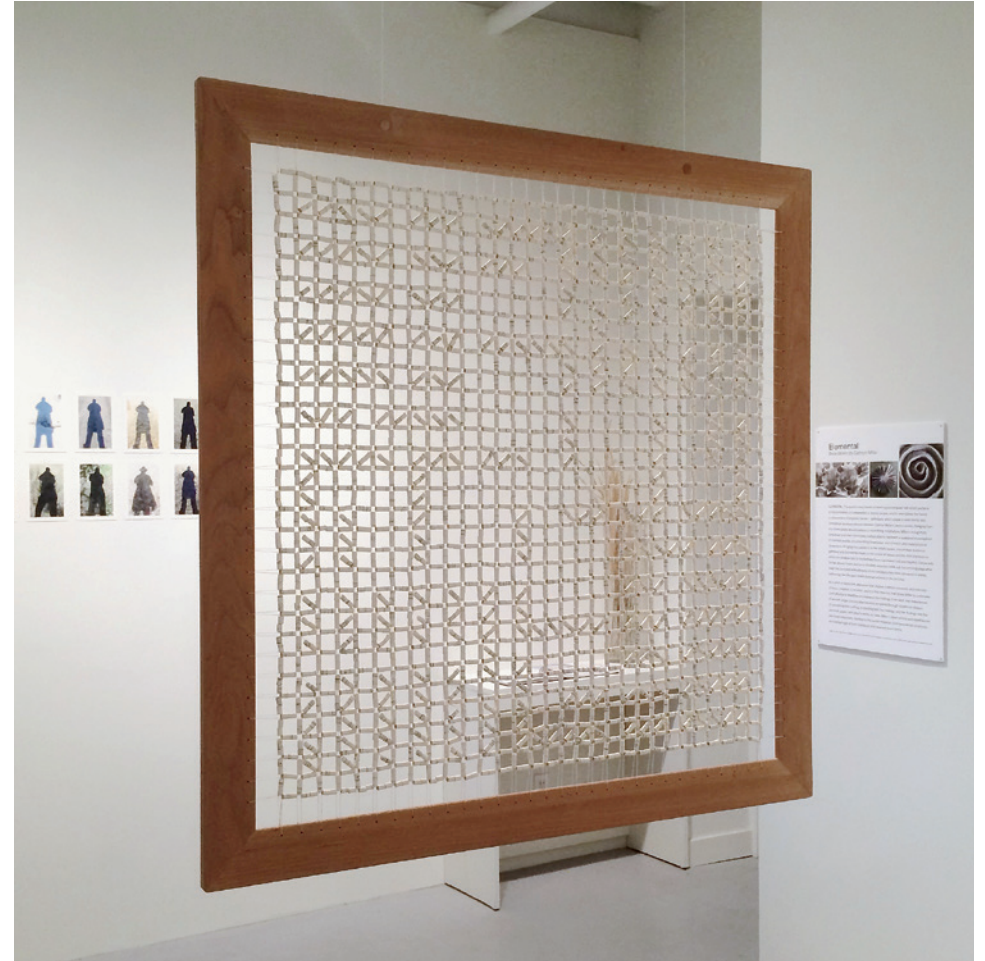
Tongue Tied, 2012



point(ed), 2012



Flowery Language, 2013



Language Barrier Too, 2013



redpoll & RAVEN, 2005





Datura, 2007



Feathers, 2014



A Portrait of The Artist as a Shadow of her Former Self, 2006



po·ten·tial adjective \pə-'ten(t)-shəl\

1. capable of being or becoming
2. expressing possibility

A WISH FOR WISHES

The Wishing Star Project is a work in progress which extends Miller's artistic practice with respect to both time and space. Through her website and in the gallery for the duration of this exhibition, the artist is asking visitors for wishes. All contributed wishes will be handwritten and folded into Chinese lucky stars which will then be assembled to create a walking labyrinth. Thousands of stars will be required to delineate the labyrinth's shape, far more than Miller has made for any single project before.

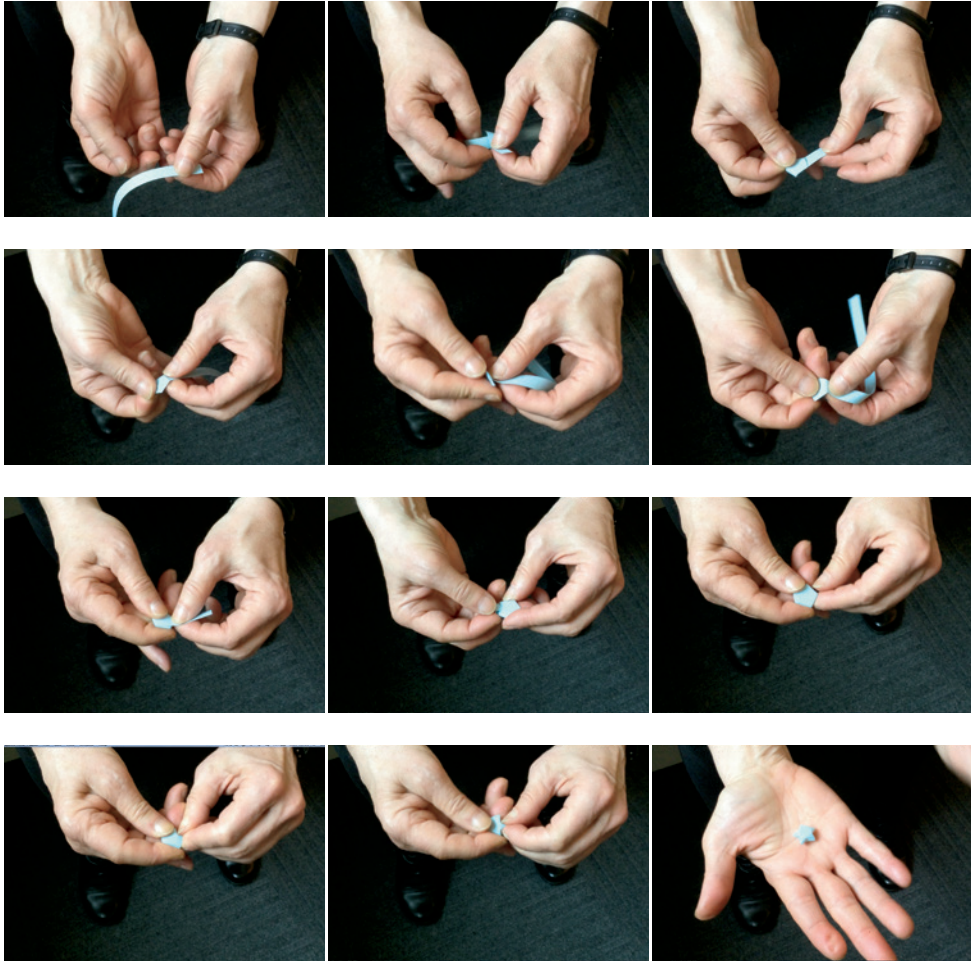
The project's participatory aspect adds another new dimension to Miller's practice with regard to her audience as well, directly engaging participants on multiple levels: through solicitation and incorporation of contributed wishes; education in the process of making the stars through videos or demonstrations; and ultimately through the work's inhabitation, whereby audiences will be invited to walk the labyrinth once it has been completed. To Miller, the project is an enormous collaboration, and the labyrinth an immense and immersive artist's book — one that expands on the very definition of the genre in the audacious scale of its concept and execution.

Follow Miller's progress and submit wishes online through her website: www.byopiapress.com/the-wishing-star-project

otive. II.
i·neer (en'jə nēr') 1 a person who makes, takes
pl, or runs engines: *The driver of a locomotive is an
eer.* 2 a person skilled in a branch of engineering:
the work of an engineer. 4 guide; manage: *She
eered the whole job from start to to finish.* 1, 2 n.
age. 1, 2 n., 3 adi.
ish Canada 1 English Canadians as a group, all
sh Canadians. 2 the parts of Canada where English
main language.
ish Canadian 1 a Canadian whose ancestors were
sh. 2 a Canadian whose main language is English.
ish horn a wooden musical instrument
abling an oboe, but larger and having a lower tone.
ish-man (ing'glīsh mən) a man born in or living
gland n., pl. English-men (ing'glīsh mən).
ish-wom·an (ing'glīsh wūm'ən) a woman born
living in England. n., pl. Eng-lish-wom·en
ish wim'ən).
rave (en grāv') 1 carve, especially in an artistic
The jeweller engraved the boy's initials on the back
watch. 2 cut in lines on wood, stone, metal, or
plates for printing. 3 fix firmly: *His mother's face
ngraved on his memory.* v., engr-aved, engr-aving.
rav·ing (en grāv'ing) 1 the art or act of a person
engraves. 2 a copy of a picture made from an
ved plate; print. n.
ross (en grōs') occupy wholly; fill the mind of:
vas engrossed in an interesting story. v.
ulf (en gulf') swallow up; swamp; overwhelm:
waves engulfed the boat. v.

enlarge our house. 2 grow larger: *That small
enlarge with time.* v., enlarg-ed, enlarg-ing.
enlarge on, talk or write more about: *The chair
school board enlarged on his earlier statement
plan for a new school.*
en·large·ment (en larj'mənt) 1 the act of
larger. 2 anything that enlarges something el
addition. 3 a photograph or other thing that
made larger. n.
en·light·en (en līt'n) make clear, give th
truth and knowledge to; inform, instruct: *His
enlightened him about many things he had no
before.* v.
en·list (en list') 1 join the armed forces.
support of: *The mayor enlisted the churches o
to work for more parks.* v.
en·liv·en (en līv'n) make lively, active, g
cheerful: *Her jokes enlivened the party.* Bright
enliven a room. v.
en·mi·ty (en'ma tē) the feeling that enem
each other, hatred. n., pl. en-mi-ties.
en·or·mous (i nōr'məs) extremely large; 1
ago there were enormous dinosaurs on the ear
en·ough (i nuǝf') 1 as many as needed: *Are
enough seats for all?* 2 as much as is wanted
Has he had enough to eat? 3 sufficiently; un
is needed or wanted: *Have you played enough?*
2 n., 3 adv.
en·quire (en kwīr') inquire. v., en-quire
en-quir-ing.
en·quīr·y (en kwī're) inquiry. n., pl. en-
en·rage (en rāj') make very angry; make f
madden: *The dog was enraged by the teasing.*
en-raged, enr-aging.
en·rich (en rīch') make rich or richer: *An
enriches your mind.* Fertilizer enriches the soil.
en·rol or **en·roll** (en rōl') 1 make a nu
mtricial, enroll ed ten now students this term

Synesthesia (detail, page 8 of 18)



The Wishing Star Project, 2014–ongoing



po-tent *adjective* \ˈpō-tənt\

1. achieving or bringing about a particular result
2. chemically or medicinally effective
3. rich in a characteristic constituent

ALCHEMY OF THE EYE AND MIND

Synesthesia is defined as concomitant sensation, especially the subjective impression of a sense (e.g., colour) other than the one (e.g., sound) being stimulated. For her new aptly titled and visually arresting wall-based work, Miller infuses square cut pages from a discarded dictionary with rich earthen hues specific to the letter represented on each page.

Affixed in a single line across the wall, the composition achieves a kind of visual alchemy through which the work takes on a musical tone, with the colour/letter combinations becoming as notes from an enigmatic melody. And in fact a song is being sung — or more precisely, spoken — from a Teton Sioux chant which is encoded into the work. Stringing together the letters represented by each page reveals a verse which epitomizes both the essence of the work and of Miller's world view.*

Through the simple act of rotating the pages 90° clockwise, Miller highlights the visual nature of the source material, transforming typography into topography: the flush left of one text column becomes the horizon line from which mountains or trees magically emerge within the negative spaces formed by the ragged right of the other. Or viewed another way, one may apprehend the shifting colours of a night sky filled with the sparkling trails of innumerable falling stars.

Thus engaging all of the material dimensions of language — visual, aural, and symbolic — *Synesthesia* is a hybrid of text and image that oscillates between reading and viewing — a contemporary concrete poem. Conceptual in its form (where “structure = content”), and minimal in its affect, *Synesthesia* puts the audience centre-stage, leaving it up to one's “poetic imagination to fill in the blanks.**

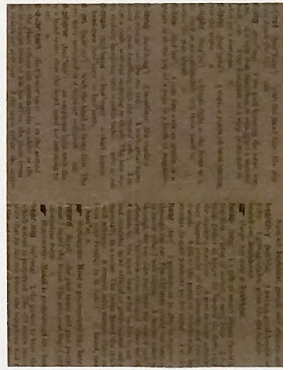
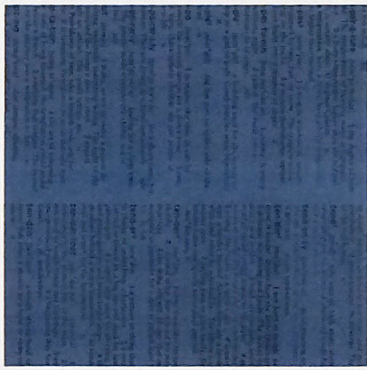
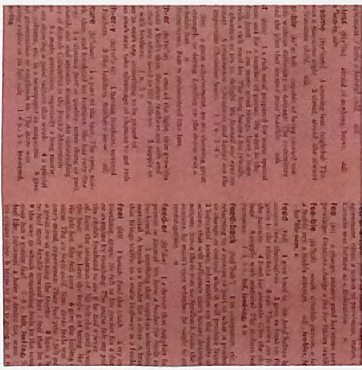
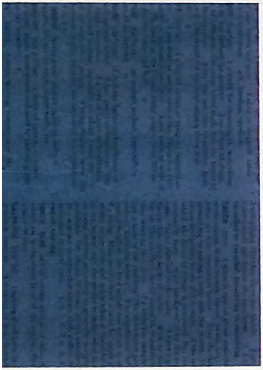
**Synesthesia* is reproduced in this catalogue in its entirety and can be decoded in the same way as in the installation, by stringing the letters from each of its pages together (starting with the title page of this catalogue). For the answer, see the project's listing in the Exhibition Checklist on p. 53.

**Coined by the pioneering Noigandres poets from Brazil, the term “concrete poetry” denotes a visual/textual form which “makes explicit the materiality of language” and equates materiality to meaning, allowing free passage between the verbal and the visual. (For more information, see www.poetrybeyondtext.org/concrete-poetry.html).

en-umer-ate (ɪ nyuˈmɑːrət or ɪ nuˈmɑːrət) *I name or give a list of: The sign enumerates all the rules.* *2 Cdn.* make up or enter on a list of voters.
en-umer-ated, en-umer-ating.
em-er-a-tor (ɪ nyuˈmɑːrət or ɪ nuˈmɑːrət) a person who makes up a list of voters in an area.
en-unc-iate (ɪ nʌnˈseɪət) *I speak or pronounce s: The trained actor enunciates very distinctly.* *en-unc-iate* *v.* *en-unc-iated, en-unc-iating.*
en-unc-iate (ɪ nʌnˈseɪət) *I one's manner of pronouncing words.* *2* an announcement; statement: the enunciation of a set of rules. *n.*
en-wrap (ɛn vɛlˈrɑːp) *wrap, cover, or hide: Fog enveloped the village.* *v.* *enveloped, enveloping.*
en-wrap (ɛn vɛlˈrɑːp or ɛn vɛlˈrɑːp) *1* a folded and used paper cover in which a letter or anything flat is mailed. *2* a wrapper; covering. *n.*
en-vious (ɛnˈvɪəs) *to be envious; despicable: She is an envious track record.* *adj.*
en-vious (ɛnˈvɪəs) *I wishing to have something that one else has: She was envious of her friend's new car.* *2* disliking someone who has more than oneself: The poor are often envious of the rich. *adj.*
en-vironment (ɛn vɪˈrɑːmɑːnt) *1* all the surrounding things, conditions, or influences that affect growth and development of living things: A child's behavior is greatly influenced by his home environment. *roundings: A polluted environment can harm life.* *2* a beautiful environment. *n.*
en-vironment-alist (ɛn vɪˈrɑːmɑːnt ɪsɪst) a person who believes in and works for the protection of the environment against pollution, etc. *n.*
en-voil (ɛnˈvoɪl) *1* a messenger. *2* a diplomat next to an ambassador in rank. *n.*
en-vious (ɛnˈvɪəs) *1* a feeling of discontent, jealousy, or brought on by another's good fortune because one feels it had been his: I was filled with envy when I saw the new bicycle. *2* feel envy towards: Some people envy

disease so that many people have it at one time the schools in the city were closed during the measles. *2* affecting many people at the same time: An outbreak of flu became epidemic. The wild rumors had reached epidemic proportions. *1 n., 2 adj.*
en-ep-sy (ɛpˈsɪ) a disorder of the brain that causes sudden convulsions and partial loss of consciousness. *n.*
en-ep-tic (ɛpˈtɪk) of or having to do with epilepsy: Most epileptic seizures can be controlled with drugs. *2* suffering from epilepsy. *adj.*
en-isode (ɛpˈsɒd) a single happening or event in a story: The year France was an important episode in the artist's life.
en-istle (ɪ pɪˈsəl) *1* a letter, especially an official one. *2* Epistle, in the New Testament of the letters written by the apostles to various individuals. *n.*
en-taph (ɛpˈtɑːf) a short statement in a dead person, usually put on a tombstone.
en-poch (ɛpˈɒk or ɛpˈɑːk) *1* a period of time or period of time in which striking things happen: The years leading to Confederation were an epoch in Canadian history. *n.*
en-qual (ɛkˈwɔːl) *1* the same (in amount, size, or value): Give each child an equal amount of food. *2* be the same as (in amount, size, etc.): 4 times 20. Symbol: = *3* a person or thing similar in excellence: In spelling she had no equal. *4* something equal to, match: He tried hard to equal his opponent. *1 adj., 2, 4 v., equalled or equaling or equaling, 3 n. —e'qually, adv.*
en-qual (ɛkˈwɔːl) *1* the same as: Ten dollars are equal to two dollars. *2* strong enough for, capable of: One horse is equal to pulling a load of five tonnes.
en-qual-ity (ɪ kwɔːlɪˈtɪ) exact likeness in number, value, rank, etc.: The rebels demanded equal rights for all citizens. *n., pl. equal-ities.*
en-qual-ize (ɛkˈwɔːlɪz) *1* make the same: The government equalized the score. *v.* *equalized, equal-izing.*

Synesthesia (detail, page 9 of 18)



Synesthesia (Ideasthesia) #1 (detail), 2014

por-tent noun \ˈpôr-,ˈtənt\

1. something that foreshadows a coming event
2. prophetic indication or significance

A VIEW TO THE FUTURE

With characteristic humour, Miller proposes a modest improvement to the I Ching, the classic Chinese book of divination. In her version, *The ME Ching*, the artist answers today's need for a quicker and easier method to divine the future — one that does not require the lifetime of study it would take to gain even a modicum of understanding of the ancient texts.

Following a brief introduction to the history of the I Ching, Miller excerpts some cheerfully unhelpful instruction on hexagram generation and interpretation from the text's original translator, Richard Wilhelm (1950). She then concludes with a single page of simple instructions for use in any situation requiring rapid divination or instantaneous decision-making. Lucky coin included.

She acted generously in allowing them to use her
5 behave like: Most people act the fool now and
6 have an effect or influence: Yeast acts on dough
like it rise. 7 perform in a play, musical, etc.: My
er is acting the part of the villain in our school play.
its very well. 8 a main division of a play or opera:
play has three acts. 9 one of several performances
program: The juggler's act was good. 10 a
ative decision; a law or decree: An Act of Parliament
ill that has been passed by Parliament.
formal; a show of pretended behavior; especially to
ess or attract attention: He seems pleasant, but that's
in act. 12 serve as or do the work of (used with as):
ced as chairman of the meeting. The foam lining
as insulation. 13 take the place of (used with for):
e the principal was gone, the assistant principal
for her. 14 follow or obey (used with on): He said
ould act on their advice. 1, 2, 8–11 n., 3–7, 12–14

act, represent in actions, as in pantomime: Charades
ame in which titles or sayings are acted out.
p. Informal, a behave badly: He was acting up
use he hadn't got his way. b be troublesome: The
I hurt last summer is acting up again.

act-ing (ak'ting) taking another's place for a short
and doing his work: Mrs. Stone was the acting
principal during the principal's absence. adj.

ac-tion (ak'shan) 1 the process of doing something.
g: The quick action of the firefighters saved the
ing from complete destruction. 2 something done;
t: Giving the dog food was a kind action. 3 the
in which something moves or works: This motor has
y easy action. 4 battle or a part of a battle: My
father was wounded in action in the Second World
5 actions, pl. conduct or behavior: His actions
always above reproach. n.

ac-tion, begin to act, especially in order to stop or
se something: The government took action to
nt forest fires.

ac-tive (ak'təv) make active: You can activate
yeast by mixing it with warm water. v.

ac-tive, ac-tiv-ing.

ac-tu-ally (ak'chü ə'le) really, in fact: An
actually going to camp this summer or just w
adv.

a-cute (ə'kyüt') 1 sharp and severe: A cav
tooth can cause acute pain. 2 keen: Dogs ha
sense of smell. An acute thinker is clever and
adj. —a-cute'ly, adv. —a-cute'ness, n.

ac-ute angle an angle less than a right ang
angle' for picture.

ad (ad) Informal advertisement. n.

A. D. abbreviation for: the Latin words anno
meaning in the year of our Lord, that is, after
Christ: From 200 B.C. to 500 A.D. is 700 years.

ad-age (ad'ij) a well-known saying, or pr
Ad-am (ad'am) in the Bible, the first man
ad-a-mant (ad'əmant) firm; unyielding:
was adamant in refusing the requests of his se
turn back. adj.

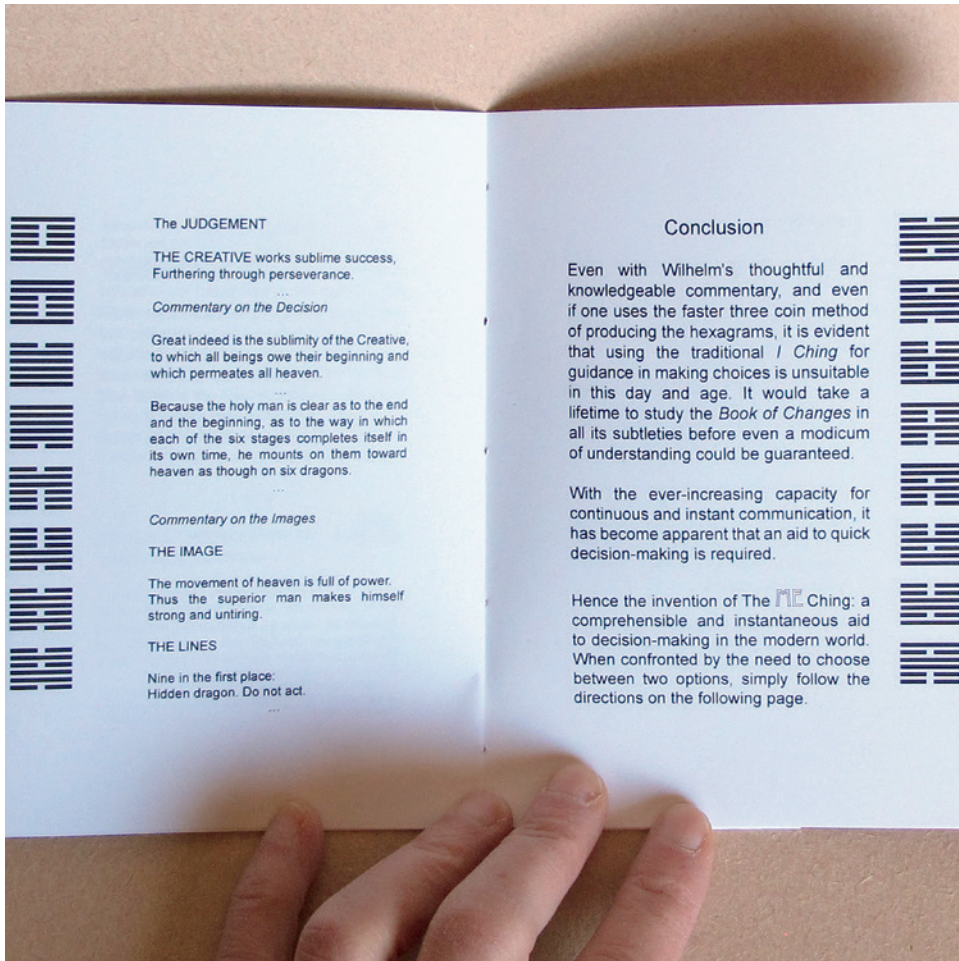
Ad-am's apple the lump in the front of the
formed by the larynx. See windpipe for picture.

a-dapt (ə'dapt') 1 make fit or suitable: G
adapt their words to the age and interests of t
2 change one's behavior so as to fit in with a r
situation: He has adapted well to his new sch
3 alter so as to make suitable for a different u
farmer can adapt his barn for use as a garage.

a-dapt-a-ble (ə'dap'təbəl) changed or ch
easily to fit different conditions: We need a m
adaptable schedule. She is an adaptable perso
ad-ap-ta-tion (ad'ap'tə'shan) 1 the act o
or fitting: He made a good adaptation to his n
2 something made by adapting: A film is often
adaptation of a novel. 3 a change in the stru
or habits of an animal or plant to fit a particu
environment: Wings are adaptations of the up
for flight. n.

a-dap-ter (ə'dap'tər) 1 a device for fitting
parts that do not match: We will need an ada
this nozzle onto the larger hose. 2 a separa

Synesthesia (detail, page 10 of 18)



The ME Ching, 2012



ABOUT THE ARTIST

I am a maker.
I have always been a maker.
It isn't just what I do; it's who I am.

At the age of two I decorated the maroon tiles in our bathroom with toothpaste. At three and a half I was given a pair of blunt-nosed scissors and some paper to play with. Within a day I had left small cut-out shapes in every room in the house. I have used my hands to make things (drawings, sculptures, maps, costumes, tapestries, theatre sets, books...) ever since.

I once told a collector that I thought I was a little OCD. He replied that I am probably what he calls an "obligatory artist". Apparently some of us just can't help it, though I suspect a 12 step program could be developed to treat the condition.

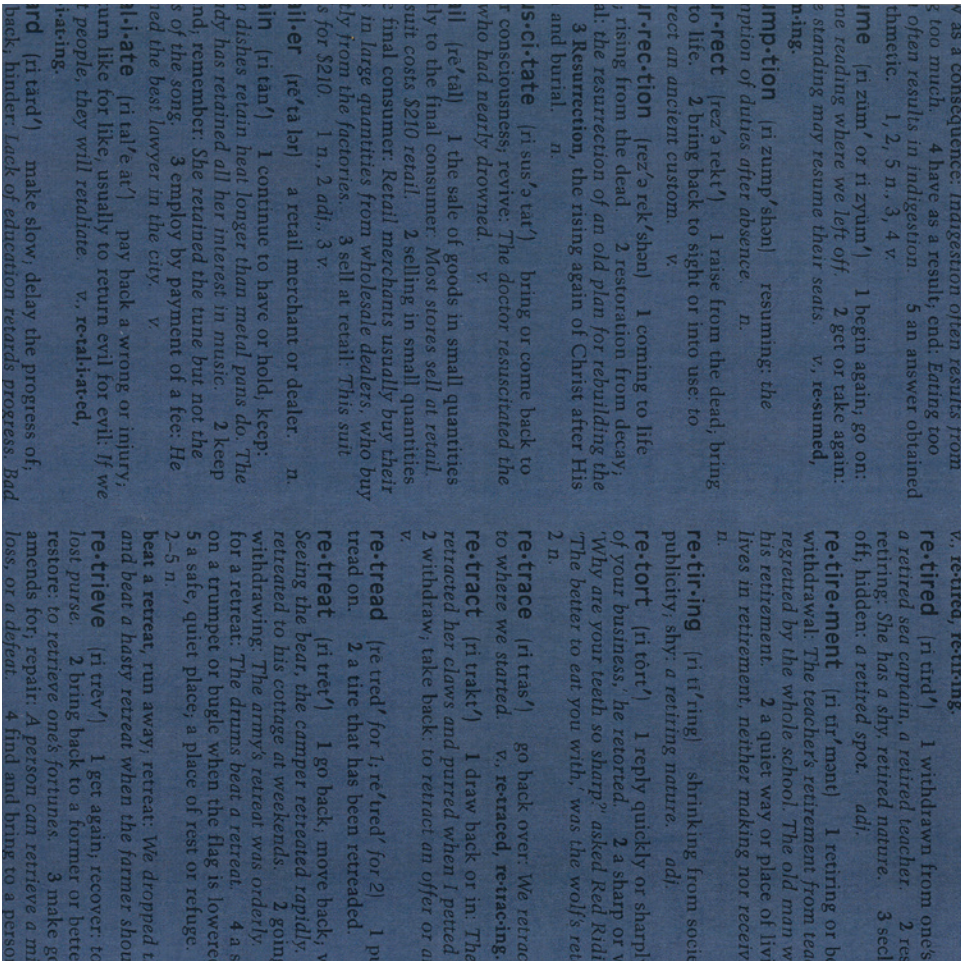
My work is based on whatever has intrigued/enlightened/inspired/challenged/entertained me. The phrase "What if I..." is often a trigger.

Artist's Bio

A former theatrical designer and fibre artist, Cathryn Miller has focused on book arts and paper making for the past twenty years. Throughout her career she has won numerous awards and is the only Saskatchewan craftsperson to have received the Premier's Prize at *Dimensions*, the Saskatchewan Craft Council's annual juried exhibition, in two different media (textiles and paper).

Under the imprint of Byopia Press, her handmade paper and book works are held in more than forty public collections in Canada, the United States, and England, and in private collections the world over. A homecoming of sorts, *Elemental* is Miller's first solo show in Toronto, where she was born and lived for a short while before moving around the country, eventually settling in Saskatchewan in 1973.

www.byopiapress.com



Synesthesia (detail, page 11 of 18)

What art/artists/movements do you most identify with and why?

I identify most closely with some of the theoretical elements of Dada, Fluxus, and Conceptualism. I often make inexpensive multiples or works from things others have discarded.

What memorable responses have you had to your work?

My favourite of all the responses to my work is what I call the "OMG! Effect". I have discovered that works containing hundreds or thousands of small handmade elements draw that response from viewers. It makes people actually stop and look at the work, and sometimes this results in them thinking about the ideas behind all the hours of labour.

Do you collect anything? What? Why?

I collect books: reference books on arts and crafts and cookbooks mostly. I collect rocks, and bones, and feathers (inspiration), dried flower petals/leaves, old dictionaries and encyclopedias (raw materials).

What are you working on right now?

I am working on a set of toys/games that relate to language both directly and indirectly and, of course, I am working on *The Wishing Star Project*.

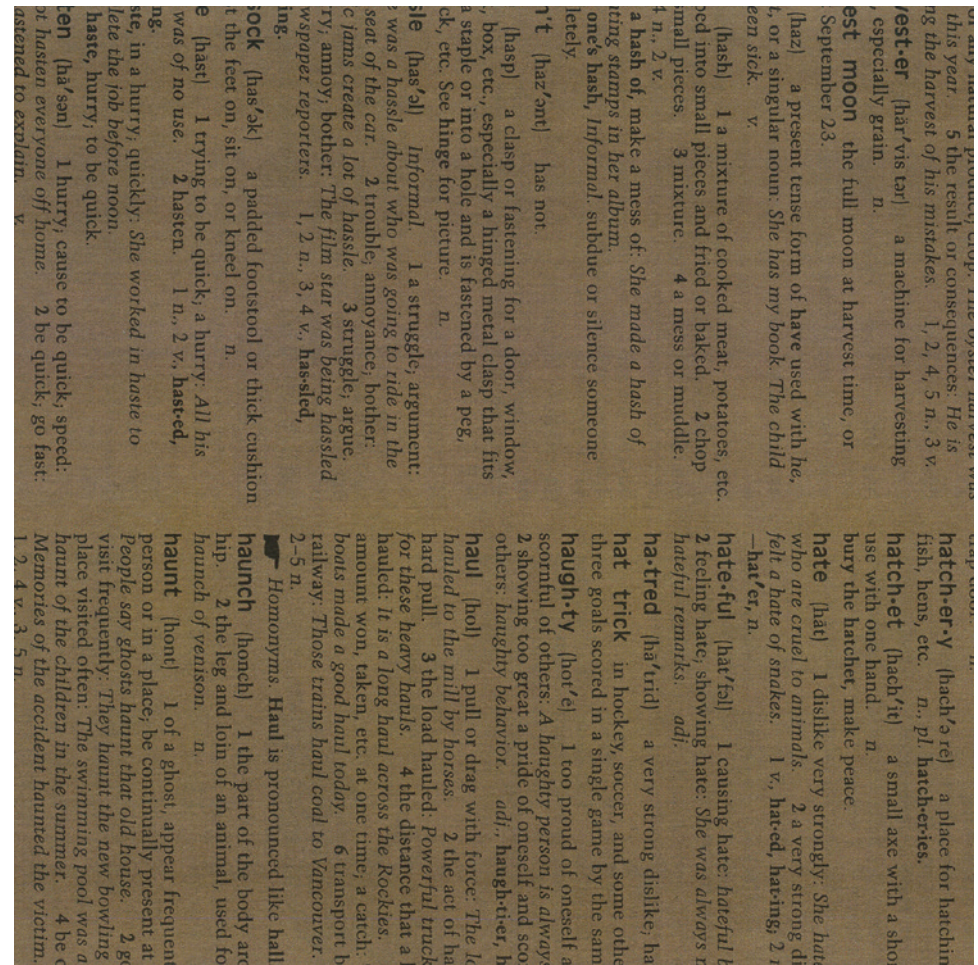
Name 1-3 contemporary artists whose work you feel deserves more attention.

Monique Martin, printmaker, painter, sculptor. I am currently mentoring and collaborating with Monique.

Mel Bolen, ceramic artist. Mel recently won a prize in a competition in Japan, but is not known well enough outside Western Canada.

Carole Harmon, photographer. Carole was originally based in Banff, and is now based in Vancouver. Her own work has, in the past, been overshadowed by her promotion of the historic work of her grandfather, the first professional photographer in Banff.

CATHRYN MILLER
OCTOBER 2014



Synesthesia (detail, page 13 of 18)

EXHIBITION CHECKLIST
and Index to Images

Works in the exhibition are underlined>.

covers, section dividers, p. 38–41
Synesthesia (Ideasthesia) #1, 2014



Altered book/installation
Laser printing on squares cut from a discarded *Gage Junior Dictionary* (1985). Encoded message: *Out of the earth I sing*.
18 pages, each 15.25 x 15.25 cm (6 x 6 in)
Installation dimensions variable

p. 8
Universe: Foundation, 2012



Altered book
Bookcloth covered box containing Froebel stars folded from approx. 1/3 of the pages of a discarded copy of Life Nature Library volume *The Universe*. Inner box surfaces lined with cotton rag paper and an image from the discarded book.
17.75 x 17.75 x 7.6 cm (7 x 7 x 3 in) closed

p. 9
Skunk Cabbage Board Walk, 2007



Artist's book, edition of 5
Archival pigment print on 100% cotton rag paper text block. Canson Mi-Teintes paper. Indian metallic leaf print paper soft cover. Enclosed in hard wrapper of book board covered in Indian metallic leaf print paper, secured with blue grosgrain ribbon.
21.6 x 21.6 cm (8.5 x 8.5 in) closed, 26 pages

p. 10
Earth, 2009



Altered book
One copy of *The Earth* (Life Nature Library, 1962), Indian and Canson Mi-Teintes papers, book board, wood, Sculpey, plastic slide box and mounts, pencil, grosgrain ribbon. Laser printing. Housed in a six-sided drop down case with ribbon closure.
23 x 15 x 6 cm (9 x 6 x 2.25 in) closed
Special Collection of the University of Calgary Library, Alberta

in-sin-u-ated, in-sin-u-a-tang.
st (in sis't) keep firmly to some demand, intent, or position; take a stand and refuse to give in: *He insists that he had a right to use his brother's tools.*
st-ence (in sis'tans) 1 the act of insisting. *We told their insistence on changing things.* 2 being insistent. *n.*
st-ent (in sis'tant) 1 insisting, continuing to demand; a strong, firm demand or statement: *Although it raining, she was insistent about going for a walk.* 2 compelling attention or notice; pressing; urgent: *An insistent knocking on the door woke us up.* *adj. insistent-ly, adv.*
st-ence (in'salans) bold rudeness; insulting: *The judge was insistent by the judge's insolence.* *n.*
st-ent (in'salant) boldly rude; insulting: *Insolent visitor cost him his job.* *adj. —in'solent-ly, adv.*
st-ent (in som'ne s) not being able to sleep; sleeplessness: *He suffers from insomnia.* *n.*
st-ect (in spekt') 1 look over carefully; examine: *A dentist inspects the children's teeth twice a year.* 2 examine formally; look over officially: *Government inspectors inspect factories and mines to make sure that they are safe for workers.* *v.*
st-ec-tion (in spekt'shan) 1 an inspecting: *An inspection of the roof showed no leaks.* 2 a formal or official examination: *The soldiers lined up for their daily inspection by their officers.* *n.*
st-ec-tor (in spekt'ar) 1 an officer or official intended to inspect: *The public health inspector visits restaurants.* 2 a police officer, usually ranking next in authority above a superintendent. *n.*
st-ira-tion (in'spa ra'shan) 1 stimulation of the senses or feelings to unusual activity or creativity: *Some poets get inspiration from sermons, some from poetry.* 2 a person or thing that arouses effort to do well: *The coach is an inspiration to her team.* 3 an idea that is new, original, brilliant idea: *It was an inspiration to her to start a business.* 4 the drawing of air into the lungs; inspiration. *n.*

in-stance (in'stans) 1 a person or thing such as an example; a case: *That rude question was an instance of bad manners.* 2 a stage or step in an action: *In this instance he decided not to go with them.* *n.*
in-stant (in'stant) 1 a particular moment or occasion, as an example: *Her many hobbies for instance, skating and stamp collecting.* 2 instant the engine stalled. 3 a moment of time that passes so quickly that it seems to be paused for an instant. 4 pressing; urgent: *The need for instant relief from pain.* 5 a fire there is an instant need for action: *The chef is a fire there is an instant need for action.* 6 beforehand and requiring little or no cooking; additional ingredients: *instant pudding, instant oatmeal, instant noodle soup.* 1, 2 *n.* 3–5 *adj.*
in-stan-ta-ne-ous (in'stan ta'ne as) coming in an instant; happening or made in an instant: *instantaneous lightning is instantaneous.* *adj. —in'stan-taneously, adv.*
in-stan-t-ly (in'stant le) in an instant; at once: *He fell in love instantly.* *adv.*
in-stead (in sted') in place of someone or something; as a substitute: *She stayed home, and her sister went to the party instead.* *adv.*
in-sti-gate (in'sta gat') stir up; set in motion; especially something undesirable: *Foreign agents instigated a rebellion.* *v.* **in-sti-gate-d, in-sti-gate-ing**
in-still OR **in-still** (in stil') 1 gradually put into someone's mind; instill: *Reading good books instills a love for fine literature.* 2 put in liquid: *She instilled perfume into the bottle.* *v.* **in-still-ing**
in-stinct (in stingkt) 1 a natural feeling, tendency, or power, such as that which guides animals, to act in a certain way: *Birds do not fly by instinct.* 2 a natural tendency or talent: *Even as a child, the artist had an instinct for color.* *n.*

Synesthesia (detail, page 14 of 18)



p. 11
Snowy Owl, 2009

Artist's book, edition of 24
Accordion structure. Archival pigment print on Legion Domestic Etching paper. Reverse folded covers. Housed in a paper sleeve. Original pantoum by the artist.

16.5 x 12 cm (6.5 x 4.75 in) closed, 8 pages



p. 14
A is for Apple, 2011

Altered book, edition of 6
Miniature replica apple crate with removable top. Papier maché, archival pigment printing on 100% cotton rag paper. Letter 'A' pages from Funk and Wagnall's *A Standard Dictionary* 1897 ('excelsior' includes portions of pages listing historic apple varieties), Styrofoam, coated wire, recycled spruce timber, brass tacks, PVA/wheat starch paste mix.

10.8 x 15.25 x 10 cm (4.25 x 6 x 4 in) closed



p. 15
Starry Night: An Astro Logical Nomical Alphabet, 2010

Artist's book, edition of 20
Tri-fold. Archival pigment print on Legion Domestic Etching paper, enclosed in a Tanabata paper sleeve.

15.25 x 15.25 cm (6 x 6 in) closed, 3 leaves



p. 16-17
Shell Games, 2010

Artist's book, edition of 6
Laser printed on acid-free paper. Pamphlet bound. Blue paper wrapper with button and thread closure. Laid in a 9.5 x 10.8 x 4.45 cm (3.75 x 4.25 x 1.75 in) four-layer clamshell box. Ornamented with antique mother-of-pearl buttons. Paper, book board, antique mother-of-pearl buttons, antique mother-of-pearl gaming chip, 80# acid-free 100% recycled text paper, cotton cord, linen cord. Text by the artist.

7 x 8.25 cm (2.75 x 3.25 in) closed, 12 pages



p. 20-21
Double Entendre, 2009

Altered book
Reversible box containing a sewn codex including the foreign words and phrases pages from *The New Webster Encyclopedic Dictionary*, 1971 ed.; Indian cotton paper, book board, leather, brass rod and tubing.

14 x 14 x 14 cm (5.5 x 5.5 x 5.5 in) closed

Special Collection of the University of Calgary Library, Alberta



p. 22
Tongue Tied, 2012

Altered book
One copy of the *Concise Oxford Dictionary of Current English* (Fourth Edition), cut, folded, and stitched with red and black cotton cord. Canal linen paper wrapper.

10 x 10 x 30.5 cm (4 x 4 x 12 in)

Collection of Murray Library, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon



p. 23
point(ed), 2012

Altered book
One discarded library edition of the *Oxford Dictionary of English*, Chinese money fold.

Dimensions variable



p. 24
Flowery Language, 2013

Altered book/installation
Definition pages from a two volume set of the *World Book Encyclopaedia Dictionary* cut, folded, and assembled into flowers; coloured introductory pages from two editions of the *World Book Encyclopaedia Dictionary* cut into leaves; starch paste/PVA mix.

Dimensions variable



p. 25
Language Barrier Too, 2013

Altered book
Margins from the *Oxford Dictionary of Foreign Words and Phrases* (library edition) cut, rolled into beads, and sewn together; unbleached crochet cotton; custom cherry wood frame; starch paste/PVA mix.
83 x 83 x 1.5 cm (32.7 x 32.7 x .6 in)



p. 28-29
redpoll & RAVEN, 2005

Artist's book, edition of 10
Inkjet printed on Strathmore, Canson Mi-Teintes, and Ginwashi papers. Layered tri-fold with tabbed band closure. Text is from *The Catalogue of Canadian Birds*, ed. John Macoun, Canada Department of Mines: Geological Survey Branch, 2nd edition, 1909. Haiku and illustrations by the artist.
28 x 19 cm (11 x 7.5 in) closed, 9 pages



p. 30
Datura, 2007

Artist's book, edition of 24
Archival pigment print on Legion Domestic Etching paper. Accordion fold enclosed in a folder. Original pantoum by the artist.
15.25 x 15.25 cm (6 x 6 in) closed, 6 pages



p. 31
Feathers, 2014

Artist's book
Accordion structure with archival pigment print on Legion Domestic Etching paper in a Stonehenge black wrap cover with Indian brown tissue overlay, cotton cord closure with grouse feather.
7 x 8.25 cm (2.75 x 3.25 in) closed, 8 pages



p. 32-33
A Portrait of The Artist as a Shadow of her Former Self, 2006

Artist's book, edition of 24
Archival pigment print on Legion Domestic Etching paper. Sewn text block. Bound in double Unryu paper overlapped with tabbed closure.
15.25 x 10 cm (6 x 4 in) closed, 12 pages



p. 36-37
The Wishing Star Project, 2014-ongoing

Artist's book/installation
Work in progress. Full scale labyrinth to be constructed from approx. 40,000 Chinese lucky stars containing wishes submitted by the public.
Dimensions to be determined



p. 44-45
The ME Ching, 2012

Artist's book, edition of 18
Laser printed on 100% acid-free paper. Includes "lucky" Chinese coin in small pocket on last leaf. Bound in starch-coated cotton rag paper with Chinese "lucky coin" paper overlay. Cotton cord wrap closure.
15.25 x 11.4 cm (6 x 4.5 in) closed, 12 pages



TYPOLOGY Edition
A Portrait of the Artist as a Shadow of Her Former Self, 2014

Archival digital print on Epson Enhanced Matte paper.
6 x 9 inches, edition of 10

re study the study of animals, plants, and other
 things and events in nature.

right (noʊl) nothing: *All his work went for naught
 the storm destroyed his crops.* *n.*
 Homonyms: **Naught** is pronounced like **knot**, **not**,
 and **nought**.

rightness (noʊt'ɛnsɪ) bad behavior;
 pedience; mischief. *n.*

rightly (noʊt'el) badly, not obedient: *The naughty
 hit his baby sister.* *adj.* **naught-ier** **naught-est**.
 Homonyms: **Naughty** is pronounced like **knotty**.

sew (noʊ'eə or noʊ'səl) 1 the feeling that one is
 to vomit. 2 extreme disgust; loathing. *n.*
 Etymology: **Nausea** originally meant 'sickness',
 like **nautil**, it came through Latin from the Greek
 word **naus**, meaning 'ship'. See note at **noise**.

sewate (noʊ'eət) make sick; cause nausea in
 use-ate, **nause-ating**.

sewous (noʊ'eəs or noʊ'səl) 1 feeling sick,
 that one is going to throw up or vomit: *The child
 nauseous riding in the car along the bumpy roads.*
 sing **nausea**, **steking**: *a nauseous smell.* *adj.*

st-ical (noʊ'kəl) having something to do with
 sailors, or navigation. *adj.*
 Etymology: See note at **nausea**.

naval (nə'vəl) 1 of or for the navy or the ships and
 ment, etc. of a navy: *naval supplies*, *a naval officer*.
 ing a navy: *Britain used to be the greatest naval
 r* *adj.*
 Homonyms: **Naval** is pronounced like **navel**.

navy (nə'vi) the main part of a church or cathedral
 en the side aisles. *n.*
 Homonyms: **Nave** is pronounced like **knave**.

navel (nə'vəl) the mark or hollow in the middle of
 urface of the abdomen, marking the place where the
 lical cord was attached before birth. *n.*
 Homonyms: **Navel** is pronounced like **naval**.

navable (nə'vəbəl) that ships can travel on:
 r

the Canadian forces. *n., pl.* **navies**.

navy blue a dark blue.

navy (nə'vi) 1 formerly, no. 2 not only that,
 We are willing—*navy, eager—to go.* 3 a vote o
 against something. 1, 2 *adv.*, 3 *n.*

Na-zi (nə'zi) a member of a political part
 governed Germany before and during World V
 Homonyms: **Nazi** is pronounced like **neigh**.

N.B. *abbreviation for: New Brunswick.*

N.B. or n.b. *abbreviation for: nota bene,*
 words meaning 'note well'.

NDP or N.D.P. *abbreviation for: New D*
 Party.

NE or N.E. *abbreviation for: 1 north*
 2 northeastern.

near (nɪr) 1 close, not far; not distant: *The
 far and near* (*adv.*) *The post office is quite near.*
 2 close to; not far from: *We live near Regina.*
 is near *Labor Day.* 3 come or draw near to:
 The vacation was *near* its end. 4 closely:
 o'clock as *near* as he could guess. 5 close in
 near friend. 6 close in family relationship: *a
 cousin.* 7 short; direct: *They took the near*
 town. 8 by a close margin: *a near escape.*
 almost; nearly: *She was near crazy with fright.*
adj. 1, 4, 9 *adv.*, 2 *prep.*, 3 *v.* **near'ness**, *n.*
 come near doing, almost do- *I came near losin*
 glasses.

near at hand, a within easy reach; b not far in
 near-by (nɪr'bi) near, close at hand: *The
 nearby house* (*adj.*) *They live nearby* (*adv.*).

Near East the countries of southwestern A
 Egypt to Iran.

near-ly (nɪr'le) 1 almost: *It is nearly bedd*
 2 closely: *It will cost ninety dollars, as nearly*
 figure *n.* *adv.*

near-sighted (nɪr'sɪd) not able to see
 distinctly at a short distance only: *Near-sight*
 usually wear glasses. *adj.*

neat (net) 1 clean and in order: *a neat des*

navid (in val'ɪd) not valid; without force or
 without value: *Unless a cheque is signed, it is
 id.* *adj.*

navable (in val'vəbəl) priceless; very
 ous; valuable beyond measure: *Good health is an
 ous possession.* *adj.*

navable (in ven'vəbəl) always the same; not
 ing: *After dinner it was his invariable habit to take
 k.* *adj.* —**in-var'ia-bly**, *adv.* *adv.*

navision (in vā'zhan) 1 the act or fact of invading,
 ing by force: *There has been no invasion of England
 1066.* 2 an interference or intrusion: *She objected
 2 invasion of her privacy.* *n.*

navigle (in vā'gəl or in vɛ'gəl) misled by trickery;
 by flattery or persuasion: *The sales-clerk inveigled
 poor man into buying four hats.* *v., in-vei-gled*,
 -gling.

navint (in ven't) 1 make for the first time; think out
 thing new: *Alexander Graham Bell invented the
 hone.* 2 make up; think up: *to invent an excuse.*

navition (in ven'shan) 1 making something new:
 Chinese are credited with the invention of
 powder. 2 the thing invented: *Radio was a
 lewful invention.* 3 the power of inventing: *To be a
 writer of stories a person needs inventions.* 4 a
 up-story; a false statement: *His excuse for being
 was pure invention.* *n.*

navitive (in ven'tiv) good at inventing; quick to
 t things: *an inventive mind.* *An inventive person
 s up ways to save time, money, and work.* *adj.*

navitor (in ven'tər) a person who invents:
 nder *Graham Bell was a great inventor.* *n.*

navtory (in ven'tɔ'rel) 1 a detailed list of
 es. 2 a collection of articles that are or may be
 in detail; stock: *The storekeeper had a sale to
 e his inventory.* 3 make a detailed list of; enter in
 some stores *inventory their stock once a month.*
 , *pl.* **in-ven-to-ries**, 3 *v.*, **in-ven-to-ried**,

examine closely: *Detectives investigate crimes*
 investigate *nature to learn more about it.* *v.*
 in-vest-i-gat-ed, in-vest-i-gat-ing.

in-vest-i-ga-tion (in ves'təgə'shan) a car
 a detailed or careful examination: *The police c*
 an investigation of the accident. *n.*

in-vest-i-ga-tor (in ves'təgə'tɔr) a perso
 investigates. *n.*

in-vest-ment (in vest'ment) 1 investing;
 of money: *Getting an education is a wise inve*
 time and money. 2 something bought that is
 to yield money as interest, or profit, or both: *I*
 has a good income from wise investments. 1
in-vest-ment (in ves'tənt) a person who invests
 n.

in-vig-or-ate (in vig'ərat') give vigor to;
 life and energy: *He felt invigorated after his sw*
 mountain air invigorated and refreshed us.
 in-vig-or-ated, in-vig-or-at-ing.

in-vin-ci-ble (in vin'səbəl) impossible to
 unconquerable: *The champion wrestler seemed
 invincible.* *adj.* —**in-vin'cibly**, *adv.*

in-vis-i-ble (in viz'əbəl) 1 not visible; not
 being seen: *Thought is invisible.* *Germis are in*
 the naked eye. 2 not in sight; hidden: *The pi*
 peak was invisible behind the cloud. *adj.*

in-vi-ta-tion (in vā'tə'shan) 1 a request to
 some place or to do something: *Formal invit*
 written or printed: *The children received invit*
 the party. 2 the act of inviting. *n.*

in-vite (in vit') 1 ask someone politely to
 some place or to do something: *He invited his*
 the party: *We invited her to join our club.* 2
 polite request for: *She invited our opinion of*
 3 give a chance for; tend to cause: *The letter in*
 questions: *Carelessness invites trouble.* 4 at
 The calm water invited us to swim. *v., in-vit*
 in-ving.

in-vit-ing (in vit'ɪŋ) attractive; tempting
 bed was most inviting to the tired man. *adj.*

