

# BAU-XI PHOTO

## CARA BARER

Cara Barer visually documents the way in which society has come to retrieve information by changing a common reference book into a work of sculpture and photographing the outcome. In her experimentation with curling irons, clothes pins and water, Barer transforms volumes of information into coiled, crumpled objects of beauty.

“Sculpting segued to thoughts on obsolescence and the relevance of libraries in this century... The way we choose to research and find information is in an evolution. I hope to raise questions about these changes, the ephemeral and fragile nature in which we now obtain knowledge and the future of books.”

“Half a century ago, students researched at home with the family set of encyclopedias, or took a trip to the library to find needed information. Now, owning a computer, and connecting to the internet gives a student the ability to complete a research paper without ever going near a library. I have fully embraced that technology, and would not want to be without it, but, I also fear that it is rapidly leading us to rely less and less on the reference books common in the last two centuries.”

## Education

1990 -94          Glassell School of Art, Art Institute of Houston, TX  
1980-81          Associate Degree in Fashion Marketing University of Houston, TX

## Solo Exhibitions

2021              “Bricolage,” Andrea Schwartz Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
2020              Bau-Xi Photo, Toronto, ON  
                     Longnecker Gallery, Houston, TX  
2019              ‘Cara Barer: #Booksupcycled,’ Andrea Schwartz Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
2018              “Scrapbooks,” Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto  
2017              “Letters & Landscapes,” Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto  
2016              “When the Ice Melts,” Fotofest biennial, Nicole Longnecker Gallery, Houston, TX  
2015              New Work, KLOMPCHING Gallery, Brooklyn, NY  
2015              “Cartographica,” Bau-Xi Photo, Toronto  
2015              “Origins,” Capture Photo Festival, Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver  
2014              “Origins,” Bau-Xi Photo, Toronto  
2014              “Mediations,” Nicole Longnecker Gallery, Houston, TX  
2013              “Transmutations,” Klompching Gallery, Brooklyn, NY  
2013              “Transmutations,” Bau-Xi Photo, Toronto  
2012              Introductory Preview, November, Bau-Xi Photo, Toronto  
2012              “Bound and Unbound,” Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA  
2012              “Time Capsules” DeSantos Gallery, Houston, TX  
2012              “Memoire Vive,” Boissiere + Goemndio Art Contemporain, Paris, France  
2011              “Overload,” Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA  
2010              “Tesseractae,” Fotofest, Design Works, Galveston, TX  
2010              “Cara Barer, New Work,” Hulse/Warman Gallery, Taos, NM  
2010              “Barer/Lobato, Two Person Show,” Andrea Schwartz Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
2009              “Becoming a Myth,” DeSantos Gallery, Houston TX

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- 2009 Los Angeles Times Festival of Books, UCLA campus, Susan Spiritus Gallery
- 2008 Wessel and Lieberman Booksellers, Seattle, WA
- 2008 "The Book Project", Tatar Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2008 Hulse-Warman Gallery, Taos, NM
- 2008 Fotofest 2008, "Flux", Design Works, Galveston, TX
- 2007 "Metamorphosis", De Santos Gallery, Houston, TX
- 2007 "Of Words, Paper, and Shapes", Singer Gallery, Petaluma, CA
- 2006 Fotofest Houston, Design Works, Galveston, TX
- 2006 "Evolutions", DE Santos Gallery, Houston, TX
- 2005 Tomball College, Tomball, TX
- 1999 "Blue Prints". Purse Building, Houston, TX
- 1997 Purse Building, Houston, TX
- 1996 Solo Show, Purse Building, Houston, TX
- 1994 University of Texas, Health Science Center, Houston, TX

## Group Exhibitions

- 2023 'Looking Forward,' Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto
- 2021 'Focus on Photography,' Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2019 Art Toronto, Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto
- 2019 Fall Group Show, Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto
- 2018 'Books Undone: The Art of Altered Books,' Penn College, Williamsport, PA
- 2017 "Method," Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto
- 2016 "Coast to Colour," Laura Korman Gallery, Santa Monica, CA
- 2015 "Adaption: Turning Books into Art," Kalamazoo Institute of the Arts, MI
- 2015 "Unhinged: Book Art on the Cutting Edge," Whatcom Museum, Bellingham, WA
- 2015 "COLORLAB" Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver
- 2014 "Adaption: Turning Books into Art," Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, Birmingham, MI
- 2014 "From Ordinary to Extraordinary: Paper as Art," Cornell Museum of Art and American Culture, Delray Beach, FL
- 2014 "Up Words," Foster White Gallery, Seattle
- 2014 ""Ex Libris," J.Johnson Gallery, Jacksonville, FL
- 2014 "Books Ends," Carmel Center for Photographic Arts, Carmel, California
- 2013 "Back to the Future," Suffolk County Historical Society, Riverhead, NY
- 2013 "Out of Print," Pine Hills Library, Albany, NY
- 2013 "Between the Lines," Andrea Schwartz Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2012 "Here Today, Gone Tomorrow: Life's Fragile Nature" NG Gallery, Sydney, Australia
- 2012 New Work, Andrea Schwartz Gallery, San Francisco, CA
- 2011 "From Ordinary to Extraordinary: The Art of Being Green" Susquehanna Art Museum, Harrisburg, PA
- 2011 "Information Revisited" Encyclopedia Britannica Project, Maloney Art Gallery, Morristown, NJ
- 2011 "Noel d'Ameriques," Group Exhibition, Boissiere + Gomendio Art Contemporarain, Neuilly sur Seine, France
- 2011 "That Was Then, This is Now," Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA
- 2011 "Speak for the Trees" Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa, CA
- 2011 "Splash II" KLOMPCHING GALLERY, Brooklyn, NY
- 2010 "Olive Branch," Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA

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- 2010 "Perspectives," Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA  
2010 "A Decade of Images," Women in Photography International, 2nd Place Award  
2010 "Information Revisited," Encyclopedia Britannica Project, Belskie Museum of Art and Science, Closter, NJ  
2010 "Unbound: A Short Survey of Book Art," Bedford Art Center, San Francisco, CA  
2010 "Altered Books: A New Object," [Artspace] at Untitled, Oklahoma City, OK  
2010 "Beyond Text and Image" Stanier Gallery, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, VA  
2009 "Le livre imagine" Librairie Monet, Montreal, Quebec, Canada  
2009 "Palimpsests" Tarryn Teresa Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
2009 "Word" Andrea Schwartz Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
2009 "\flo\ : art, text, new medis," The Center for Book Arts, New York, NY  
2009 "Discover", Group Exhibition, Galerie Poller, New York, NY  
2008 Assistance League, Williams Tower, Houston, TX, Juried.  
2008 "Circulation", Kunstler Gallery, Rochester, NY, Juried.  
2008 "Chiaroscuro", Andrea Schwartz Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
2008 Assistance League of Houston, Houston, TX, Juried, Third Place Award.  
2007 "Book Works", Galveston Arts Center, Galveston, TX  
2007 DIA Invitational, Denver, CO, Juried.  
2007 "Summer Reading", Bernard Toale Gallery, Boston, MA  
2007 Two Person Show, Pine Street Art Works, Burlington, VT  
2007 "The Book, Ever After", College of the Mainland, Texas City, TX  
2006 "Photography Now", 100 Portfolios, Wright State University, Dayton, OH  
2006 Two Person Show, Pine Street Artworks, Burlington, VT  
2006 Works on Paper, Mill Pond House, St. James, NY, Juried.  
2006 Aperture Foundation, Summer 2006 Portfolio Pick, Honorable Mention.  
2005 Assistance League of Houston, Honorable Mention, Houston, TX  
2005 Texas Photographic Society, Galveston, TX, Juried, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Award.  
2005 Circles of Confusion, pinhole exhibition, De Santos Gallery, Houston, TX  
2005 Review Santa Fe, Santa Fe, NM, Juried portfolio review.  
2004 The Big Show, Lawndale Arts and Performance Center, Houston, TX  
2004 Assistance League of Houston, Houston TX, Juried.  
2003 Visual Arts Alliance, Honorable Mention, Houston, TX, Juried.  
2002 Fotofest Houston, Pinhole Exhibition, The arts Alliance Center, Clear Lake, TX  
2002 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Juried Photography Exhibition, Texas Artist Museum, Port Arthur, TX  
2001 "New Prints from Texas," Omen and Their Work, Austin, TX, Juried.  
1999 "One Night Hang", Houston, TX, Juried, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place.  
1998 Texas A & M University, College Station, TX  
1996 Assistance League of Houston, Houston, TX, Juried.  
1996 Dishman Competition, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX, Juried.  
1996 "The Big Show", Lawndale Art and Performance Center, Houston, TX, Juried  
1995 "The Big Show", Lawndale Art and Performance Center, Houston, TX, Juried

### Awards

- 2010 Women in Photography International, Juror's choice: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

**Publications**

2018            *Transformations*

**Collections**

Bloomington's  
Cheniere Energy  
Davidoff  
Trump Hollywood  
The Keg Steakhouse  
Lehigh University  
Museum of Fine Arts Houston  
Neiman Marcus  
Nordstrom  
Danielle Steel  
United States Embassy, Kyiv, Ukraine  
VISA  
UCLA Special Collections  
Wells Fargo Bank  
SAKS Fifth Avenue  
Hudson's Bay  
Holt Renfrew

**Bibliography**

Articles:

The Islander, "Galveston Galleries" March 2006  
The Houston Press, "Paper Chaser" September 21 – 27, 2006  
Boston Globe, "Summer Reading" review, Aug.2, 2007  
Craft Magazine, "Rock, Paper, Scissors" Volume 05, 2007  
Dumbo Feather, pass it on, (Australia) "Book or a Byte?" Issue 12, Winter 2007  
Wait Magazine, (Italy) "La perfezione nella distruzione" (The Art of Destruction) Oct. 2007  
Page Magazine, (Germany) "Fotografische Skulpturen" January 2008  
Houston Modern Luxury, "Page Turner!" February 2008  
Photonews, Germany, "Das Fotobuch" May 2008  
New York Magazine, "The End," pg. 38-39, September 22, 2008  
Domus, "Books Under the Tree," cover story, December, 2008  
Los Angeles Times, "Making Words Sensuous," pg. D14, Oct.9, 2009  
Downtown Oklahoma, "Major Revisions," pgs. 14-15, July 2010  
Humbolt 153, Goethe-Institut, "Traducccion de la Cultura," pg. 57, 2010  
Reforma Newspaper, (Mexico) "Libros de Tercera Mano" Culture Section, April 2010

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SF Weekly (San Francisco) "The Revolution Will be Photographed" pg. 19, November, 2010  
"Pictures Worth a Thousand Words" Houston Chronicle, April 13, 2012  
Seattle Times, "Artist turns Books into Art" July 20, 2012  
"An Altered Book" by Alexandra Chasin, Post Road, 2015  
"Cara Barer at Klompching Gallery" by Jean Dykstra, Photograph Magazine, March/April 2016  
pg. 84

### Books:

"Coversto Please," by Michael Dirda, 2005  
"Paper, Tear, Fold, Rip, Crease, Cut," pgs. 110-113, Black Dog Publishing, United Kingdom, 2009  
"Perfect Paper," pgs. 70-71, Page One Publishing, Singapore, 2009  
"Papercraft," pg. 155, Gestalten, Germany, 2009  
"Playing With Books," pg. 122, Quarry Books, 2010  
"Art Made From Books" pgs. 48-53, Chronicle Books, 2013  
"Paper Play" pgs. 122-123, Ginko Press, 2014

### Covers:

Columbia Journalism Review, The Books Issue Oct. 2007, Award - Certificate of Excellence from Print Magazine  
Trama Editorial, "Texturas," Dec. 2007, Spain  
Wait Magazine, Oct, 2007, Italy  
Literal Magazine, Spring 2008, Mexico  
Courrier International, March 19, 2008, France  
Domus, December, 2008, Italy  
Columbia University, Spring Catalog 2009  
Le Monde, *diplomatie*, October, 2009, France  
"Method and Madness," by Alice LaPlante, 2009  
"Beg, Borrow, Steal," by Michael Greenberg, 2009  
"The Late Age of Print," by Ted Striphas, 2009  
"Ringelblums Vermachtnis," Samuel D. Kassow, 2010  
"Art Made From Books" Chronicle Books, 2013  
"Barely Composed" by Alice Fulton, W.W. Norton, 2015