

BAU - XI GALLERY

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

2026 "Wandering," Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto, ON
2024 "Bibliomania" Catherine Couturier Gallery, Houston, TX
2023 "Free-Form Origami," Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto, ON
 "Atmospheric" Andrea Schwartz Gallery, San Francisco, CA
2022 "The Company of Starts," Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver
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
 "Cartographica," Bau-Xi Photo, Toronto
 "Origins," Capture Photo Festival, Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver
2014 "Origins," Bau-Xi Photo, Toronto
 "Mediations," Nicole Longnecker Gallery, Houston, TX
2013 "Transmutations," Klompching Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
 "Transmutations," Bau-Xi Photo, Toronto
2012 Introductory Preview, November, Bau-Xi Photo, Toronto
 "Bound and Unbound," Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA

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	"Time Capsules" DeSantos Gallery, Houston, TX
	"Memoire Vive," Boissiere + Goemndio Art Contemporain, Paris, France
2011	"Overload," Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA
2010	"Tesseractae," Fotofest, Design Works, Galveston, TX
	"Cara Barer, New Work," Hulse/Warman Gallery, Taos, NM
	"Barer/Lobato, Two Person Show," Andrea Schwartz Gallery, San Francisco, CA
2009	"Becoming a Myth," DeSantos Gallery, Houston TX
2008	Wessel and Lieberman Booksellers, Seattle, WA
	"The Book Project", Tatar Gallery, Toronto, ON
	Hulse-Warman Gallery, Taos, NM
	Fotofest 2008, "Flux", Design Works, Galveston, TX
2007	"Metamorphosis", De Santos Gallery, Houston, TX
	"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

2025	'Destination', Andrea Schwartz Gallery, San Francisco
2024	'Unique Perspectives,' Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto
2023	'Looking Forward,' Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto
2021	'Focus on Photography,' Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA
2019	Art Toronto, Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto
	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
	"Unhinged: Book Art on the Cutting Edge," Whatcom Museum, Bellingham, WA
	"COLORLAB" Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver
2014	"Adaption: Turning Books into Art," Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, Birmingham, MI
	"From Ordinary to Extraordinary: Paper as Art," Cornell Museum of Art and American Culture, Delray Beach, FL
	"Up Words," Foster White Gallery, Seattle
	"Ex Libris," J.Johnson Gallery, Jacksonville, FL
	"Books Ends," Carmel Center for Photographic Arts, Carmel, California
2013	"Back to the Future," Suffolk County Historical Society, Riverhead, NY
	"Out of Print," Pine Hills Library, Albany, NY
	"Between the Lines," Andrea Schwartz Gallery, San Francisco, CA
2012	"Here Today, Gone Tomorrow: Life's Fragile Nature" NG Gallery, Sydney, Australia
	New Work, Andrea Schwartz Gallery, San Francisco, CA

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- 2011 "From Ordinary to Extraordinary: The Art of Being Green" Susquehanna Art Museum, Harrisburg, PA
 "Information Revisited" Encyclopedia Britannica Project, Maloney Art Gallery, Morristown, NJ
 "Noel d'Ameriques," Group Exhibition, Boissiere + Gomendio Art Contemporarain, Neuilly sur Seine, France
 "That Was Then, This is Now," Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA
 "Speak for the Trees" Orange Coast College, Costa Mesa, CA
 "Splash II" KLOMPCHING GALLERY, Brooklyn, NY
- 2010 "Olive Branch," Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA
 "Perspectives," Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA
 "A Decade of Images," Women in Photography International, 2nd Place Award
 "Information Revisited," Encyclopedia Britannica Project, Belskie Museum of Art and Science, Closter, NJ
 "Unbound: A Short Survey of Book Art," Bedford Art Center, San Francisco, CA
 "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" Librarie Monet, Montreal, Quebec, Canada
 "Palimpsests" Tarryn Teresa Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
 "Word" Andrea Schwartz Gallery, San Francisco, CA
 "'flo\': art, text, new medis," The Center for Book Arts, New York, NY
 "Discover", Group Exhibition, Galerie Poller, New York, NY
- 2008 Assistance League, Williams Tower, Houston, TX, Juried.
 "Circulation", Kunstler Gallery, Rochester, NY, Juried.
 "Chiaroscuro", Andrea Schwartz Gallery, San Francisco, CA
 Assistance League of Houston, Houston, TX, Juried, Third Place Award.
- 2007 "Book Works", Galveston Arts Center, Galveston, TX
 DIA Invitational, Denver, CO, Juried.
 "Summer Reading", Bernard Toale Gallery, Boston, MA
 Two Person Show, Pine Street Art Works, Burlington, VT
 "The Book, Ever After", College of the Mainland, Texas City, TX
- 2006 "Photography Now", 100 Portfolios, Wright State University, Dayton, OH
 Two Person Show, Pine Street Artworks, Burlington, VT
 Works on Paper, Mill Pond House, St. James, NY, Juried.
 Aperture Foundation, Summer 2006 Portfolio Pick, Honorable Mention.
- 2005 Assistance League of Houston, Honorable Mention, Houston, TX
 Texas Photographic Society, Galveston, TX, Juried, 2nd Place Award. 2005
 Circles of Confusion, pinhole exhibition, De Santos Gallery, Houston, TX
 Review Santa Fe, Santa Fe, NM, Juried portfolio review.
- 2004 The Big Show, Lawndale Arts and Performance Center, Houston, TX
 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
 8th 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, 3rd Place.
- 1998 Texas A & M University, College Station, TX
- 1996 Assistance League of Houston, Houston, TX, Juried.

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1995 Dishman Competition, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX, Juried.
"The Big Show", Lawndale Art and Performance Center, Houston, TX, Juried
"The Big Show", Lawndale Art and Performance Center, Houston, TX, Juried

AWARDS

2010 Women in Photography International, Juror's choice: 2nd Place

PUBLICATIONS

2018 *Transformations*

COLLECTIONS

Bakersfield Art Museum, Bakersfield, CA
Bloomingdale's, New York, NY
Camille Sourget, Paris, France
Charles Schwab, CA
Cheniere Energy, USA
Cisco Systems Inc., San Jose, CA
Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, CA
Danielle Steel, San Francisco, CA
Davidoff corporate collection, USA
Frazier King, USA
Fred and Helen Dunbar, New York, NY
Gemma Desantos, USA
Hudson's Bay
Holt Renfrew
Jamie Leigh and Rob Phillips, San Francisco, CA
Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA
Linda Koehler, San Francisco, CA
Mid State Bank, OK
Museum of Fine Arts Houston, Houston, TX
Neiman Marcus corporate collection, USA
Nordstrom corporate collection, USA
SAKS Fifth Avenue
Susan Dudley, Austin, TX
Susan Magley, San Francisco, CA
Susan Spiritus
Susan Steinhauer
Trinchero Winery, CA
Trump Hollywood, Miami, FL
The Grace Museum, TX
UCLA Special Collections, Los Angeles, CA
US State Department, USA
VISA corporate collection, USA
Wells Fargo Bank corporate collection, USA

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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, "Traduccion de la Cultura," pg. 57, 2010
Reforma Newspaper, (Mexico) "Libros de Tercera Mano" Culture Section, April 2010
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" July20, 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, *diplomatique*, October, 2009, France

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"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

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