

# susan *Kapuscinski* gaylord



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Susan is inspired by the spirit of nature, both wild and cultivated, and the beauty and power of words. She has been working as a visual artist since the late 1970s. Ten years of calligraphic work were followed by a deep involvement in book arts. Her most significant body of work is the ongoing Spirit Books series, contemplative art objects—part book and part sculpture—made with branches, sticks, vines, handmade papers, and beads, which she began in 1992.

Her work is in the collections of the Museum of Modern Art Library, the University of Arizona, Wellesley College, the George J. Mitchell Department of Special Collections & Archives at Bowdoin College, Yale University, and the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County. It has also been featured in solo and group exhibitions in museums and galleries throughout the United States and in Canada and Korea, including the Center for Book Arts in New York City; the University of Indiana Art Gallery in Indianapolis; the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and the Seungnam Book Fair in Seungnam, Korea.

Susan's work is well-represented in print with features in magazines (*Somerset Studio*, *Bound and Lettered*, *Fiberarts*, *Letter Arts Review*, *Urthona: Buddhism and the Arts*, *Art Quarter from Taiwan*, and *g: from Korea*) and books (*1,000 Artist's Books*, *500 Handmade Books*, *500 More Handmade Books*, *Cover to Cover* and *The Art of the Handmade Book* by Shereen LaPlantz, and *Handmade Books And Cards* by Jean Kropper).

Susan's commitment to her art extends beyond the studio. She is internationally known for her advocacy of the educational and personal value of simple bookmaking with recycled materials through her website, [makingbooks.com](http://makingbooks.com), and her youtube channel at [susangaylord.com](http://susangaylord.com). She writes and speaks about the book as object and the creative life.