



Bookwork: Medium to Object to Concept to Art

By Garrett Stewart

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

Bookwork: Medium to Object to Concept to Art By Garrett Stewart

“There they rest, inert, impudent, in gallery space—those book forms either imitated or mutilated, replicas of reading matter or its vestiges. Strange, after its long and robust career, for the book to take early retirement in a museum, not as rare manuscript but as functionless sculpture. Readymade or constructed, such book shapes are canceled as text when deposited as gallery objects, shut off from their normal reading when not, in some yet more drastic way, dismembered or reassembled.” So begins *Bookwork*, which follows our passion for books to its logical extreme in artists who employ found or simulated books as a sculptural medium. Investigating the conceptual labor behind this proliferating international art practice, Garrett Stewart looks at hundreds of book-like objects, alone or as part of gallery installations, in this original account of works that force attention upon a book’s material identity and cultural resonance.

Less an inquiry into the artist’s book than an exploration of the book form’s contemporary objecthood, Stewart’s interdisciplinary approach traces the lineage of these aggressive artifacts from the 1919 *Unhappy Readymade* of Marcel Duchamp down to the current crisis of paper-based media in the digital era. *Bookwork* surveys and illustrates a stunning variety of appropriated and fabricated books alike, ranging from hacksawed discards to the giant lead folios of Anselm Kiefer. The unreadable books Stewart engages with in this timely study are found, again and again, to generate graphic metaphors for the textual experience they preclude, becoming in this sense legible after all.

 [Download Bookwork: Medium to Object to Concept to Art ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Bookwork: Medium to Object to Concept to Art ...pdf](#)

Bookwork: Medium to Object to Concept to Art

By Garrett Stewart

Bookwork: Medium to Object to Concept to Art By Garrett Stewart

“There they rest, inert, impertinent, in gallery space—those book forms either imitated or mutilated, replicas of reading matter or its vestiges. Strange, after its long and robust career, for the book to take early retirement in a museum, not as rare manuscript but as functionless sculpture. Readymade or constructed, such book shapes are canceled as text when deposited as gallery objects, shut off from their normal reading when not, in some yet more drastic way, dismembered or reassembled.” So begins *Bookwork*, which follows our passion for books to its logical extreme in artists who employ found or simulated books as a sculptural medium. Investigating the conceptual labor behind this proliferating international art practice, Garrett Stewart looks at hundreds of book-like objects, alone or as part of gallery installations, in this original account of works that force attention upon a book’s material identity and cultural resonance.

Less an inquiry into the artist’s book than an exploration of the book form’s contemporary objecthood, Stewart’s interdisciplinary approach traces the lineage of these aggressive artifacts from the 1919 *Unhappy Readymade* of Marcel Duchamp down to the current crisis of paper-based media in the digital era. *Bookwork* surveys and illustrates a stunning variety of appropriated and fabricated books alike, ranging from hacksawed discards to the giant lead folios of Anselm Kiefer. The unreadable books Stewart engages with in this timely study are found, again and again, to generate graphic metaphors for the textual experience they preclude, becoming in this sense legible after all.

Bookwork: Medium to Object to Concept to Art By Garrett Stewart **Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #3046710 in eBooks
- Published on: 2011-05-01
- Released on: 2011-05-01
- Format: Kindle eBook

 [Download Bookwork: Medium to Object to Concept to Art ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Bookwork: Medium to Object to Concept to Art ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Bookwork: Medium to Object to Concept to Art By Garrett Stewart

Editorial Review

Review

“When we read a book, it is always the physical volume in our hands—or in some substitute for hands—that is being read. That reading is a hands-on experience, we well understand, but what is to be said about artists taking hands to the book as object, transmogrifying it and separating it from readability? Garrett Stewart thinks deeply about the experience of reading, and how memories of reading hover over the altered book, or as Stewart calls it, *bibliobjet*, once it has been made into an object of art. *Bookwork* is an eloquent survey of the conceptual parameters of the bibliobjet and the multitudinous ways by which artists of the book object bring forth other orders of its reading.”

(Buzz Spector, Washington University)

“*Bookwork* is a bold, imaginative, and passionate study of the works of sculpture and installation art that are either made out of books or that reference books as cultural icons. No one has taken the study of book objects into as detailed a discussion as Garrett Stewart, who uncovers these objects’ important relation to conceptual art and the tradition of the readymade. *Bookwork* bridges art history and the sculptural tradition at the edge of the field of artists’ book production—creating a vivid link between these two communities. It will find a ready audience among those who study and practice the art Stewart explores.”

(Johanna Drucker, University of California, Los Angeles)

“Garrett Stewart focuses on the kind of book art that renders the book a physical object rather than a medium for reading with a thoroughness and theoretical sophistication that are unmatched in the literature on the subject. In its scope, erudition, and felicitous blend of museum stroll and sophisticated analysis, this book will engage and delight a much wider range of readers than most scholarly monographs. Sustained, original, intellectually stimulating, and often brilliant, *Bookwork* will become the source to consult on this topic for years to come.”

(Sabine Gross, University of Wisconsin–Madison)

“This fascinating work will change the way readers think about books and their purpose.”

(*Choice*)

About the Author

Garrett Stewart is the James O. Freedman Professor of Letters in the Department of English at the University of Iowa. He is the author of numerous previous books, many published by the University of Chicago Press, including *The Look of Reading: Book, Painting, Text*. He was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2010.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Seth Sawyer:

As people who live in often the modest era should be revise about what going on or info even knowledge to make all of them keep up with the era that is certainly always change and progress. Some of you maybe will probably update themselves by examining books. It is a good choice for you but the problems coming to anyone is you don't know which one you should start with. This Bookwork: Medium to Object to Concept to Art is our recommendation so you keep up with the world. Why, because this book serves what you want and want in this era.

Lonnie Hammer:

This book untitled Bookwork: Medium to Object to Concept to Art to be one of several books which best seller in this year, here is because when you read this publication you can get a lot of benefit onto it. You will easily to buy this specific book in the book retail outlet or you can order it through online. The publisher of the book sells the e-book too. It makes you more readily to read this book, because you can read this book in your Touch screen phone. So there is no reason for you to past this reserve from your list.

Wanda Riddle:

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation or maybe go to the outside with them family or their friend. Were you aware? Many a lot of people spent they free time just watching TV, as well as playing video games all day long. If you would like try to find a new activity this is look different you can read some sort of book. It is really fun for you personally. If you enjoy the book that you simply read you can spent 24 hours a day to reading a book. The book Bookwork: Medium to Object to Concept to Art it is extremely good to read. There are a lot of people that recommended this book. These folks were enjoying reading this book. In the event you did not have enough space to create this book you can buy the particular e-book. You can m0ore very easily to read this book from your smart phone. The price is not too costly but this book features high quality.

Marianne Button:

People live in this new moment of lifestyle always try and and must have the time or they will get large amount of stress from both day to day life and work. So , when we ask do people have extra time, we will say absolutely indeed. People is human not really a robot. Then we inquire again, what kind of activity do you possess when the spare time coming to anyone of course your answer will probably unlimited right. Then do you try this one, reading textbooks. It can be your alternative inside spending your spare time, often the book you have read is Bookwork: Medium to Object to Concept to Art.

Download and Read Online Bookwork: Medium to Object to Concept to Art By Garrett Stewart #UFM9J6SHXEV

Read Bookwork: Medium to Object to Concept to Art By Garrett Stewart for online ebook

Bookwork: Medium to Object to Concept to Art By Garrett Stewart Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Bookwork: Medium to Object to Concept to Art By Garrett Stewart books to read online.

Online Bookwork: Medium to Object to Concept to Art By Garrett Stewart ebook PDF download

Bookwork: Medium to Object to Concept to Art By Garrett Stewart Doc

Bookwork: Medium to Object to Concept to Art By Garrett Stewart MobiPocket

Bookwork: Medium to Object to Concept to Art By Garrett Stewart EPub

UFM9J6SHXEV: Bookwork: Medium to Object to Concept to Art By Garrett Stewart