

THE CUTTING EDGE

SCOTLAND'S CONTEMPORARY CRAFTS

Edited by Catriona Baird and Rose Watban Photographs by Shannon Tofts



Artist
Rachel Hazell

Born 1970, London, England

Training
1999-2001 MFA Printmaking
– Edinburgh College of Art
1997-98 MA Book art –
Camberwell College of Art,
London
1995-97 HND Book-binding –
London College of Printing
1990-95 MA (Hons) – The
University of Edinburgh

Inspiration
Stationery, repetition, archi-
tecture, landscape, design,
libraries

Tools and processes

Thinking, sketching, cutting,
measuring, folding, ripping,
gluing, pressing, waiting;
with scalpels, a slitting knife,
size-18 needle, braddle,
dividers, metal ruler, shears

Materials

Paper (esp. mould-made like
Somerset Velvet), grey board,
mill board, book cloth, pva,
waxed linen thread, water-
colour ink, found objects

**Examples of work in
public collections**

Artlink Central, Stirling
Edinburgh International
Book Festival, Scottish Arts
Council
Manchester Metropolitan
University
Cit Culture, Cit  Internation-
ale Universitaire de Paris

Statement

*'A collection of pages = a
book.'*

Creating books satisfies a
desire for order. Hand-binding
enables the topical arrange-
ment of "things", according

to current preoccupations.

'The scale of my work in-
creased when the Helen Storey
Foundation (2001) asked me to
design and build a two metre
high book sculpture, but small
personal books and specific
details remain important.'

'The book form interests
me; particularly its place in
both real and imaginary
landscapes. While only a few
words may be included, they
are carefully chosen.'

'Artist residencies in Shet-
land, on a Russian ice-breaker
in the Southern Seas, and in a
studio overlooking the Eiffel
Tower, have shaped both my
learning and ability to share.
Everyone has a book inside
them – these continue to be
drawn out; at school work-
shops, at festivals, on islands,
and at lighthouses!'

'I want to move into work-
ing with the actual environ-
ment; envisioning enormous
land art pieces, spelling out
narratives across the "wide
white page" that is Antarctica.'

'I love the way light and
shadow make pages sing.'

