



Collection of examples | Book object

In addition to the artist's book, the book object, also known as book sculpture, has been emerging since the mid-sixties of the 20th century. Book objects are works of art in which a given book or a book created by the artist himself is taken as the occasion for an artistic statement. The object character of the book is in the foreground. Book objects often appear as unique pieces or in minimal editions.

Book objects are:

- Books that have been artistically alienated, transformed or destroyed, and are therefore often no longer legible
- Books from non-book materials
- Plastics/sculptures in book form
- Combinations of object and text

Handout for cataloguing

- Description like modern prints
- Nature of content: book object
- Carrier type: object
- Relationships (including relationship designators) should be established to all related agents. The linkage with GND standard records is recommended.
- In the case of sparse information on the resource, additional information should be obtained from the Internet, if possible. These should be recorded in notes, indicating the source of information
- Extent of manifestation: 1 sculpture (or other appropriate designation according to RDA)

Example 1 – format neutral (in bold: core elements)

RDA-E-	RDA	Element	Content
M005	M005	title proper	[Betonierungen]
W015	W015	variant title *	Betonbuch
M045	M045	statement of responsibility	Vostell
M185	M185	place of publication	Hinwil/ZH
M195	M195	publishers name	Edition Howeg
M205	M205	date of publication	[1971?]
M350	M350	note	Concreted copy of Vostell's work "Betonierungen". On the front is a metal plate with engraved numbering of the copy, the engraved name "Vostell" and publication information "Edition Howeg CH 8340 Hinwil/ZH.
M360	M360	media type	unmediated
M365	3.3.	carrier type	object
M370	3.4.1	extent	1 sculpture
M375	3.5.1	dimensions *	34 x 25 x 4,5 cm
E010	6.11	language of expression	ger
W075	7.2	nature of content	Buchobjekt
M625	17.8	work manifested	Vostell, Wolf, 1932-1998. Betonierungen (sculpture)
W135	19.2	creator	Vostell, Wolf, 1932-1998
W135	18.5	relationship designator	artist
E165	21.3	publisher	Edition Howeg
E165	18.5	relationship designator	publisher agent
W145	24.5.1.3	relationship designator	Based on
W145	25.1	Related work of work	Betonierungen / Vostell, Wolf, 1932-1998

Explanation:

- W015 Other titles under which the book object could be searched should be indicated as differing titles.
- M375 For book objects, dimensions are important and should be given to the nearest millimeter if possible.

Example 2 - format neutral (in bold: core elements)

RDA_E-	RDA	Element	Inhalt
M005	2.3.2	title proper *	[Gefaltetes Telefonbuch der Deutschen Post]
W015	2.3.6	variant title *	Gefaltetes Buch (Telefonbuch)
W015	2.3.6	variant title	Telephone Directory
W015	2.3.6	variant title	Gefaltetes Telefonbuch
W015	2.4.2	statement of responsibility	[Dietrich Helms]
M045	2.7.2	place of production *	[Hamburg?]
M155	2.7.4	name of producer *	[Dietrich Helms?]
M165	2.7.6	date of production *	[1967?]
M175	2.17	note	"Folded telephone book of the German Post Office." - The book of the art of artists' books, Teheran [1978], page 17
M350	2.17	note	"Take a mail order catalog, tear off the stiff covers, fold each page in half and pin the outer edge to the inside of each, then repeat the procedure: fold each already folded page again and pin the outer edge back to the center of the book." – Translation of instructions for a similarly designed book object based on a mail order catalog on the artist's website. (viewed 24.01.2020)
M350	3.2.	media type	unmediated
M360	3.3.	carrier type	object
M365	3.4.1	extent	1 sculpture
M370	3.5.1	dimensions *	29,6 cm high, about 14 cm diameter
M375	6.11	language of expression	und
E010	7.2	nature of content	Buchobjekt
W075	17.8	work manifested	Helms, Dietrich, 1933-. Gefaltetes Telefonbuch der Deutschen Post
M625	19.2	creator	Helms, Dietrich, 1933-
W135	18.5	relationship designator	artist

Explanation:

- W015 Since there is no title to be found on the entire template, a title that makes as much sense as possible had to be faked. Here the English title from the source specification was translated into German.

- W015 Further titles, under which the book object could be searched, are to be indicated as deviating titles.
- M155 Place of origin instead of place of publication, since the object was not published.
- M165 Producer name instead of publisher, since the object was not published.
- M175 Date of origin instead of date of publication, since the object was not published.
- M375 For book objects, dimensions are important and should be given to the nearest millimeter if possible.