**Artist’s Book Proposal – Artist Publishing and Creative Collaboration**

Gina Louise Fowler (working as The Puzzled Press)

**Project Title:** Art Pages

**Proposed Project Dates:** Varied

**Description/Overview of Project**

As part of my professional interest in artist publishing, I propose a new series of artists’ books made in collaboration with practicing artists in any medium. This series will be broadly titled *Art Pages*, a reference to the use of the book format to present artwork. Each book in the series will be made in collaboration with the artist and will be individually titled. Because this project is an addition to my own creative work, I will only be able to work on one collaborative book at a time. It is estimated that each collaborative book edition will take six (6) months to complete.

Artists who choose to participate in this collaboration will have the opportunity to consider their work in the context of an artists’ book, considering structure as well sequence and narrative. This will allow artists who do not primarily work in the book format to present their work in a new form, encouraging viewers to engage with the imagery and/or text in different ways. The size and scope of each project will depend on the artists’ original work and their intent for the final books. A large portion of this project will center on consultations with me about sequence and presentation of the artists’ original work, as we will collaborate in adapting the book form to their personal style.

**Details**

Collaborating artists will be able to determine the dimensions and edition size of their books. Artists may also specify any preferences related to printing method, paper, and cover materials. *Artists who are interested in projects of a larger scope (any dimension longer than 10 inches or an edition larger than 25) may be asked to contribute financially to the cost of materials on the front end of book production.*

The Puzzled Press will provide all materials for the project (up to an edition size of 25). The collaborating artist will ensure the timely delivery of their original artwork for the project, including covering of shipping costs if work cannot be sent digitally. Artists retain all rights to their own work and authorize The Puzzled Press to publish this work in the book form.

The Puzzled Press will retain one copy from the edition that will not be available for sale. Other books can be sold through The Puzzled Press or through the collaborating artist (per the agreement made at the start of the project), however, cost of materials and a minimum of 25% of the profit will be paid to The Puzzled Press per book sold. *Pricing and materials cost will be determined prior to production, however, the artist can adjust the sale price of the book at their discretion, provided material cost is still covered.*

For this project, there is a minimum edition size of 5.

Preference for this project is given to artists who have an existing body of work that can be adapted into the book form.

**Timeline**

Each book in this series will take approximately six (6) months to complete. Individual timelines with specific dates will be made in collaboration with the artist before the start of the project.

*Month 1*

Agreement Written and Signed determining the following:

* Edition Size
* Book Size (estimated)
* Materials
* Work to be included (flexible)

Initial Mockup of structure and included work

Minimum of two (2) video conferences to determine content and scope of project

*Month 2*

Materials ordered

Revised mockup

Final deadline for the selection of included works

Minimum of two (2) video conferences to finalize included works and discuss book structure

*Month 3*

Materials mockup with finalized imagery

Preparation for printing (determined by printing method)

 For letterpress projects: Negatives ordered and plates made

Minimum of one (1) video conference to approve final mockup

*Month 4*

Printing Begins

Final opportunity to adjust imagery

Minimum of one (1) video conference to discuss printed imagery

*Month 5*

Printing Finished

Binding Begins

Final opportunity to adjust book structure

Minimum of one (1) video conference to discuss progress of project

*Month 6*

Binding Finished

Enclosures/Boxes Completed

Books Shipped

Minimum of one (1) video conference to discuss project completion/evaluate final product

\*Artists will be asked to complete a brief evaluation of their experience during this process for future use.

**Availability**

Because this is a medium- to long-term project, collaborations can be scheduled well in advance. I will be available to consult with artists whose projects are not currently being produced to do general design work and discuss possible structures and included work in advance. This is not required; however, it can ensure that artists’ projects begin on time and are produced in a timely manner.

\*\*While The Puzzled Press will receive a portion of any sales made, artists who elect to be part of the *Art Pages* series are not currently required to contribute financially to the front-end production of their book.

***This may not always be the case. I anticipate that artists participating after 2022 may be required to purchase materials for their books in advance of their project.***

**The following dates are currently available for production of a collaborative artist’s book. Please contact me at** **thepuzzledpress@gmail.com** **or via Instagram @thepuzzledpress if you have additional questions or would like to secure a production spot.**

January – June 2021\*

June – December 2021

January – June 2022

June – December 2022

\*Artists interested in producing a collaborative book project in early 2021 will have the option to schedule this project with flexible dates (for example February – July 2021) to accommodate for the relatively quick turnaround time.