

Saving zines for the future

Erika Mordek

Zines, homemade pamphlets from kitchen benches, home offices or artists' studios - anyone who has anything to say can self-publish. Zines have been around since the 1920s, and are an artistic form of expression that is gaining momentum. Zines are ephemeral things, usually a small edition and bound with whatever happens to be at hand. And, more often than not, rubber bands and staples are the preferred binding media. If you are a collector or an institution, then rubber bands and staples are not a preferred media; they deteriorate and lead to deterioration of the textblock as they transfer harmful substances onto paper.

This presentation will give a brief overview of the history of zines and show various sewing strategies for zinesters that are quick, reliable and fun, while keeping with the idea of the zine being 'in the now'.

This paper was presented as a video demonstrating the various sewing strategies for zinesters.

A trailer of the video can be seen at <<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3uyEQN14At4>>

For further details please contact the author directly.

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Author biography

Erika Mordek was originally a woodworker, making small wooden boxes. Erika went on to learn bookbinding under Neale Wootton at Canberra Institute of Technology and for a few years combined bookmaking with boxmaking.

In 2009 Erika commenced work at the National Library of Australia and now works as Assistant Bookbinder in the Preservation Section.

She recently obtained a Kenneth Binns Travelling Fellowship to attend a European bookbinding course in June 2012 at the Centre for Print and Manuscript at the University of London.

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