

# LOSING GROUND

## using digital technology to handcraft an artist book



Dorothy Simpson Krause is a painter by training and collage-maker by nature who began her experimental printmaking with reprographic machines. Since being introduced to computers in the late 1960's when working on her doctorate at Penn State, she has combined traditional and digital media in large-scale mixed media pieces, artist books and book-like objects that bridge between these two forms. She explores these intersections in *Losing Ground*, an artist book that will be showcased in a solo exhibition at the South Shore Art Center as a part of the 2009 Boston Cyberarts Festival.

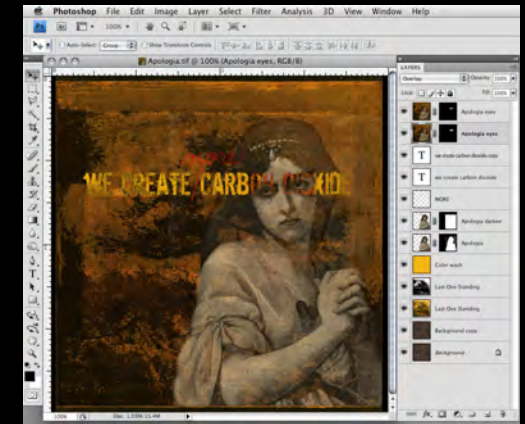
Krause chose images from many series of her work, some created more than a decade ago, and, in Adobe Photoshop, collaged them into 12" x 12" double page spreads. The text, selected from the publications of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, was made a part of the images using the appropriately named font, "Dirty Ego".

Two editions of *Losing Ground* were printed by Acme Bookbinding with the HP Indigo press 5500 on Mohawk Options 65# cover made from 100% post consumer content. A limited edition of 100 was bound in a black bookcloth by Acme, and a deluxe edition of 6 was bound in aubergine Nigerian goat by Harcourt, the nation's premier hand bindery since 1900, which is now a part of Acme.

An embossed 8" x 8" copper title plate was made by MC Embossing. It was inset into debossed areas on the covers of both the limited and deluxe editions. A similarly made label was placed on the spine of the matching clamshell boxes. The boxes for the limited edition were made by Mary McCarthy and Mary Taylor. The deluxe edition boxes were made by Harcourt.

Details printed on vellum, silver and photo gloss papers were tipped into the book. Graphite, colored pencils, markers, metallic pigments and copper, gold and silver leaf were used to add texture and reflectivity. Mylar stencils were cut by Universal Laser Systems to facilitate the application of pigment and leaf.

In its content, *Losing Ground* is a plea for awareness of our role as stewards of the environment. In its production, it is an example of how exceptional artists books can be made by combining traditional processes and digital technology.



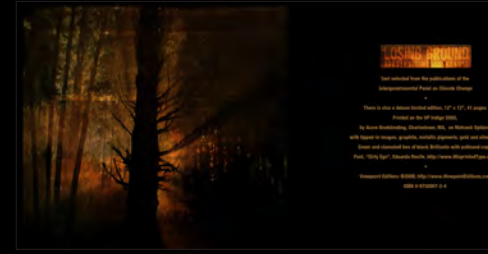
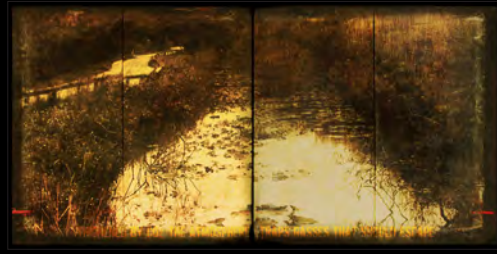
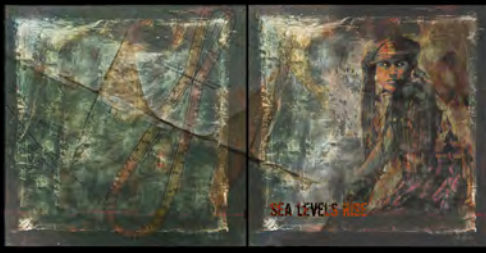
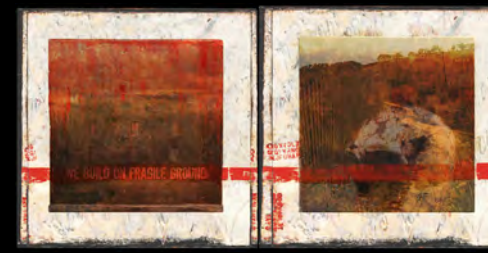
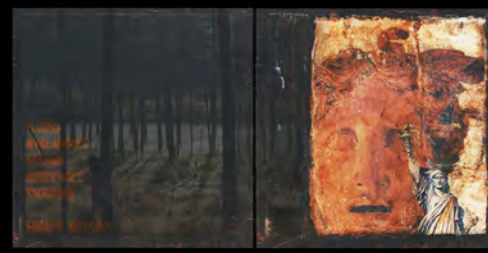
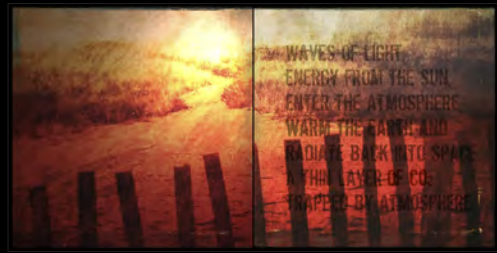
A page created in Photoshop used three source images - a textured background with border, a single pine tree called "Last One Standing" (2004) and a wood engraving used in the book "Apologia" (2007). The text utilized five layers. All of the pages were similarly constructed.



The pages were printed on the HP Indigo press 5500 at Acme Bookbinders in Charlestown, Massachusetts.



Michele Brennan and Robert DeCristoforo helped select the aubergine Nigerian goat, gold endpapers and fabric for Harcourt's deluxe binding.



Acme Bookbinding and  
Harcourt Bindery  
800 242 1821  
www.AcmeBook.com  
www.HarcourtBindery.com

Boston Cyberarts Festival  
617 524 8495  
www.BostonCyberarts.org

Dorothy Simpson Krause  
781 837 1682  
www.DotKrause.com  
www.ViewpointEditions.com

Font "Dirty Ego" by Eduardo Recife  
www.MisprintedType.com

HP Graphics Solutions Business  
www.HP.com/go/graphic-arts

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate  
Change  
www.IPCC.ch

Mary McCarthy  
617 695 0688  
www.MaryMcCarthyBooks.com

Mary Taylor  
781 837 0927  
www.MaryTaylorArt.com

MC Embossing  
781 821 0388  
www.MCEmbossing.com

South Shore Art Center  
781 383 2787  
www.SSAC.org

Universal Laser Systems  
480 483 1214  
www.ULSinc.com



Printed on the  
HP Indigo press 5500

1 Waves of light, energy from the sun, enter the atmosphere, warm the earth and radiate back into space. A thin layer of co2 trapped by atmosphere  
2 Greenhouse effect  
3 Burning fossil fuels we create more carbon dioxide  
4 Methane, co2, greenhouse gasses  
5 Thickened by c02 the atmosphere traps gasses that should escape

6 Temperatures rise  
7 Ocean waters warm  
8 Glaciers melt  
9 Sea levels rise  
10 Coasts erode

11 Floods, avalanches, storms, hurricanes, tsunamis, erratic weather  
12 Heat waves, droughts, wildfires  
13 And the day that cometh shall burn  
14 Atmosphere, thin and fragile, earths most vulnerable ecological system  
15 We ignore apolyptic warnings, blind to passing time

16 We build on fragile ground  
17 We have no moral compass, our decisions based on greed  
18 This existential threat  
19 Our legacy to the future