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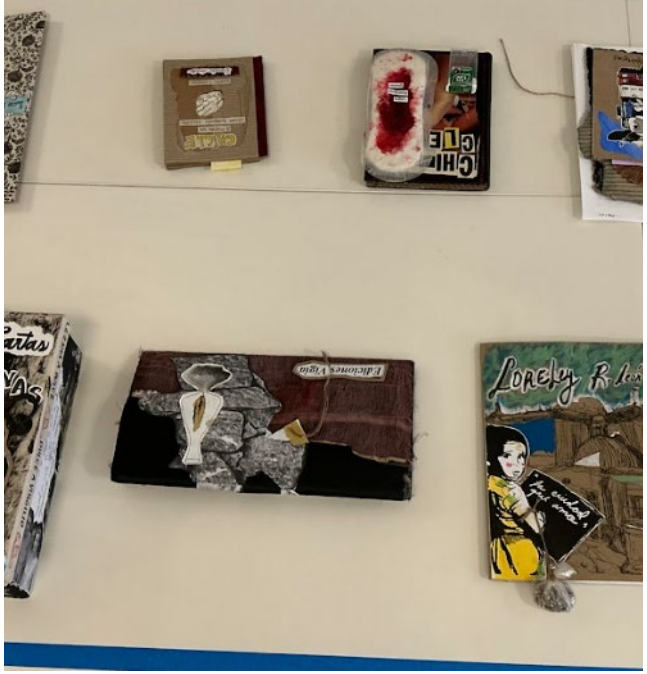
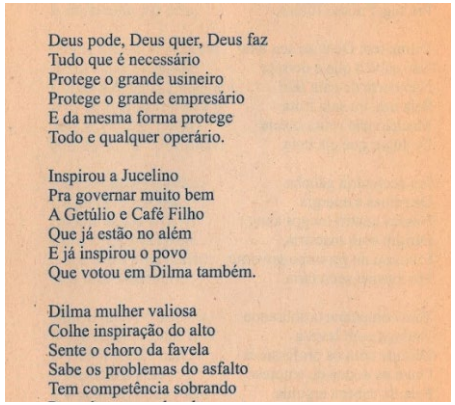
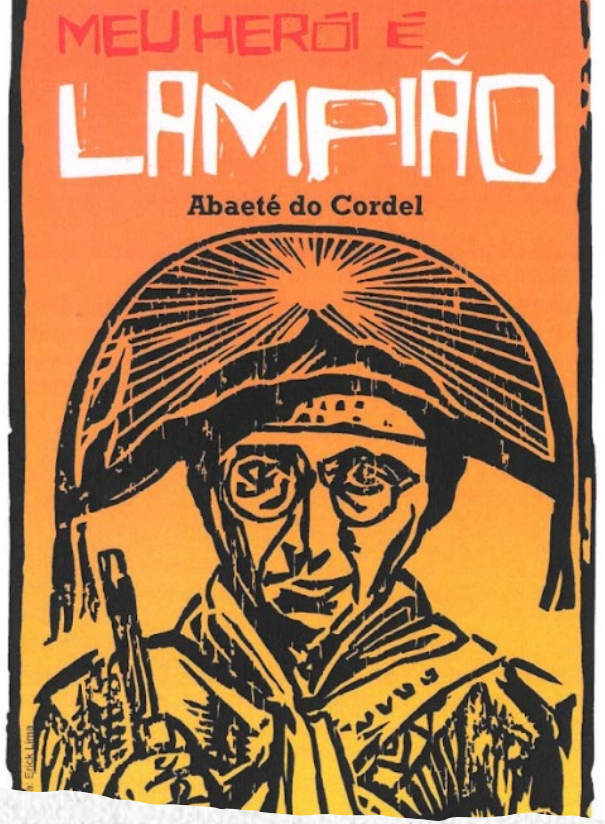




From Cartonera to Cordel: Aesthetics of the Caribbean and Latin American Book Art

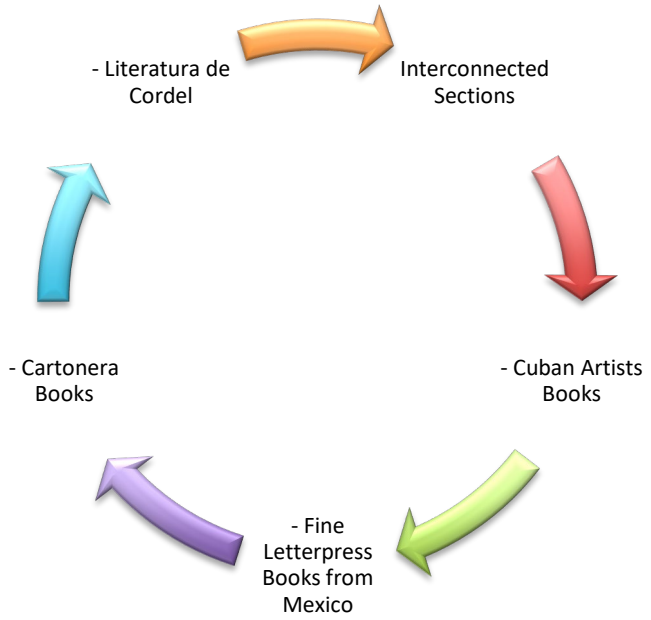
- Dr. Liladhar R. Pendse
- University of California-Berkeley, Oakland Public Library
- Lpendse@berkeley.edu
- https://exhibits.lib.berkeley.edu/spotlight/libros-cartoneros



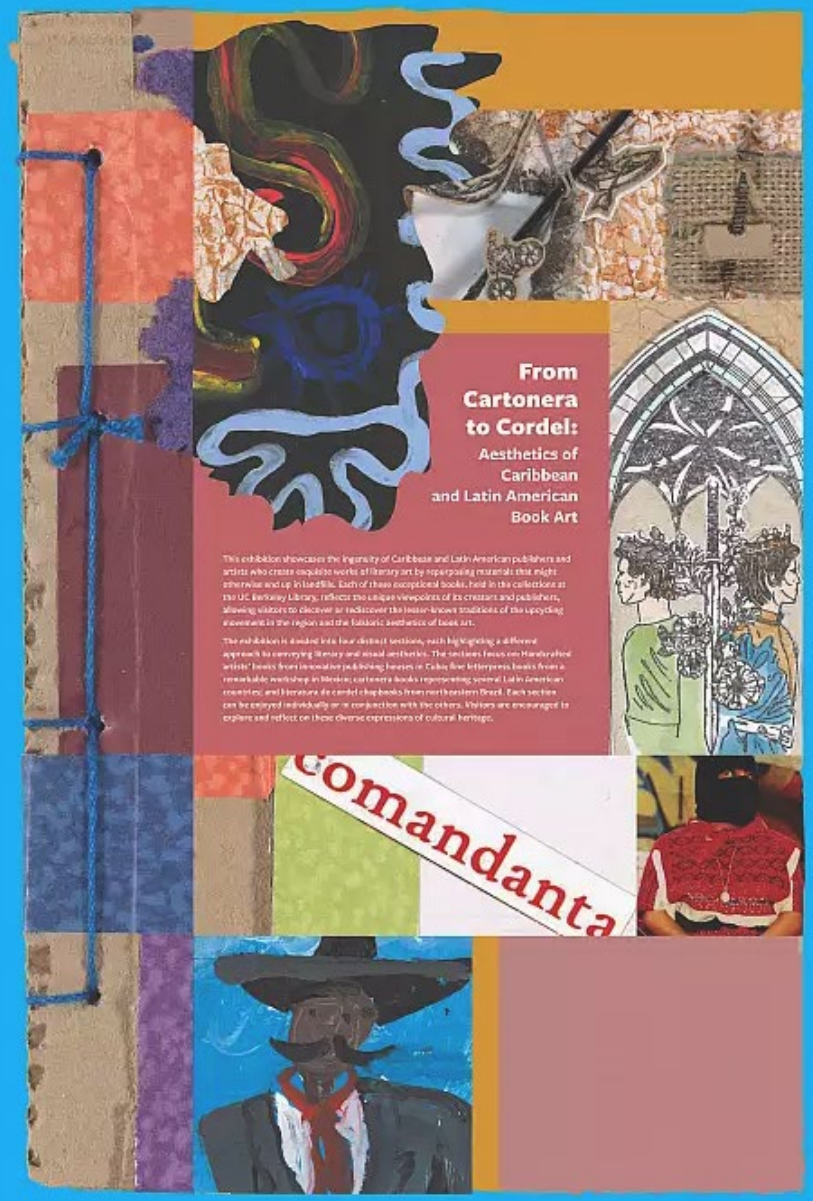
Introduction

- Overview of the exhibition
- Focus: Creativity, sustainability, and repurposing in book art

Exhibition Structure

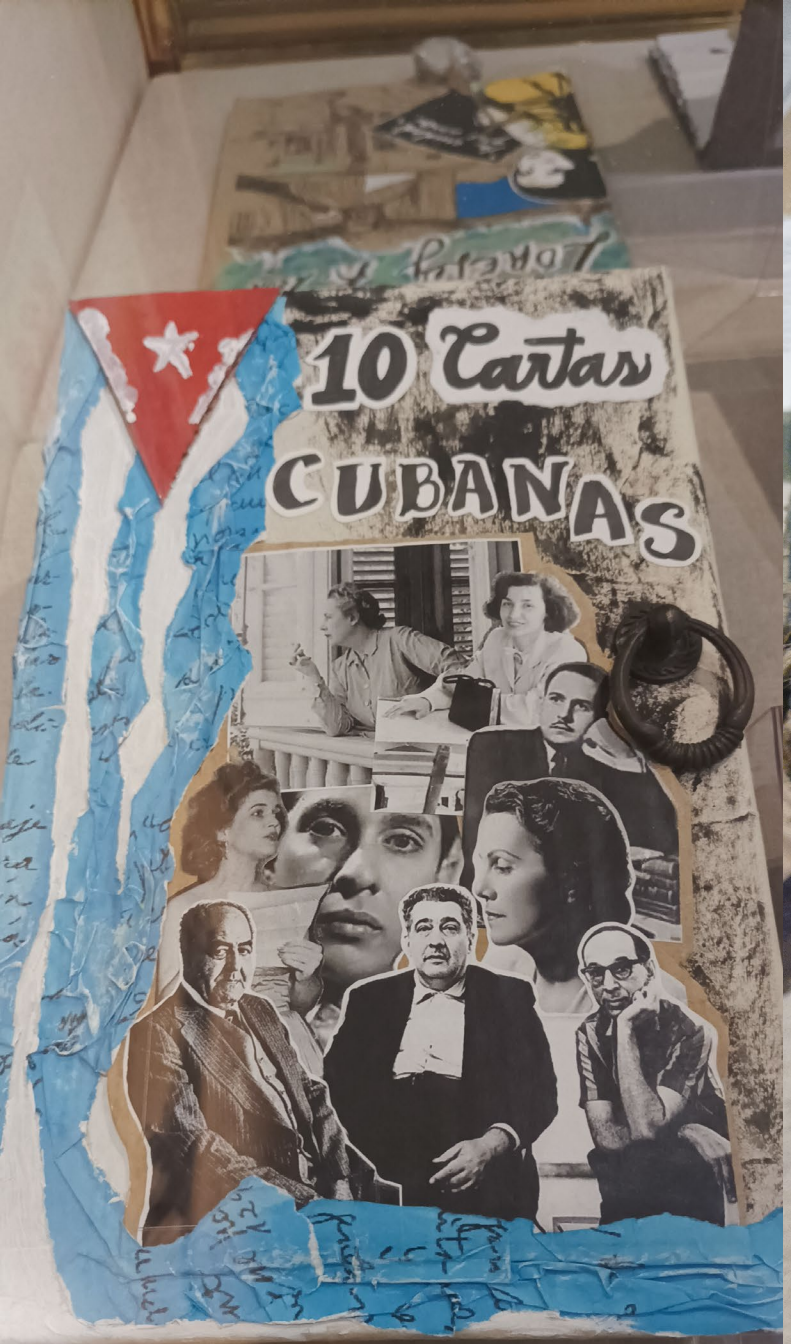


An exhibit at the Bernice Layne Brown Gallery in Doe Library



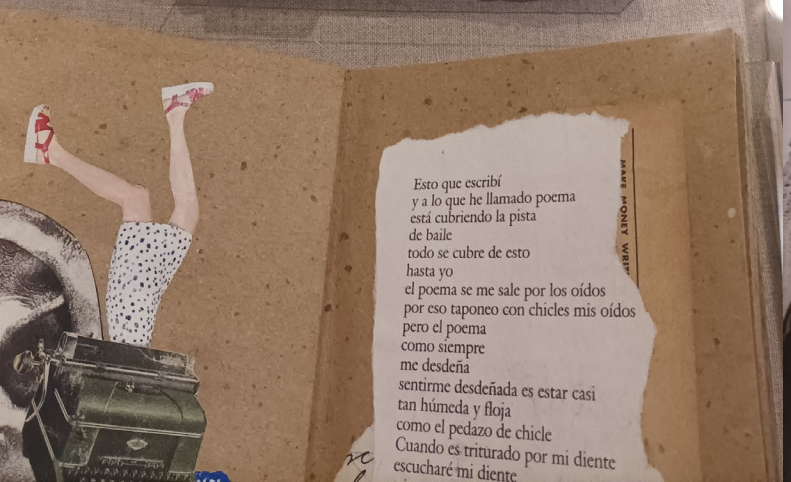
Cuban Artists Books

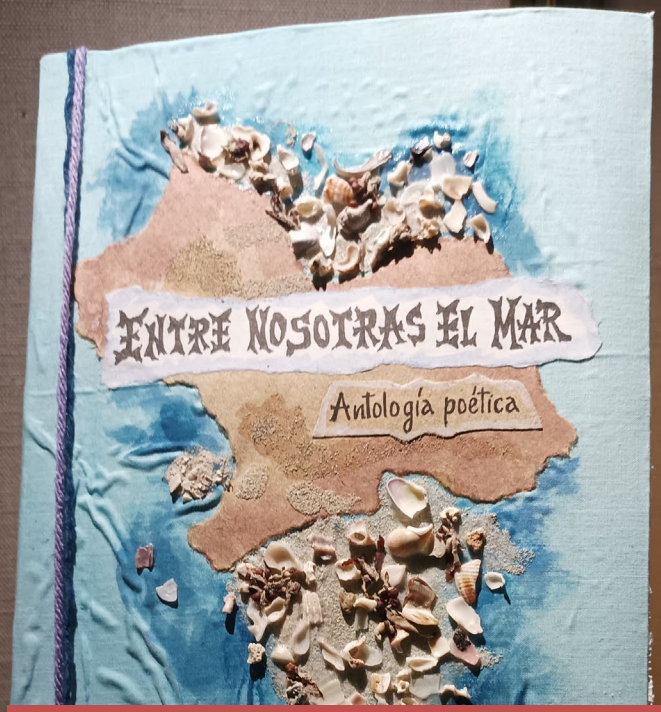
- Artist's books as unique works of art
- Creativity amid scarcity (US embargo)
- Handmade paper using local materials



Notable Publishers

- Ediciones Vigía: Handmade, collaborative books
- Cuadernos Papiro: Sustainable materials, vintage presses
- Ediciones El Fortín (Bellamar)



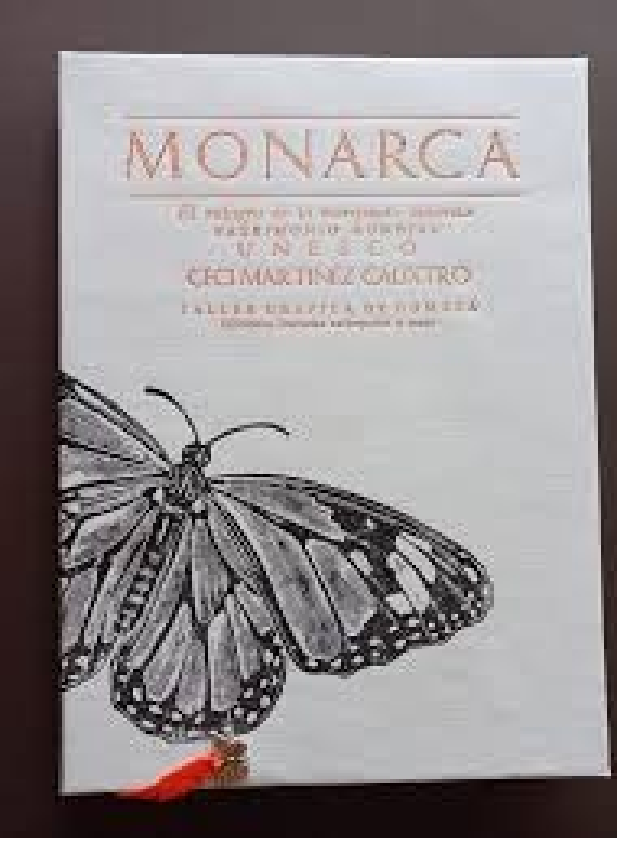


Selected Works from Cuba

- Chicle
- Entre Nosotras El Mar

Fine Letterpress Books from Mexico

- Taller Gráfica de Comala
- Artistic blend of traditional and modern techniques

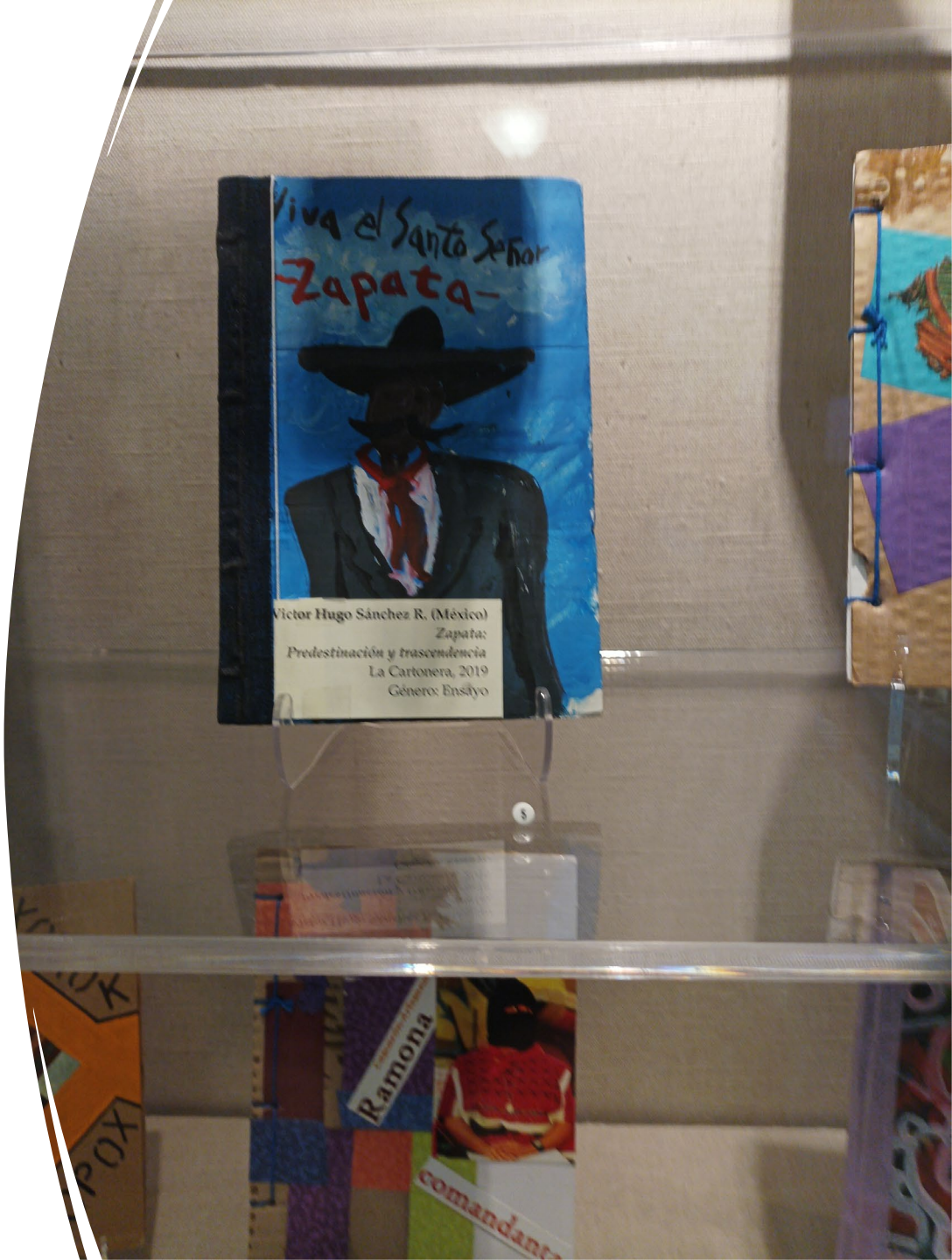


Notable Works – Taller Gráfica de Comala

- La Fiesta Mexicana del Día de Muertos
- Mariposa Monarca
- Amoxtli o códice sobre la danza ritual de México

The Cartonera Movement

- Origin: Buenos Aires (2003)
- Philosophy: Recycled materials, collaborative production



Literatura de Cordel

- Traditional poetry pamphlets (Brazil)
- Themes: Folklore, social issues, political events

Conclusion

- Diverse aesthetics and cultural expressions in book art
- Questions and Discussion