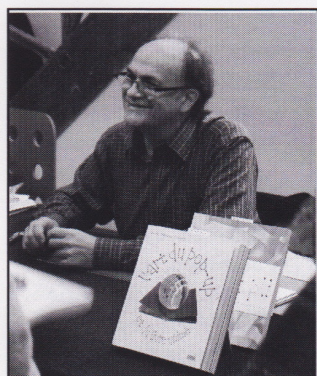


postcards with animals from the jungle.

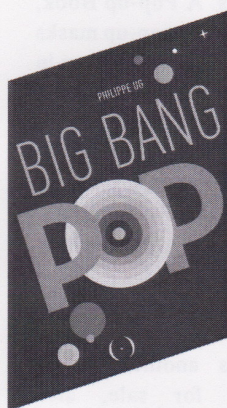
As a transition to the artists' book, this other kind of



Jean-Charles Trebbi

pop-up book that is rather popular in France (as it is also only in the Anglo-Saxon world), there was Jean-Charles Trebbi, a retired architect who did artists' books in the past. Here, however, he was present for the presentation and signing of the first copies of his new reference book on pop-up books — both the usual trade editions as the artists' books: *L'art du Pop-up et du Livre Animé* (ISBN

9782862277134). It will be available in English in early 2013 as *The Art of Pop-up: The Magical World of Three-dimensional Books* (ISBN 9788492810659). A Spanish edition is being prepared as well. Announced as the first book in France dedicated to movable books, the book has a movable front cover itself (however, it is not foreseen for the English edition). The book is profusely illustrated in color, has a variety of contributions from people who are active in this world, like paper engineers, illustrators, publishers, collectors (a scholar/researcher is missed) and has — no wonder — a lot of contributions by well-known members of The Movable Book Society! A striking mistake, however, was seen at first glance in the fold-out timeline. The 1865 *Cinderella*, published by Dean & Son (text), is mistakenly illustrated with the honeycomb paper *Cinderella* published about 1900 by Wilmsen, Philadelphia.



The second artist who has his roots in the limited edition books that he prints in serigraphs (silk-screen printed) but who has had more chances in recent years to have his books regularly published, is Philippe Huger, aka UG (in French, both notations are pronounce identically!). At the Salon, as a result, he was present with both hats: presenting his newest limited edition *Les Recordmen* (restricted to only 100 copies), as well as the trade edition of *Big Bang Pop* (ISBN 9782361931834). The later is a nougat-shaped pop-up book that

opens out into spreads that “explore new universes and launches itself into the galaxy to tell the life of the stars” and “explosive in its images and colours” as the blurb reads. As the “house-artist” of the Boutique du Livre Animé and having attended all five Salons, he is also very popular with the public.

Available for sale under the counter were copies of the 2011 publication for which Mr. Huger engineered the movable elements and small pop-up pieces: *Sade Up* (ISBN 9782812600395) by Frank Secka. Published in a (not too) limited edition by Rouergue in Paris with an alarming sticker on the front-cover warning this is “A movable book not to be put in everyman’s hands” and featuring in ten spreads the universe of Marquis de Sade. On Youtube there is a video showing this universe in 1.40 minutes at: <http://bit.ly/U4IxVc> while the pages are turned by a black-nailed mistress.



Gaëlle Pelachaud

An artist specializing in pop-up artists' books is Gaëlle Pelachaud, who presented her new limited editions *Berlin* and *New York*, both published by Editions Rafael Andréa.

Showing also just artists' books — not by conviction but simply because they had not yet the opportunity to be published by a regular publishing house — were the last two and youngest artists who were invited for the Salon. Raphaël Urwiller studied in Strasbourg together with Mayumi Otero and now makes a duo/studio with her operating under the name Icinori. He

offered his pop-up book *Momotaro*, designed by them together. It tells the old Japanese story of a strange child, born of an apricot who becomes a hero. Silk-screen printed in eight colors, published in an edition of 110 copies, and, despite its selling price, it sold very well this evening.

Wondering about it, I asked Jacques Desse how the market is for artists' books in France. He told me that artists' books used to be collected almost exclusively by some larger libraries and museums, and that most of the expensive ones found their way to those institutions. More modestly priced artists' books however, like Urwiller's *Momotaro* (129.00 Euro), Huger's *Recordmen* (120.00 Euro) and *Sade Up* (49.00 Euro), are also bought by the general public, especially when the artists themselves are there and the customer can buy directly from them.

The last artist who presented her work this evening was Mathilde Lemiesle, also still in her twenties and educated in Strasbourg as well. She offered unique pieces ranging from 45.00 to 2,500.00 Euros and they sold very well. She is representative of a small group of artists in France who have rediscovered the art of paper cutting since the laser cutter became available for more general use. They make filmy, amazingly detailed cut-out scenes both as independent works of art or combined into a coherent set of leaves to tell a story and make a book. It started about five years ago when Thierry Dedieu illustrated various fables of La Fontaine with such filigree cuts set in a dioramic setting within three beautiful booklets published by Seuil Jeunesse. In 2010 Antoine