

“The Legacy of Dard Hunter, Paper Historian and Private Press Printer”

Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Lownes Room of the John Hay Library, Brown University

Dr. Cathleen A. Baker is the author of *By His Own Labor: The Biography of Dard Hunter* (2000, Red Hydra Press and Oak Knoll Press) and served as the “printer’s devil” for the limited edition.

After working as Paper Conservator for the Courtauld Institute Galleries, University of London, Cathy returned to the United States in 1978 and taught for fifteen years in SUNY’s graduate program in art conservation. In 1993, she left the program to live in the Hunter family’s home, Mountain House, in Chillicothe, Ohio, where she organized the archive and researched the biography; her manuscript was completed in 1996. That year, she moved to Tuscaloosa, Alabama. By 1997, Cathy was an MFA student in the Book Arts Program at The University of Alabama and a Jacob K. Javits Fellow. For the next two years, she and Steve Miller, proprietor of the Red Hydra Press, printed the limited edition of *By His Own Labor*, which was published in January 2000. Later that year, Cathy also wrote, hand-printed, and published her MFA thesis, *Endgrain Designs & Repetitions: The Pattern Papers of John DePol*. In 2004, she was awarded a PhD in Mass Communication from The University of Alabama; her dissertation is titled, “The Press that Cotton Built: Printing in Mobile, Alabama, 1850–1865.”

She is currently Senior Paper Conservator at the University of Michigan Library and has just completed a manuscript titled, “American Nineteenth-Century Paper and Mediums: Technologies, Materials, Characteristics, and Conservation,” which was funded by a Samuel H. Kress Conservation Publication Fellowship. Cathy is also the proprietor of The Legacy Press, which specializes in the printing, paper, and book arts ([www.legacy-press.com](http://www.legacy-press.com)).