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# Umbrella

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**Campbells Occasionally** by Tal R ("tur retur") (Copenhagen, 1996, \$15) is a picture book with one print included in the center (ed. of 100). All faces are hidden by the computer or montage. Although seemingly random, the recurrences of palm trees, hooded figures, etc. seem to create a fugue and variation. Photos are black and white, cover is in digitized but painterly colors. Signed and numbered.

**Mother-Son Talk** by Gail S. Rebhan (Rochester, Visual Studies Workshop Press, 1996) is a dialogue between a mother and her young sons, continuing a theme of the artist centering around relationships and family. The artist has organized stories of one-page, which grew out of conversations with her two young sons. The stories show how her sons assimilate outside culture, but develop their own cultural identity by assimilation.

There is so much humor, wisdom, insight, and philosophy in each of these pages that one should read them slowly and well. The artist has also designed each page unto itself--so that they represent an individual graphic image. There is such a depth to these stories, such pathos and empathy, and such good sense, real sense. To order, send \$15 plus \$2 postage to Gail Rebhan, 4510 Ellicott St. NW, Washington, DC 20016. For all mothers, fathers, sons and brothers.

**Stills from a Complete Conversation** by Hirsch Perlman (Gent, Imschoot, uitgevers, 1996) is a re-enactment of Tweedledum and Tweedledee fighting it out to see who is master. The book is a series of still photos of two men, who obviously are conversing, using the same statement about indulging your conceit by saying only what you think you want to hear in order to encourage me to do the same for you. The book was a result of a "Projects" exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art, 26 March - 21 May 1996. I assume the Museum is in New York City. The sequencing is enticing--the two protagonists are wonderfully expressive. A true performance!

**The First Manual - two dogs laughed** by Herakliusz Pr. Lubomirski and Alfonso Paredes Jr. (New York, Ah! Space, 1996, \$35) is a compilation of their respective artistic output including stories, ideas and artwork.

To say this is an eccentric publication would be putting it mildly. It has many narratives, including a fantastic fairy tale about the adventures of a Squire and a Seminarist getting shipwrecked on mystery-laden glacial islands. All text has been originally written in Polish by Lubomirski, who translates himself into English, yet he deliberately retained the imaginative and often grammatically incorrect syntax. So he in essence has created an improvisation on the process of translation itself. The reader is challenged, in fact, to accept and understand a new form of expression.

Umbrella is published by Umbrella Associates, and the editor is Judith A. Hoffberg, P.O. Box 3640, Santa Monica, CA 90408. Phone: (310)399-1146, fax: (310)399-5070. email address is: [umbrella@ix.netcom.com](mailto:umbrella@ix.netcom.com) Subscriptions are available for calendar year only, payable in American currency. ©1996 by Umbrella Associates