Afterlives



Blog 4

Euclid's Elements, (first published in 300 BC), was one of the most important and influential textbooks ever written in the history of science and it laid the foundations of mathematics. According to an article in dailyartmagazine.com on pop-up books, it was first translated into English from Greek in 1570, by Sir Henry Billingsley, an English merchant who later became the mayor of London. Billingsley's translation was both innovative and important. He translated all the thirteen books of Euclid and added three additional books attributed to Euclid, along with notes from various ancient and modern commentators. The finished work was over a thousand pages. A unique feature of Billingsley's translation was the unique "pop up" models-three-dimensional fold-up diagrams-that he included throughout the book to illustrate geometric solids and different mathematical theorems. It was one of the first books to include such a feature. So, we might think of my pet book as an Afterlife of, or at least a descendant of, that first 3-D, pop-up book. Pop-ups eventually evolved to the mind-blowing art form they are today. I love my magic-performing, conceptual, and brilliantly designed pet book. It is evidence of what a passionate, playful designer can create. It remains exciting, surprising and delightful with every turn of its pages, even after the many years that I've owned it. If you want to treat yourself to the absolutely amazing video that shows just how far pop-ups have come: go to "Mind-blowing pop-ups" which showcases the work of pop-up design masters like Robert Sabuda, David Carter, and the incredible Matthew Reinhart. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pZiVuo4wF24





I've included "stills" of the video, to follow:



< Robert Sabuda, Alice's Adventures in Wonderland