



Dan Reeder

Dan Reeder is a teacher and papier mâché artist. He made his first monster along with his fifth grade students in 1972. He had the kids make monsters in order to guarantee their success. No one could be criticized for putting a lump or bump in the wrong place. Because it was easier to paint mouths that were open, the kids noticed that their monsters all seemed to be screaming. The monsters became Screamers, and because of an article in a Seattle newspaper, Dan became known around the Pacific

Northwest as Dan the Monster-Man. His work has been displayed in fairs, galleries, and art museums. He published his first book about his non-traditional papier mâché techniques in 1984. *The Simple Screamer: A Guide to the Art of Papier and Cloth Mâché* (Gibbs Smith Publisher). This book remained in print for over twenty-five years and sold around the world. It helped change the face of papier mâché from balloons and piggy banks to a medium with unlimited possibilities.

The success of the book led to the sequel in 1999, *Make Something Ugly For a Change*, and to his most recent book, *Papier Mâché Monsters: Turning Trinkets and Trash into Magnificent Monstrosities* (2009, Gibbs Smith Publisher). Dan is a papier mâché zealot. He wants the world to reconsider this under-rated, under-utilized art form. For Dan, the most gratifying part of having books in print has been the hundreds of photographs he has received over the years of happy people showing off their papier mâché



projects. Dan considers creatures made from his books to be his grandchildren. Dan continues to teach school although half of his thirty-nine year career has been spent teaching math. He currently teaches math at Lakeside School in Seattle, Washington. Visit Dan at his website, www.gourmetpapermache.com, or his blog, www.papermacheblog.com.

