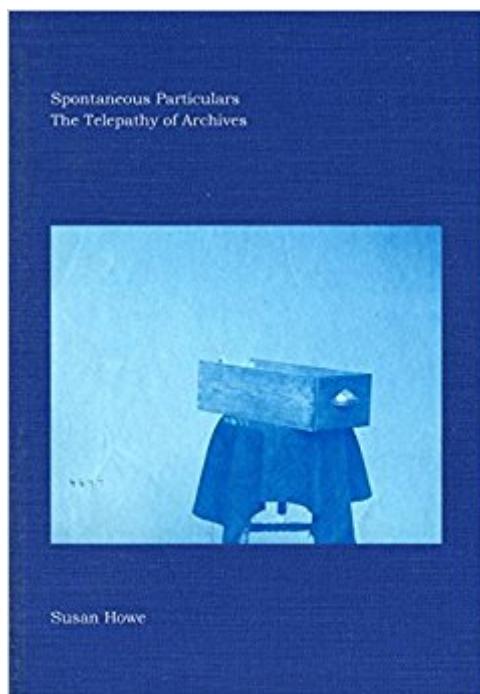


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# Spontaneous Particulars: The Telepathy Of Archives (New Directions Books)



## Synopsis

A rapturous paean to discoveries and archives, gorgeously illustrated. Great American writers—William Carlos Williams, Jonathan Edwards, Emily Dickinson, Noah Webster, Hart Crane, Wallace Stevens, Henry James — all in the physicality of their archival manuscripts (reproduced in beautiful facsimiles here) — are the presiding spirits of *Spontaneous Particulars: Telepathy of Archives*. Also woven into Susan Howe's newest book are beautiful photographs of embroideries and textiles from anonymous craftspeople. All the archived materials are links, discoveries, chance encounters, the visual and acoustic shocks of rooting around amid physical archives. These are the telepathies the bibliomaniacal poet relishes. Rummaging in the archives she finds — a deposit of a future yet to come, gathered and guarded...a literal and mythical sense of life hereafter — you permit yourself liberties — in the first place — happiness. Digital scholarship may offer much for scholars, but Susan Howe loves the materiality of research in real archives and calls her *Spontaneous Particulars* — a collaged swan song to the old ways. — Yes

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Author of more than a dozen books of poetry and two of literary criticism, Susan Howe's recent collection of poems *That This*, published by New Directions won the Bollingen Prize in 2011. Her earlier critical study, *My Emily Dickinson*, was re-issued in 2007 with an introduction by Eliot Weinberger. Three CDs in collaboration with the musician/composer David Grubbs, *Thieft, Souls*

of the Labadie Tract, and Frolic Architecture were released on the Blue Chopsticks label (2005; 2011). Howe held the Samuel P. Capen Chair in Poetry and the Humanities at the State University New York at Buffalo until her retirement in 2007. The recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship, she was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1999 and served as a Chancellor to the Academy of American Poets between 2000-2006. In fall, 2009 she was awarded a Fellowship to the American Academy at Berlin. Grenfell Press published a fine press edition of *“Frolic Architecture* with photographic prints by James Welling in 2009. Recently she was an Artist In Residence at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston. In October, 2013 her word collages were exhibited at the Yale Union in Portland, Oregon, and in the Whitney Biennial Spring, 2014. A limited press edition of *Tom Tit Tot* (the word collages which amount to a series poem) with art work by R.H. Quaytman has just been published by MoMA in New York, and *Spontaneous Particulars: The Telepathy of Archives*, (2014) published by Christine Burgin and New Directions.

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