

Robert B. Konikow

EXHIBIT DESIGN 4

Robert B. Konikow



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Too Good To Leave Out

249

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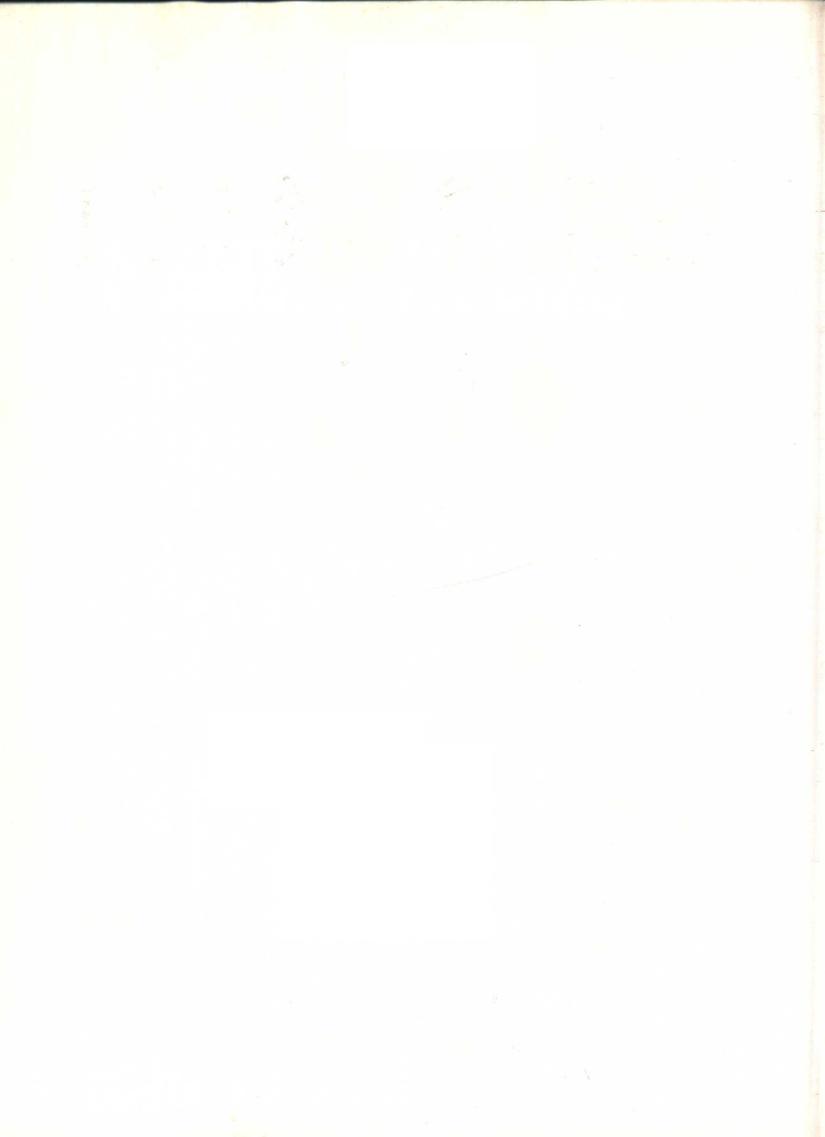


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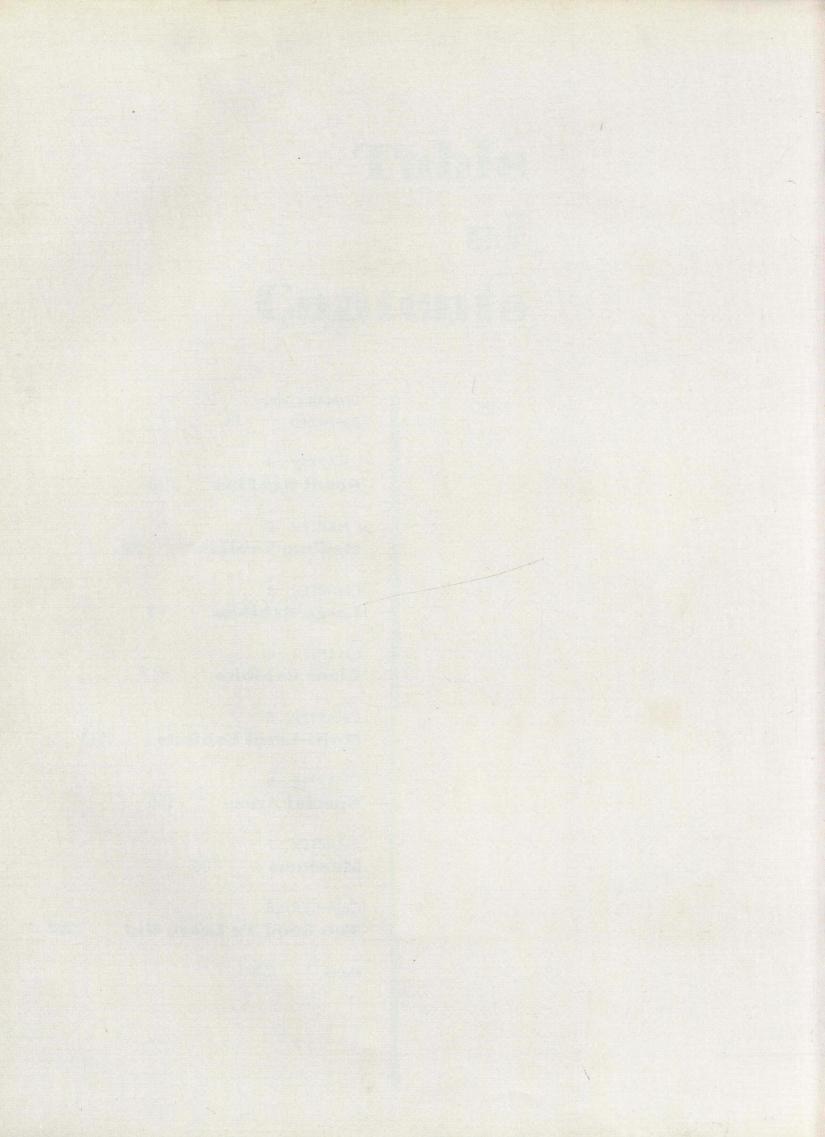
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INTRODUCTION

Robert B. Konikow

s always, it is a rewarding experience to see the output of today's exhibit designers, to admire their technique, their imagination, their creativity. It is not a simple task to select some and reject others. Some of the decisions that are part of the process of selection may seem arbitrary, especially by those who are disappointed at not having their work included, and indeed, some of them are indeed arbitrary. There are no hard and fast criteria that permit one to say that, once an obvious level of professionalism has been reached, one entry is clearly superior to another.

There are limits, of course, imposed by the quality of the illustrations sent in. Of all promotional media, the trade show or museum exhibit is the most difficult to photograph. It is a medium designed to be three-dimensional, to be a stage within which action is taking place. It takes place in a location where other installations, often part of a complex background, are competing for attention. It is hard to capture on twodimensional film, especially during the limited time and the great activity of a trade show exposition. Yet things are improving. There has been a noticeable increase of photographic quality in the years since the first volume of this series appeared.

We have tried, in making our selection, to present as any different ideas and design approaches as possible, in an effort to expose a wide variety of techniques and of solutions to problems. In doing this, we have sometimes found it necessary to reject one entry, not because it lacked merit, but simply because it was too close to another already selected and written up. We have tried to include a wide variety of industries represented, and of geographical sources.

Finally, I'd like to make a comment on credits. The information given about each project is obtained from the individual or company which made the original submission. We can take no responsibility for the accuracy of the information that was given to us in the entry form. In particular, this applies to the listing of the individual or individuals credited with design. Many companies listed some such phrase as "In-house design" or "Designed by staff" in the space given for designer credit. However, in a book devoted to design, we felt it only right to credit the individual or individuals chiefly responsible, and made a special request for this information. When it was not forthcoming, we made the decision to omit that credit line. It is a controversial decision, and we wonder what would be most useful to the readers and users of this book.

In completion, it has been a rewarding experience to see all the entries that have been sent in from designers and exhibit houses all over the world, and by now, I feel that some of these people, even though I have never met them, have become old friends. Thank you all for your help.

CHAPTER

1

SMALL EXHIBITS