

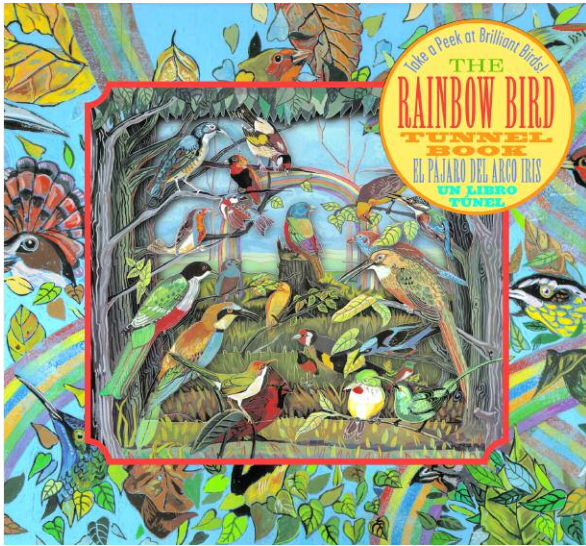
For Release: May 2007  
Contact: Amanda Freymann  
312-515-1352  
info@tunnelvisionbooks.com



\*\*digital cover image available\*\*

## Fly with the birds and learn how they got their colors!

The Rainbow Bird Tunnel Book (El Pájaro del arco iris: un libro túnel), *retells a Latin American folktale*



CHICAGO: Brilliant birds roost and strut in Eleanor Spiess-Ferris's illustrations that explode with color in the latest expandable accordion book from Tunnel Vision Books. *The Rainbow Bird Tunnel Book* (Tunnel Vision Books, May 2007, ages 8–12) is a charming adaptation of a traditional Latin-American folk tale—the story of how the birds, once drab and grey, got their colorful plumage.

*The Rainbow Bird Tunnel Book* is the latest in the “Take a Peek” series of tunnel books inspired by Victorian paper toys. Beautifully printed panels are die cut in exquisite detail and attached to accordion sides that allow the viewer to literally open up the scene. The sturdy board cover serves as a stand so the book can be easily displayed. Included is a 16-page, bilingual English-Spanish booklet with full color illustrations that retells the fable.

“I tell you an old story” begins the legend, “of when birds were not as they are now.” Given the opportunity to choose their colors from the rainbow, the birds push and shove, clamoring to be first. When the little finch, who had been waiting her turn, finally gets to choose there are no colors left. Her patience is rewarded however, and in the end it is the finch who sports the most extraordinary multi-colored plumage.

———— more ————

Author Joan Sommers says, “Children love to expand *The Rainbow Bird Tunnel Book* and see the colorful birds in their forest haven. At the center of it all sits the finch, whose dazzling feathers are the enduring reward for her unselfish behavior.”

**Joan Sommers** is a book designer, writer, and art teacher who lives in Chicago, IL. Strange, wonderful birds often inhabit the paintings of **Eleanor Spiess-Ferris**, a Chicago-based artist who has been honored by the Illinois Arts Council. **Valerie Shull** is a spanish teacher and actor who lives in Chicago. She also translated *The Dancing Skeletons Tunnel Book* (*Gran Baile de Calaveras: un libro túnel*)

Also part of the “Take a Peek” Tunnel Book series:

*A Sunday on La Grande Jatte Tunnel Book*  
*The Henri Rousseau Tunnel Book*  
*The Coral Reef Tunnel Book*  
*The Dancing Skeletons Tunnel Book (Gran Baile de Calaveras: un libro túnel)*  
*The Dinosaur Tunnel Book*

Book Details:

Title: *The Rainbow Bird Tunnel Book (El pájaro del arco iris: un libro tunnel)*

Author: Joan Sommers

Illustrator: Eleanor Spiess-Ferris

Translator: Valerie Shull

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Picture Books/Nonfiction, 16 pages, 6 3/4" x 6 1/4", 15 color illustrations, Four-color interior

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