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an international association of artists

fall 2012

The Boston Printmakers *e-newsletter*



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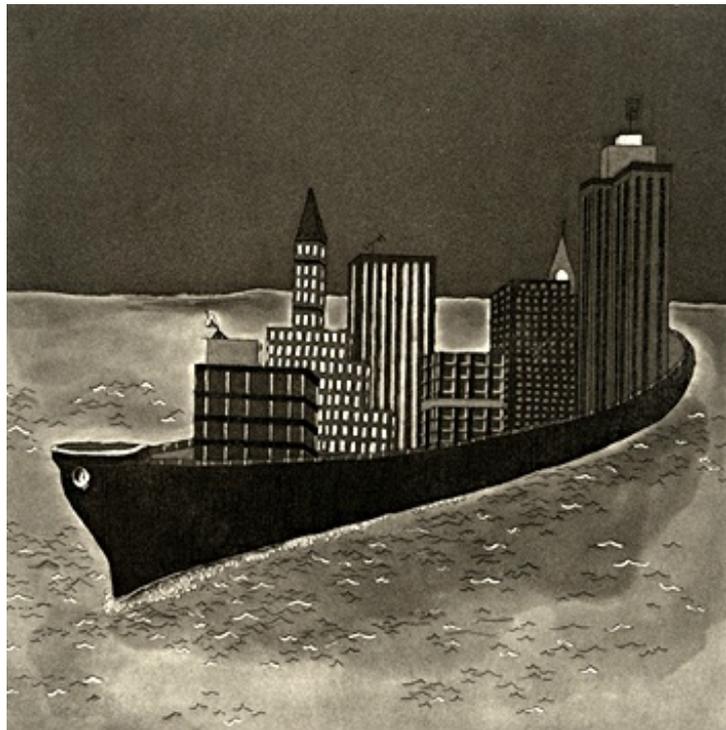


Image above : Maya Malachowski Bajak, Ship-City, etching and aquatint, 7" x 7"
New Boston Printmakers member

Letter from the President

Dear Members,

Here in Boston, and in many surrounding cities and towns, and perhaps in your backyard as well, this is the season of Open Studios. This weekend Boston's South End was swarming with couples and families, dogs and strollers in tow. I run my studio as a communal print shop where we hang a group show and I spend the whole weekend answering questions about printmaking. In general, people are fascinated by the etching presses with their big wheels and mysterious rollers.

In a sense, this weekend in my studio was a microcosm of what The Boston Printmakers does on a national and to some degree, international, scale: we provide a platform for artists to exhibit their work, we educate the public and collectors and we promote printmaking wherever and whenever possible.

At this writing, Dave Thomas is putting the finishing touches on the gorgeous [Palate to Plate](#) cookbook and show catalogue. This book will accompany The Boston Printmakers members exhibition of the same title at the Newport Museum of Art which will open in the fall of 2014. I can't begin to tell you how beautiful the prints in this book are; you are going to have to see it for yourself! It will be available at the exhibition and you will be able to order it from The Boston Printmakers website and on [Blurb](#). We will let you know just as soon as it is complete!

We are also hard at work finalizing the plans for the 2013 North American Print Biennial. Our juror will be [Dennis Michael Jon](#), Associate Curator, Minneapolis Institute of Arts. Mr. Jon specializes in contemporary, modernist graphic and book arts, the European and American etching revivals and Latin American printmaking. Biennials entries will be accepted January 15 to June 25, 2013. The biennial will be at Boston University's [808 Gallery](#) on Commonwealth Avenue in Boston. The opening will be Sunday, October 27, 2013. Information concerning digital submissions and prizes and much more will be on our website: www.bostonprintmakers.org. So, stay tuned!

As always, we welcome your participation in any and all of our efforts; we are always looking for volunteers. Feel free to contact me by email anytime: liz@lizshepherd.com

Happy printmaking,

[Liz Shepherd](#)

President

Rento Brattinga's Steendrukkerij Amsterdam and its Schnellpresse

By [Bob Tomolillo](#)



*Rento Brattinga (left) with Dutch artist Armando, 1987
copyright Ferry Andre de la Porte / Rijksmuseum Amsterdam*

[Steendrukkerij](#) is a Dutch lithography workshop located walking distance from the center of Amsterdam. Now in its 35th year, owner Rento Brattinga represents the fourth generation of purveyors of the lithographic image.

I first met Rento in 1979 while working together as young printers at The Printshop in Amsterdam, a full service workshop and meeting place for artists who made prints. Around the same time an opportunity arose that enabled Rento to purchase the lithography equipment from his great grandfather's estate and continue his family's printing tradition. The final location for the shop was secured when he opened his own place on the Lauriergracht, which he named The Steendrukkerij Amsterdam (The Amsterdam

Stone Printing Shop).



On my first visit to Rento's shop, he was printing an edition of lithographs for the recently departed British artist Richard Hamilton on his unique flat bed lithography press. Since then he has made thousands of prints, collaborating with some of the best known artists from Europe and the U.S. and recently bequeathed a collection of more than 2000 prints to the Fries Museum in Leeuwarden.



Inside Rento's workshop is a gallery exhibit area, a large catalogue of limestones and a workspace housing a manual proof press and a rarely exhibited flat bed "Schnellpresse" (fast press). [Click for video of Steendrukkerij print shop.](#)



This lithographic fast press is a later style, semi-automatic press that dates back to 1903 and occupies the middle timeline in the evolution of lithography; that is, the transitional period between the manual - hand crank press and the high speed 4-color offset presses of today. The fast press remains active in the shop today, a lithophiles dream. Three attendants are required to oversee the six separate systems of operation; the paper feeding, paper registration, wetting the stone, inking the stone, printing, and delivering the print. Each sheet of paper must be hand fed and carefully placed on the registration bar. Inking is done with a series of rollers that deposit color evenly across the surface of the stone. Contact is made and pressure is applied by a partially rotating cylinder covered with a hard rubber blanket that grabs the paper off the registration bars, passing it over the inked stone before curling up on the other side to a waiting attendant. Print pressure is adjusted by raising or lowering the bed. During the operation an ominous low pitched sound emanates from the clinging of the rollers and gears. Originally powered by a steam engine the press was later refitted with a quieter, electric motor that drives the heavy fly wheel. The operation requires a longer set up time and seems to be more practical for larger printing runs. The drawing that is made on the stone will transfer as a direct impression or mirror image. The advanced mechanics of this machine lessened the burden of the printer from rolling ink onto the stone, pulling down on the pressure bar, and hand cranking the press bed . [Video of a Schnellpresse in action.](#)

Rento's accomplishments as publisher, artist and collaborator has helped to elevate the print medium into the established and recognized art form it enjoys today. By preserving this link with the past he has expanded the foundation of the lithographic process, allowing us a deeper insight into the challenges that arise from an ever changing technology.



[Bob Tomolillo](#) is a member of the Boston Printmakers



images above and below: The Boston Printmakers Prize from the 2011 Biennial: Daniela Deeg and Cynthia Lollis, *Risk/Risiko*, artist's book, screenprint

Member NEWS

Send your member news for the upcoming Winter newsletter to Jennifer Caine jenniferleighcaine@gmail.com

thINK: Boston Printmakers Members Show 2010

(Blue & Green sections) January 31, 2013 - March 8, 2013 The Sawyer Center for Fine & Performing Arts Colby-Sawyer College , 541 Main Street New London, NH 03257



MARK YOUR CALENDAR: The 2013 North American Print Biennial has shifted seasons!

The North American Print Biennial can answer any and all questions about the state of printmaking today ...printmaking is alive, well, and thriving, and the proof is amply evident and on view in Gallery 808.

-Roberta Waddell, Curator Emerita, The New York Public Library

We are pleased to announce the 2013 Juror:
Dennis Michael Jon, Associate Curator,
Minneapolis Institute of Arts

Mr. Jon specializes in contemporary, modernist graphic and book arts; the European and American etching revivals and Latin American printmaking.

Entries accepted: January 15 – June 25, 2013

Visit www.bostonprintmakers.org

2013 Biennial Location: The Boston University
808 Gallery, Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA

Opening: Sunday, October 27, 2013

STAY TUNED: Full Prospectus and more information on digital print submissions and prizes will be posted at www.bostonprintmakers.org

Request for Upcoming Features: Members' Printmaking Studios

PRINTMAKING STUDIOPRINT SHOP***

PRINT CENTERPRESS***

WORKSHOPSTUDIO***ATELIER***

For subsequent issues of The Boston Printmakers e-newsletter, I would like to feature the communal/public printmaking studios that are run by our members all over the country and abroad. I'd like to hear from you if

NEW ENGLAND, FALL 2012

Maya Malachowski Bajak, *Liminal Spaces*, Flying Object, 42 West St., Hadley, MA, Sept. 27-Oct. 21.

Martha Jane Bradford had her digital drawing "Hermione" accepted into The Butler Institute of American Art's 76th National Midyear Exhibition, in Youngstown, OH, from June 24 to August 19, juried by Gregory Strachov; "Dark Pool," was accepted into the "Community of Artists" show at the Danforth Museum in Framingham, MA, June 2-August, curated by Katherine French; "Meridien" and "Quarry Hill Afternoon," are part of the ACM SIGGRAPH Digital Arts Community show "Environments." This exhibit went live online in May.

Ann Chernow, *Follow Me*, PMW Gallery, 530 Roxbury Rd., Stamford, CT; Oct. 7 - Nov. 18, reception Oct. 7 at noon, walk and talk with artist Nov. 4, 12-4pm

Nancy Diessner, *Different Kind*, Mt. Ida College Gallery, Newton, MA; Oct. 23-Dec. 1; opening November 1, 6-8; *The Usual Suspects*, Bromfield Gallery, Boston, MA, September

Susan Denniston and Mary Taylor,

8 Visions, Attleboro

Arts Museum, Attleboro, MA, August 21-Sept. 15

(image to right: Mary Taylor, 4

page accordion fold book

made of heavily patinaed

recycled copper roofing,

tubing and wire with pigment

transfer prints. Images are

from Archimedes ancient

Greek text about his water

spiral, still in use today to move water uphill. Inside pages

have Archimedes ancient Greek text (illegible) is transfer

printed into the green patina. 36" x 48" x 2")



Joan Hausrath has been invited to participate in the 6th International Printmaking Biennial of Douro, August 10 to September 6, 2012, in Alijo, Portugal.

Bror Hultgren has four distressed paper monoprints at Paperworks 2012, b. j. spoke gallery, Huntington, NY from Aug 1 – 29. The juried show features work where paper finds novel and creative use as a material, as well as more traditionally executed drawings and works on paper.

your studio is large or small, in an urban setting or in the country or suburbs, and if you have 3 artists working in your studio or 300. I need the following from you:

1. Name and address of your studio
2. A brief description of your studio or its mission
3. 3 to 5 jpeg photos of the studio itself AND work produced there. These images should be approximately 400 pixels in height and width
4. Your (BP member) contact info

Please send all of that to me, [Nancy Diessner](mailto:Nancy.Diessner), at nwdiessner@gmail.com

Friend us on [Facebook](#); Find us on [Twitter](#)

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Boston-Printmakers/228758027149943?sk=wall>

TWITTER:
<http://twitter.com/BostnPrintmaker>

Diane Kaiser is included in the exhibit 40 Years of Women Artists at Douglass Library, the Mary H. Dana Women Artists Series 40th Anniversary Virtual Exhibit (1971-2011) that was just launched on the Institute for Women and Art's website at iwa.rutgers.edu. Her recent monoprint, *Arch*, and a brief biography are featured.

Lynn Newcomb will have a solo exhibition of prints and sculpture at the VT State Supreme Courthouse in September/ October. The opening is September 7th, from 4 - 6PM.

Kristen Struebing-Beazley First prize 500. awarded by juror DONALD SULTAN , 3RD BIENNIAL FOOTPRINT INTERNATIONAL at CCP or Center for Contemporary Printmaking , Norwalk Ct. for lino- cut 12"x12" from ARS AMATORIA series. Exhibition is June 10 - Sept.2 2012.

Robert Tomolillo The Year of Subversion Exhibition, London Liberal Arts School, London, England. 2012 (52 International Artists) Lithographs and Essays <http://www.libartslondon.co.uk/5620/bob-tomolillo/>; Hesa Imprint Magazine, Finland, Harvest Issue, Toothbrush Harvest Lithograph, summer 2012; Redivider Magazine, Emerson College, Spring 2012, illustration, "Sheep" Lithograph; Rusty Nail Magazine, Artist Gallery, three prints, lithographs, Spring 2012; Tieton Arts & Humanities, 10x10 juried competition, Mighty Tieton Arts, Tieton Washington 2012; O.A.C. Regional Show, The Barn Gallery, Ogunquit , Maine 2012



(image to left: Robert Tomolillo, *President Obama on Mount Rushmore*, lithograph, 2" x 2", 2012)

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