



CONTEMPORARY IMAGES IN PRINT SINCE 1915

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90 Years: Nurturing the New **The Print Center's 90th Anniversary Exhibition and Opening Gala** **Thursday, September 8, 2005, 5:00 – 9:00 p.m.**

PHILADELPHIA: A stellar gala event will mark the opening of The Print Center's 90th Anniversary Exhibition, *90 Years: Nurturing the New* on September 8, 2005. The 90th Anniversary Exhibition will be a retrospective utilizing key works from our collection at the Philadelphia Museum of Art including Picasso, Rauschenberg and Baskin prints and together with photographs and prints from exclusive private collections along the East Coast. Divided into ten year segments, from 1915 - 2005, the exhibition will explore key developments in printmaking and photography and relate them to The Print Center's role in nurturing these developments during the same period. An exhibition catalog will be available and provide more extensive history on The Print Center's ninety years of nurturing the new. The dazzling opening reception at The Print Center's charming Rittenhouse Square carriage house will begin at 5:00 p.m. with a spectacular cocktail reception and a private tour led by John Ittmann, Curator of Prints, Philadelphia Museum of Art. Solo flutist, William McKenty, will serenade the assembled guests. At 7:00 p.m. The Print Center will open its doors to the general public. The celebrations will continue until 9:00 p.m. Tickets start at \$90 to attend to the cocktail reception and the private tour. For \$180 per individual/\$270 per couple guests will receive a limited edition 90th Anniversary print. By Charles Burwell.

Founded in 1915 as The Print Club, this extraordinary small gem of a Philadelphia arts organization, has maintained a clear focus on printmaking and photography which has made it a national and international nexus for printmakers, photographers, collectors, educators and artists of all disciplines. Our mission is to *support printmaking and photography as vital contemporary arts and encourage the appreciation of the printed image in all its forms*. The Print Center is one of only a few organizations, and certainly, at ninety, one of the most long-lived, who have dedicated themselves to the promotion of printmaking and photography two of the most democratic and collaborative disciplines of artistic endeavor. From the beginning, The Print Center has been encouraging new artists, new work, new processes and new collectors and continues to do so with great enthusiasm.

In 1942 The Print Center donated its collection to the Philadelphia Museum of Art to form the foundation for its Print Department. Exhibitions have featured work by local and international artists alike such as; Mary Cassatt, Pablo Picasso, Dox Thrash, Jasper Johns, Ansel Adams, Art Spiegelman, and more recently Kara Walker, Jerry Uelsmann, Nancy Spero, Leon Golub, Dotty Attie, John Coplans and Red Grooms. In 1996, The Print Club changed its name to The Print Center to mark its commitment to serve both its members and the community.

The Print Center supports printmaking and photography as vital contemporary arts and encourages the appreciation of the printed image in all its forms. The Print Center presents a variety of programs for the public including 11 exhibitions annually; The Print Center Gallery Store, offering the largest and most diverse selection of contemporary prints in Philadelphia; the longest running annual international competition for prints and photographs in the country; an extensive series of continuing education programs and special events.

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