



CONTEMPORARY IMAGES IN PRINT SINCE 1915

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Short Stories: A Narrative in Mezzotint, Art Werger March 16 – May 27, 2006

Thursday, March 16, 2006

Artist Talks: 5:00 p.m. and Opening Reception: 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

PHILADELPHIA: Art Werger from Athens, OH has worked almost exclusively with intaglio printmaking for the last 25 years. Moreover, he has mastered and is one a few contemporary printmakers who uses the labor intensive print process, mezzotint, a process for which you first create a black surface and then burnish, scrape or scribe a white image out of it, the reverse for a typical print process. In this exhibition, Werger presents over 200 three inch squared black and white mezzotints with aquatint laid out in a crossword grid on the wall. Each image captures a single moment, a snippet of a larger action. Yet presented as a group, they together create visual and narrative connections. Werger refers to these groups as having a cinematic quality, capturing single moments within a larger continuous motion. But this continuous motion remains unfixed as the grid format can be shuffled into a new and different presentation. The grid format also engages the viewer to create her own narrative out of the abstracted images. In this series, Werger collapses concepts of time and space letting them be formed and read differently by each viewer.

Art Werger is currently Professor of Printmaking at Ohio University, Athens. He has exhibited his work extensively in solo and group exhibitions at national and international venues including the Davidson Gallery, Seattle, WA; The Japan Foundation, Tokyo; Culture Centers throughout Poland; Contemporary Museum of Atlanta, GA; Brooklyn Museum of Art, NY; and Fanny Garver Gallery, Madison, WI. He has been awarded hundreds of prizes including three from The Print Center Annual Competitions in 2005, 2003 and 1988. His prints can be seen in over 50 public collections including the Fogg Art Museum, Cambridge, MA, Philadelphia Museum of Art and Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

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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