



CONTEMPORARY IMAGES IN PRINT SINCE 1915

1614 Latimer Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

215.735.6090
215.735.5511 fax

info@printcenter.org
www.printcenter.org

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CONTACT: ASHLEY PEEL PINKHAM 215.735.6090 x2

83rd ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION: PRINTMAKING

May 30 – August 1, 2009

Saturday, May 30: Opening Reception 3:00-5:00pm

Gallery Talk by the Jurors & Awards Ceremony: 3:30pm

Jurors: Shelly Bancroft and Peter Nesbett, Publishers of *Art on Paper* Magazine

PHILADELPHIA: The Print Center's 83rd Annual International Competition: Printmaking features 33 prints by 29 of the finest contemporary artists working in printmaking today. On Saturday, May 30 jurors **Shelly Bancroft** and **Peter Nesbett**, publishers of Art on Paper magazine and founders of Triple Candie, will give a gallery talk discussing the works included in the exhibition with an award ceremony immediately following.

The Print Center's *Annual International Competition* is one of the most prestigious exhibitions of its kind and is the oldest juried exhibition in the United States. Alternating yearly between printmaking and photography, it provides a unique opportunity for local, national and international artists to compete in a forum which emphasizes individual talent and expressiveness rather than a specific exhibition topic. Bancroft and Nesbett reviewed over 1,900 images submitted by almost 500 artists. "The result is an exceptional exhibition, representative of the wide variety of concerns in current printmaking practice," said Executive Director Elizabeth Spungen.

Jurors Shelly Bancroft and Peter Nesbett are the owners and publishers of Art on Paper, of which Nesbett is the editor. Art on Paper is an international magazine with award-winning coverage of the wide range of paper-based media, including limited-edition prints, drawings, photographs, books and ephemera. Bancroft and Nesbett are also the founders and directors of Triple Candie, a nonprofit contemporary art venue in Harlem, New York. Triple Candie has organized several provocative and critically-acclaimed exhibitions, including unauthorized retrospectives of reclusive artists, such as David Hammons and Cady Noland; a retrospective of a fictional post-Minimalist; the recreation of a pioneering 1950s era photography gallery; and, a quasi-anthropological exhibition of common objects.

This year's Philadelphia Museum of Art Purchase Award prize, selected by John Ittmann, Curator of Prints, Philadelphia Museum of Art was awarded to **Thomas Wood** (Bellingham, WA). The Graphic Chemical and Ink Company Purchase Award (\$300) for a hand-pulled print was given to **Aspasia Tsoutsoura** (West Henrietta, NY). The Print Center's Honorary Council Honorable Mention (\$100) was awarded to **Aline Feldman** (Columbia, MD) and the Jacqueline L. Zemel Prize (\$500) to **Stella Ebner** (Davis, CA). The Renaissance Graphic Arts Award (\$50) was given to **Peter Haarz** (Albuquerque, NM), the Silicon Gallery Fine Art Print Award (\$250) went to **Will Work for Good** (Takoma Park, MD) and the Art on Paper Award (one year subscription) was given to **John Williams** (Philadelphia, PA). The Print Center's Curator of Prints and Photographs, John Caperton, awarded a prestigious solo exhibition to **Andrew Kozlowski** (Richmond, VA).

The 83rd Annual International Competition: Printmaking will be on view at The Print Center from May 30 – August 1, 2009. The opening reception is Saturday, May 30 from 3:00-5:50pm, with a gallery talk by the jurors at 3:30pm and an awards ceremony immediately following. The exhibition will travel to Long Beach Island Foundation of the Arts and Sciences, Loveladies, NJ, September 12– October 31, 2009.

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 exhibitions; The Print Center Gallery Store, which offers the largest and most diverse selection of contemporary prints in Philadelphia; the longest running annual international competition for prints and photographs in the country; and an extensive series of education programs and special events.

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