



CONTEMPORARY IMAGES IN PRINT SINCE 1915

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Tracings / Transfers / Copies / Forgeries: Bill Walton

May 1 – July 24, 2010

Wednesday, May 26: Reception 5:00-7:00pm

PHILADELPHIA: The Print Center announces *Tracings / Transfers / Copies / Forgeries*, an exhibition of work by Philadelphia artist **Bill Walton** (1931-2010) whose work has been exhibited internationally. The exhibition brings together a group of works made over the last thirty years by Walton, all of which deal with the conceptual issues and technical processes of printmaking. Walton passed away while planning this exhibition for The Print Center. While we mourn his passing, we are pleased to be able to share Walton's insightful work with audiences. A Patron Party (details to be announced) will be held in honor of Walton's last work *Broken Wing*, which he created specifically for The Print Center.

Walton is best known for his small minimalist sculptures, often mounted to the wall and made up of both constructed and found materials. One writer compared his works, with their clear links to minimalist art of the 1960s, to "hard won, deeply imbued physical haikus." *Tracings / Transfers / Copies / Forgeries* focuses on the influence that printmaking had on a number sculptural works. Walton's father was a commercial lithographer and Walton himself was trained as printmaker and worked for Eugene Feldman at Falcon Press in the early 1970s. Walton had a distinguished career as a teacher of printmaking at Moore College of Art & Design and Drexel University. Early in his career Walton exhibited printed works, including a solo exhibition at The Print Center in 1975. As he began to exhibit more sculptural work, Walton concurrently made works that while technically are not prints explore the issues raised by printmaking. This exhibition brings together twelve varied examples of these works made over a period of thirty years and selected by the artist. They include a perfectly constructed copy of one of his sculptures, drawings that have been transferred while still wet onto another surface, as well as a reproduction of a small Walton drawing made by a professional artist in Vietnam.

Walton was born in 1931 in Camden, NJ, and lived and worked in Philadelphia. His work has been included in exhibitions at the Philadelphia Museum of Art; Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia; Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts; Margaret Thatcher Projects, New York; Patricia Sweetow Gallery, San Francisco; Fleisher/Ollman Gallery, Philadelphia; Schmidt-Dean Gallery, Philadelphia; Locks Gallery, Philadelphia; Cava Gallery, Philadelphia; and Larry Becker Contemporary Art, Philadelphia. A monograph of Walton's work was published by Arcadia University Art Gallery in 2006.

Tracings / Transfers / Copies / Forgeries: Bill Walton will be on view at The Print Center from May 1 – July 24, 2010. A reception celebrating the life of the artist will be held on Wednesday, May 26 from 5:00-7:00pm.

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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