



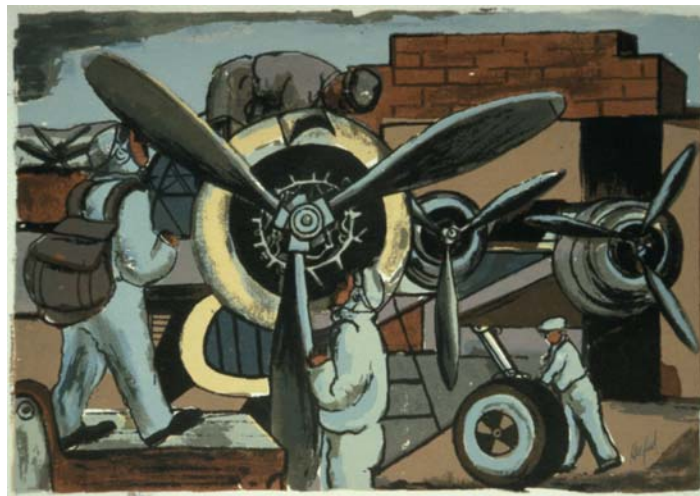
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 16, 2006

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Renee' B. Payton, Coordinator / Events & PR  
(225) 389-7206; [renee@lsu.edu](mailto:renee@lsu.edu)

**EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTING CONTRIBUTIONS BY  
FEMALE ARTISTS TO AMERICAN PRINTMAKING  
TO BE ON DISPLAY AT LSU MUSEUM OF ART**



**BATON ROUGE, La.**—The LSU Museum of Art is presenting *Paths to the Press: Printmaking and American Women Artists, 1910-1960*, the first major exhibition of women artists' contributions to American printmaking during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. *Paths to the Press* will be on display from July 29, 2006 – January 7, 2007 at the LSU Museum of Art, located on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the Shaw Center for the Arts at 100 Lafayette Street.

Organized by Kansas State University's Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, *Paths to the Press: Printmaking and American Women Artists, 1910-1960* presents and interprets printmaking of 80 female artists.

“This exhibition provides a balanced representation of internationally and nationally recognized artists, well-known regional artists and underappreciated and relatively unknown printmakers,” according to Elizabeth Seaton, assistant curator at the Beach Museum of Art. “These artists' collective contributions to printmaking were substantial and have yet to be fully detailed and interpreted.”

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**Paths to the Press**

The exhibition begins its exploration during the second “etching revival,” which was driven by Bertha Jacques’ founding in 1910 of the Chicago Society of Etchers, Seaton said.

“It examines women who made major contributions to color printmaking during the first decades of the century, including Blanche Lazzell, Helen Hyde and Bertha Lum,” Seaton said. “It looks at how the establishment of print societies, the WPA and printmaking programs in teaching institutions during the 1920s and 1930s helped women such as Peggy Bacon, Constance Forsyth and Elizabeth Olds flourish as printmakers. It also examines women’s involvement in post-survey in 1960, when the flourishing of print publishers offered new production and marketing opportunities for artists of both sexes.”

The approximately 100 prints in the exhibition include objects drawn from Kansas State’s Beach Museum of Art; Northwestern University’s Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art; the Marion Koogler McNay Art Museum, San Antonio, Texas; the Worcester Art Museum, Worcester, Massachusetts; the University of Kansas’ Spencer Museum of Art; and the collection of Belverd and Marian Needles, Winnetka, Illinois. The Needles also have provided support for the exhibition.

A 350 page exhibition catalogue will be available. “The catalogue will be the first major reference on U.S. female printmakers active during the early to mid twentieth century,” Seaton said. “It will include five scholarly essays, and 80 catalogue entries with artist’s biographies and full-page color reproductions of works. The catalogue includes entries by more than a dozen American printmaking scholars, dealers and collectors.”

*Paths to the Press: Printmaking and American Women Artists, 1910-1960* has been organized by the Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, Kansas State University, with support from Belverd and Marian Needles.

**Educational Programs**

**August**

Prints Galore

Saturday, August 12

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

3rd floor

Families will learn about the art of printmaking as we tour the exhibition *Paths to the Press* and make a relief print of our own. Supplies are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

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**Paths to the Press**

Printmaking Primer

Sunday, August 20, 2 -3:30 p.m.

The current exhibition, *Paths to the Press*, highlights women printmakers from the early to mid 1900s. This printmaking primer, provided by LSU MOA's education curator, Lara Gautreau, will introduce you to the history, vocabulary, and tools of this wonderful art form.

**SEPTEMBER**

Artists Up-Close, Leslie Koptcho

Thursday, September 21, 6:30 pm

LSU MOA member are free, all others free with museum admission

Location: LSU MOA, Paula Garvey Manship Floor (fifth), Shaw Center for theArts

Leslie Koptcho is an Associate Professor of Art at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. Her prints and bookwork's, which are rich in surface and color, are included in prominent collections such as the Brooklyn Museum of Art, The Fogg Art Museum, the New York Public Library, and the New Orleans Museum of Art. "Artists Up-Close" gives museum visitors the unique opportunity to meet and speak directly with practicing artists about their work.

Tunes of the Times

Sunday, September 24, 2 pm

LSU MOA member are free, all others free with museum admission

Location: LSU MOA, Paula Garvey Manship Floor (fifth), Shaw Center for the Arts

From Paul Whiteman's 1925 Charleston to Dragnet by Ray Anthony & His Orchestra in 1953, these nostalgic hits are sure to bring a fresh perspective to the exhibition, Paths to the Press. Enjoy an afternoon of music and art as Bill Grimes, E. & D. White Professor of Jazz Studies, and Associate Professor of Piano and Jazz Studies Willis Delony perform a selection of music from years in which the art works were created.

**OCTOBER**

Behind the Scenes, LSU Printmaking Studios

Sunday, October 1, 2 pm

Free

Location: LSU Printmaking Studios

Smell the ink. Hear it sizzle under the brayer as the ink is prepared for a plate. See the moment of truth when the resulting print is revealed. Join us for a tour of LSU's Printmaking Studios. Our guides, LSU Professor Kimberly Arp and Associate Professor Leslie Koptcho, will show us around as students demonstrate various techniques. Complete your visit by enjoying the reception for Over the Top: Large Format Printmaking at the Foster Hall Gallery. While this is a free opportunity, we ask that you sign-up in advance. For more information, contact Lara Gautreau, education curator at 225.389.7207; [lgaut@lsu.edu](mailto:lgaut@lsu.edu).

#### Women Artists in the Early 1900's

Sunday, October 15, 2 pm

LSU MOA member are free, all others free with museum admission

Location: LSU MOA, Paula Garvey Manship Floor (fifth), Shaw Center for the Arts

The women artists represented in Paths to the Press were but a few of those pursuing a career in art at the turn of the last century. What was it like to be a woman artist at time? What challenges and opportunities did they face? How did women work together to excel in a male dominated field? These questions and more will be answered in this gallery talk by Jessie Poesch, professor emerita in the history of art at the Newcomb Art Department, Tulane University.

#### Artists Up-Close, Kimberly Arp

Thursday, October 19, 6:30 pm

LSU MOA member are free, all others free with museum admission

Location: LSU MOA, Paula Garvey Manship Floor (fifth), Shaw Center for the Arts

Kimberly Arp is a Professor of Art at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. Professor Arp's current work combines digital photographic images translated into archival ink jet prints with hand drawn imagery. He is continuing a series of images based on photographs of Scotland, and is also photographing New Orleans to develop a new series dealing with the hurricanes and the rebirth and transformation of the city. "Artists Up-Close" gives museum visitors the unique opportunity to meet and speak directly with practicing artists about their work.

The LSU Museum of Art (LSU MOA) in the Shaw Center for the Arts is Baton Rouge's premier art museum. Located in downtown Baton Rouge overlooking the Mississippi River, it presents rotating, historical and contemporary exhibitions. Selections from the permanent collection are always on display. The 3500-work collection includes seventeenth–twentieth-century American and British portraiture, landscape painting, prints and decorative arts, pre-Civil War New Orleans silver, historical art from India, Japan and South America, and contemporary Inuit sculpture.

General Admission to the museum: Adults - \$8; Seniors (65+), students and LSU faculty/staff (with I.D.) - \$6; Children 5 to 17 - \$4. Children under 5 are admitted free.

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