



**THE BOSTON
PRINTMAKERS**
at Lesley University
29 Everett Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

(Boston, MA – August 2026) **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

The Boston Printmakers 2026 North American Print Biennial

808 Gallery, Boston University
808 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA 02215

September 2 – November 21, 2026

Hours: Tuesday – Saturday, 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Opening Reception: Saturday, September 26, 2 PM – 5 PM

Juried by Esther Adler, Curator, Museum of Modern Art, New York

The Boston Printmakers will return to Boston University to present its *2026 North American Print Biennial*, in the 808 Gallery. The juror for this exhibition is Esther Adler, Curator at the Museum of Modern Art, New York. Ms. Adler has selected 120 prints from 2017 entries for this exhibit. She writes, “...having traced certain themes and commonalities through this group of prints, it seems there are key criteria that I used to make my choices. At a time when there is increasing nervousness (panic, even, in some circles) about artificial intelligence and the expanding realm of the digital, I remain in awe of the handmade – both the mark carved into wood or linoleum or drawn on an intaglio plate, and the mechanism of rolling a matrix and a sheet of paper through a press. There is great diversity in this selection of prints, but all of them show the hand of the artist in one way or another. My selection was also heavily influenced by the natural world, and by images that revealed magic in both the mundane and the vast. Finally, and surprisingly, I seem to have gathered a group of “beautiful” prints... Given the times we live in, I allowed myself to prioritize visual pleasure and joy above all else. The result is an exhibition I want to see, and prints with which I want to continue to spend time.”

The exhibit features a broad array of contemporary prints and artists books, spanning traditional to contemporary/integrated media approaches. There are both emerging and established artists from across North America, all evoking an extraordinary depth and level of skill. The exhibition includes examples of etching, lithography, woodcut, linocut, screenprint, digital printmaking and dimensional works, in which the artists explore a rich diversity of conceptual and narrative content.

Over its extraordinary 79 years, the primary mission of The Boston Printmakers has been to create dynamic exhibitions and promote interest in the graphic arts. Founded in 1947, The Boston Printmakers reaches a large and diverse audience through the Biennials, national and international members' shows, and traveling exhibitions across North America. The Boston Printmakers North American Biennial has a long history with Boston University, having been hosted by SVA at 808 Gallery from 1999-2009, in 2013, and now returning starting in 2023!

The North American Print Biennial awards over \$10,000 in purchase prizes and material awards. Founders' Prizes are purchased for the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, the Art Complex Museum collection, and for The Boston Printmakers Collection at the Boston Public Library. This year, two additional purchases will be added to the collections at Harvard Art Museums and the Boston Athenaeum, totaling 5 purchase awards. Finally, there is the new Patrick Murphy Prize, awarded for a print of special merit. In addition, 19 materials and residency awards will be awarded to artists in the show.

EVENTS

Juror's Special Lecture:

Esther Adler, Curator, Museum of Modern Art, New York

CFA Concert Hall, 855 Commonwealth Ave., Saturday, September 26, 1 PM (free and open to the public).

Gallery Talks: (free and open to the public)

- Wednesday, October 14 at 7:00 PM: **Christina Michelon**, Pamela and Peter Voss Curator of Prints and Drawings, Boston Museum of Fine Arts
- Saturday, October 24 at 3 PM: **A Talk with Biennial Artists**, A dynamic series of short talks by exhibiting artists in the 2026 Biennial
- Tuesday, November 10 at 7:00 PM: **Elizabeth Rudy**, Carl A. Weyerhaeuser Curator of Prints, Harvard Art Museums

Other Events:

The 2026 Boston Printmakers North American Print Biennial is also being celebrated by many galleries and institutions which are presenting print-related exhibitions and events throughout the region, including the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, the Harvard Art Museums, and many galleries. Those with concurrent printmaking exhibitions include Brickbottom Gallery, Soprafina Gallery, Childs Gallery, Krakow Witkin Gallery, and the Center for Contemporary Printmaking.

For further programming, more information and press images, please visit

<https://www.bostonprintmakers.org/biennials/biennial-2026/>

FOR QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT: Biennial2026@bostonprintmakers.org , Deborah Cornell dcornell@bu.edu, or Joshua Brennan joshbrenn@bu.edu

Additional Information: **Companion show at the Biennial**

Throughlines: Contemporary Works in Print

808 Hall Gallery, 808 Commonwealth Ave., Boston

September 2 - November 21, 2026

Opening Reception: Saturday, September 26, 2 PM to 5 PM

Running alongside the North American Print Biennial, this exhibition celebrates both the extraordinary artists of the Boston Printmakers' Board and their mission to encourage and support young artists working in print. Recent works from the Boston Printmakers Board and from the students of the BU Master of Fine Arts in Print Media and Photography are on view. This expansive exhibition extends from the elegant methods of traditional printmaking into new surfaces, new approaches, ambitious digital

explorations, and transfers from photographic sources. The students' work showcases BU's unique interdisciplinary program and serves as a window into the visions of these young artists.

The members of The Boston Printmakers Board have contributed their energies and sustained the mission of The Boston Printmakers, expanded the national print community, and provided opportunities for artists since its first show in 1948. The Boston Printmakers is now an organization with an international reach, and an international reputation for excellence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Biennial2026@bostonprintmakers.org, Deborah Cornell dcornell@bu.edu or Joshua Brennan josbrenn@bu.edu