
Processed by Dixon L. Hill

The Boston Printmakers at The Art Institute of Boston
700 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02115

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Finding aid created by Dixon L. Hill as MS Word document, May 2011. Description is in English.
Descriptive Summary

Creator: Dixon L. Hill
Title: The Boston Printmaker’s Collection
Dates: 1947-2011

Abstract:
The Boston Printmakers founded over sixty years ago in Boston, Massachusetts, was created by printmakers and artists within the community as an organization dedicated to the art of printmaking. The first few years of the Boston Printmakers serve as the foundation and set the stage for decades to follow. In post World War II Boston, people were ecstatic that the war was over and the veterans had returned home. After the war, the student population in an around the Boston area was thriving with veterans who wished to return to school. These students had a certain enthusiasm that emerged from the U.S. victory. It was this enthusiasm and dedication that carried over to the art of printmaking and helped form the Boston Printmakers. What made this era so meaningful were the new interest, involvement and appreciation for the graphic arts. Established right from the beginning, The Boston Printmakers would include all styles of prints including modern abstractions. The first committee of officers and volunteers welcomed all prints and never excluded artists based on career experience. This appreciation for all kinds of printmaking and printmakers contributed to the success of the organization.

After the first annual exhibition in May 1948, the second exhibition had entries from all over the country and even Canada. Another fact to mention is the involvement of the Boston Printmakers and WGBH television station. The station launched Art School of the Air in New England to teach and engage the Boston community within the arts. The show featured The Boston Printmakers and their exhibitions on numerous occasions. This is extraordinary because it shows that the organization wanted to engage the local art community in printmaking along with Boston’s successful, young public television station. Until 1969 The Boston Printmakers had a standing relationship within the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. When the museum established a department for contemporary art they had to do away with all shows by independent artist groups, which included The Boston Printmakers. The organization then held their annual exhibitions at many different venues in and around the Boston area, and they also began to have smaller traveling shows that exhibited very select themed prints and open members shows.

The Boston Printmakers expanded their involvement to the global community, which was showcased in 2003 during the Southern Graphic Council Conference. Printmakers from all over the world came together to converse with each other and learn how countries and cultures use printmaking. This proved to be very valuable for all artists at the conference and inspired The Boston Printmakers trips to China, Vietnam and Mexico. This milestone helped The Boston
Printmakers realized the benefits of being involved with printmakers from across the globe, while it showcased the international background of its membership who are now practicing artists in North America.

**Historical Note**

The annual exhibitions of the Boston Printmakers (1948-91) were a major inspiration for art students and faculty, young and established collectors. Hundreds of artists and print lovers converged on the shows, as they still do today. Audiences for print biennial openings (1993-present) reach 500-700 and participating artists gather to share details of their processes and impart their passions. The Executive board discovered that the energy of the organization has not diminished since the late 1940s and in 2007, celebrated with a major historical exhibition commemorating years of institutional and private collecting from the Boston Printmakers shows. After the fiftieth anniversary exhibition at the Boston Public Library board members were still familiar with The Boston Printmakers Collection in their holdings. David Acton, Curator of Prints, Drawings and Photographs at the Worcester Art Museum, agreed to curate the exhibition “60 Years of North American Prints,” held at the Boston University Art Gallery and the Art Complex Museum in Duxbury, Massachusetts in 2007. This led the Executive Board to produce a publication in 2009. Many organizations on which The Printmakers have relied in the past generously gave their support. David Acton focused on artists who had exhibited with The Boston Printmakers to select sixty for the catalogue section of a book. His profound knowledge has resulted in a collection of works representing the breadth and democracy of the print medium while his writing captures the life and times of the people who made them. The essays present the multi-faceted artists in the context of their eminence in the North American print world.

Renee Covalucci June 2011
Illustrated Chronology

The following pages were extracted from the publication:
60 years of North American Prints, 1947-2007
Written by David Acton
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CHRONOLOGY

1947

October 27: The first meeting is held at the Boston Public Library. Richard C. Bartlett is elected President, Shirley Thomson Hadley is Vice-president, and Gladys Wilcock Maynard is Secretary-Treasurer.

Nine artists exhibit one hundred twenty seven prints; these range in price from five to thirty five dollars.

First Albert H. Wiggin Purchase Prizes are awarded to Letterio Calapai and Elizabeth Saltonstall. Prints become part of the Boston Public Library’s Wiggin collection.

Fifty prints from the exhibition are selected for the Traveling Show and shown in Bangor, ME, Marblehead, MA, Hartford, CT, and Springfield, MA.

Associate Memberships are instituted for non-artist supporters of the organization.

The first Associate Members are:

B. Earle Appleton  
Margaret Brown  
Katherine B. Child  
Charles Childs  
Leonard Clark  
Jeannie N. Dupee  
J. R. Fazzano  
Amy Gibson  
Carol D. Hamilton  
Richard B. Holman  
Edward Jackson Holmes  
Anna C. Hoyt  
Frederick A. Lampe  
Allan P. Lindblad  
Dr. H. B. Loder  
Mrs. Augustus P. Loring Jr.  
Alice M. Maginns  
Leo O’Neill  
Paul J. Sachs  
Eleanor Sayre

Charles D. Scott  
Henry L. Seaver  
Mrs. Robert Stimson  
Granville Strang  
Louis B. Thacher  
Mrs. George Thomson  
Charles H. Watkins

A limited edition Presentation Print by a well-known printmaker is established and is to be given to Associate Members each year for a contribution of $10; this continues through 1958.

1948

May 10 – 29: The First Members Exhibition is held at the Paine Furniture Company. Thirty

Demonstrations by members of the Boston Printmakers, Paine Furniture Company, 81 Arlington Street, Boston; Shirley Thomson Hadley and Joseph Hodgson receive the audience

The first Presentation Print is Friends, a lithograph by Ture Bergfors.

The Boston Printmakers Constitution is written and unanimously accepted with legal advice from Louis Black, a Boston attorney, art collector and advisor to the group.

1949

Shirley Thomson Hadley is elected President.

May 11 – 28: The Boston Printmakers Second Annual Members Exhibition is held at the Paine Furniture Company; one hundred twenty seven prints are on exhibition. Weekly lectures and demonstrations are given on methods of printmaking. These educational events become an integral part of Boston Printmakers exhibitions. The Popular Vote prize, chosen by visitors to the exhibition, is awarded to Rockwell Kent.
The 1949 Presentation Print is Old Marblehead, a wood engraving by Shirley Thomson Hadley.

A Traveling Show of fifty two prints is organized from the Members Exhibition.

The Boston Printmakers hold a sidewalk exhibition in Copley Square.

1950

May 18 – June 3: The Boston Printmakers Third Annual Members Exhibition is held at the Paine Furniture Company. One hundred and ten works are exhibited. The Presentation Print is by Minna Citron, and Richard C. Bartlett receives the Popular Vote prize.

The organization acquires a basement room with a private entrance at Symphony Hall to serve as a studio where members can meet and work. For $10 a year, members have access to equipment for etching and block printing. At the same time, symphony goers become familiar with printmaking.

The 1949 Traveling Show tours Canada for six months in an exchange with an exhibition of the Canadian Painters’ and Etchers’ Society.

The 1950 Traveling Show is the opening exhibition at a new museum, the DeCordova and Dana Museum in Lincoln, MA, headed by Frederick P. Walkey. The formal opening on October 4th includes an open house tea and an evening address by Dr. George H. Edgell, Director of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

A traveling exhibition is held at Bookbuilders, Boston, MA.

1951

Paul Swenson is elected President.

May 9 – 26: The Boston Printmakers Fourth Annual Members Exhibition is held at the Paine Furniture Company and features three demonstrations of the printing process in a display window on Arlington Street.

The Presentation Print is November Oak, a color lithograph by Otis Philbrick.

The Traveling Show of sixty prints is held at the University of Maine, Orono, Tanglewood, Lenox, MA, and the DeCordova and Dana Museum, Lincoln, MA.

The Boston Printmakers participate in an outdoor show in Copley Square.

A special traveling exhibition is held at Childs Gallery in Boston.
April 6 – 24: The Boston Printmakers Sixth Annual Members Exhibition is held at the New Gallery at the Hayden Memorial Library, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The show features seventy four prints plus eleven miniature prints and past Presentation Prints.

1954

September 26 – October 24: The Boston Printmakers Seventh Annual Exhibition is held at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. The exhibition features one hundred and ninety two prints including a special group of miniature prints by participating artists. This is the first exhibition to be open to non-members of the Boston Printmakers; it attracts entries from across the country, making the exhibition a national print show.

The Presentation Print is July Afternoon, an etching by Margaret Elder Philbrick.

The organization opens a small gallery in November at 173 Newbury Street, Boston, to feature the work of individual members; among the exhibited artists are Nora S. Unwin, Ture Béngt, Otis Philbrick, Gertrude Quastler, Dean Meeker, Edward Landon, and Vera Andrus. It closes in 1955.

1956

November 20 – December 20: The Boston Printmakers Ninth Annual Exhibition is held at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. This is the first show with a non-member prize jury. On the jury for awards are Perry Rathbone, Director, Boston Museum of Fine Arts; Dorothy Adlow, Art Critic for the Christian Science Monitor; and Mitchell Siporin, Artist. The exhibition features one hundred fifty seven prints from the United States.

The Presentation Print is Mexican Women, a wood engraving by Nora S. Unwin.

Drawings, a members’ show, is presented at the Gropper Art Galleries, Cambridge, MA, June 18 – July 7.

1952

November 9 – December 2: The Fifth Annual Members Exhibition is held at Symphony Hall. The exhibition features one hundred and one prints plus a special group of nineteen miniature prints.

The 1952 Presentation Print is Long Wharf, a color serigraph by John Russell Clift.

The Traveling Show is exhibited in Massachusetts and Maine, and a second show by members is presented at the Twentieth Century Club Gallery in Boston.

1953

Otis Philbrick is elected President, a post he holds for 17 years.

Otis Philbrick giving a lithography demonstration

1955

December 4 – 31: The Boston Printmakers Eighth Annual Exhibition is held at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. The exhibition features two hundred twenty four prints from thirty one states and Mexico and includes a special group of miniature prints.

A Boston Printmakers Drawing Exhibition is held at the Hayden Memorial Library, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, July 9 – August 13.

The Boston Printmakers’ president is interviewed on WGBH at the annual exhibition.
1957

December 6 – 30: The Boston Printmakers 10th Annual Exhibition is held at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. On the jury for awards are Arthur W. Heintzelman, Keeper of Prints, Boston Public Library; Thomas Messer, Director, Institute of Contemporary Art; and Peter Wick, Assistant Curator of Prints, Museum of Fine Arts. The exhibition features one hundred forty-eight prints including a mini show of prints from Japan.

The Presentation Print is Landscape with Bird, a block print by Thomas O’Hara.

A Museum of Fine Arts Purchase Prize is instituted to be selected and owned by the museum. Its first recipient is Calvin Burnett for The Studio.

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1958

October 7 – November 4: The Boston Printmakers 11th Annual Exhibition is held at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. On the jury for awards are Morna Crawford, Museum of Fine Arts; Edgar J. Driscoll, Art Critic for the Boston Globe; and Thomas Messer, Director, Institute of Contemporary Art. The exhibition features one hundred forty three prints from the United States and Canada.

The Presentation Print is Four Figures, a serigraph by Calvin Burnett.

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1959

November 10 – December 6: The Boston Printmakers 12th Annual Exhibition is held at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. The jury for awards includes Dr. Robert Bertoli, President, Massachusetts College of Art; Mitchell Siporin, Head of Art Department, Brandeis University; and Carl Zahn, Designer, Museum of Fine Arts.

The exhibition features one hundred thirty nine prints from the United States and Canada.

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1960

November 1 – 30: The Boston Printmakers 13th Annual Exhibition is held at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. The juror for awards is Dorothy Adlow, Art Critic for the Christian Science Monitor. The exhibition features one hundred forty one prints from the United States.

Dorothy Bowman, the first Presentation Artist, shows ten serigraphs.

The Albert H. Wiggin Memorial Purchase Prize is awarded to Ture Bëngtz and Robert A. Smith, the Museum of Fine Arts Purchase Prize to Harold Altman, the Boston Printmakers Purchase Prizes to Gerson Leiber and Morton Diamondstein, the R. M. Light & Co. Purchase Prize to Milton Johnson, the Paul J. Sachs Prize to Robert Grady, the Patrick Gavin Memorial Prize to Joseph Query, and the Gropper Art Gallery Purchase Prize to Hary Krug.
1961

October 31 – December 3: The Boston Printmakers 14th Annual Exhibition is held at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. The juror for awards is Peter A. Wick, Assistant Curator of Prints, Museum of Fine Arts. The exhibition features one hundred fifty nine prints from the United States. The Presentation Artist is Daniel Lang showing a selection of intaglio prints.

The Traveling Show is held at the Arts and Crafts Society, Lexington, MA, the Sharon Arts Center, Peterborough, NH, and the Berkshire Art Center, Lenox, MA.

1962

October 30 – December 2: The Boston Printmakers 15th Annual Exhibition is held at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. On the jury for awards are Eleanor Sayre, Assistant Curator of Prints, Museum of Fine Arts and Sinclair Hitchings, Acting Keeper of Prints, Boston Public Library. The exhibition features one hundred seventy seven prints from the United States.

1964

January 2 – 31: The Boston Printmakers 16th Annual Exhibition is held at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. On the jury for awards are Morna Crawford, Museum of Fine Arts; Richard C. Bartlett, Art Director, D. C. Heath Publishing Company; and Edgar J. Driscoll, Art Critic for the Boston Globe. The exhibition features one hundred seventy five prints from the United States. The Presentation Artist is David Berger showing lithographs.

Edgar J. Driscoll for the Boston Globe, January 5, 1944

1965

January 5 – February 7: The Boston Printmakers 17th Annual Exhibition is held at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. On the jury for awards are Russell Conner, Artist; Jane

The Traveling Show is held at Lasell Junior College, Newton, MA, and the Sharon Arts Center, NH.
Kay, Art Critic for the Christian Science Monitor and Quincy Patriot-Ledger; and Carl Zahn, Designer, Museum of Fine Arts. The exhibition features one hundred seventy two prints from the United States and Canada.
The 1965 Presentation Artist is Mel Silverman showing mixed-media/metal collage prints.

1966
January 11 – February 13: The Boston Printmakers 18th Annual Exhibition is held at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. On the jury for awards are Elizabeth Morgan, Print Scholar; Henry P. Rossiter, Curator of Prints, Museum of Fine Arts; and Frederick P. Walkey, Director, DeCordova and Dana Museum, Lincoln, MA. The exhibition features one hundred twenty nine prints from the United States and Canada.
The Presentation Artist is John Wisnosky showing intaglio prints.

The Traveling Show is held in Massachusetts at the Sanburn Gallery, Thayer Academy, Braintree, Northfield School, Northfield, as well as the Sharon Arts Center, Peterborough, NH.

1967
February 28 – April 2: The Boston Printmakers 19th Annual Print Exhibition is held at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. On the jury for awards are John Russell Cliff, Artist; William Germaine Dooley and Sue W. Reed, Museum of Fine Arts. The exhibition features one hundred twenty nine prints from the United States, including Hawaii, and Canada.
The Presentation Artist is Rudy Pozzatti showing etchings.

The Traveling Show is held in Massachusetts at the Westwood Gallery, Brandeis University, Waltham, Governor Dummer Academy, Byfield, Lowell Art Association, Hamilton Art Show, Beverly Hospital, Melrose Public Library and the Natick Festival of the Arts, as well the Sharon Arts Center, NH.

1968
March 5 – 31: The Boston Printmakers 20th Annual Print Exhibition is held at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. On the jury for awards are Edgar Driscoll, Jr., Art Critic of the Boston Globe; Lawrence Kupferman, Massachusetts College of Art; Mrs. John Soller, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Sinclair Hitchings and Paul Swenson of the Print Department, Boston Public Library. The exhibition features one hundred fifteen prints from the United States, including Hawaii.
The Presentation Artist is Clare Romano showing collographs.

The Traveling Show is held at the Melrose Public Library.

1969
March 4 – 30: The Boston Printmakers 21st Annual Print Exhibition is held at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. On the jury for awards are Eleanor A. Sayre, Curator of Prints and Drawings, Museum of Fine Arts; Alan Fink, Director, Alpha Gallery, Boston; Sinclair Hitchings and Paul Swenson of the Print Department, Boston Public Library. The exhibition features one hundred thirty prints from the United States and Canada.
The Albert H. Wiggin Memorial Purchase Prize is awarded to Armin Landeck.

A new policy at the Museum of Fine Arts eliminates the Special Exhibitions Gallery; Director Perry Rathbone writes President Otis Philbrick that the Museum “...will no longer accept exhibitions organized by independent artists groups,” ending a fifteen-year exhibition history for the Boston Printmakers.

The Traveling Show is held at the Westwood Gallery, Westwood, MA.
1970

April 19 – May 6: The Boston Printmakers 22nd Annual Print Exhibition is held at the Copley Society, Boston, and at Brandeis University, Waltham, MA, May 10 – May 31. The juror for awards is Peter A. Wick, Curator of Prints and Graphic Arts, Houghton Library, Harvard University. The exhibition features one hundred thirty eight prints from the United States and Canada.

The Traveling Show is held in Massachusetts at the Federation of Women’s Clubs, Scituate Art Festival, Hamilton Art Festival, Westenhook Gallery, Sheffield, DeCordova Museum EXPO 70, Baker Library, Harvard University and Governor Dummer Academy.

1971

Vivian Berman is elected President.

1972

March 26 – April 23: The Boston Printmakers 24th Annual Print Exhibition is held at the Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA. The jury of selection is the Executive Board of the Boston Printmakers. The exhibition features one hundred eight prints from the United States and Canada.

March 21 – April 25: The Boston Printmakers 23rd Annual Print Exhibition is held at the DeCordova Museum, Lincoln, MA. This is the first time all entrants are juried into the show, members and non-members alike. On the selection committee are Otis Philbrick, President Emeritus and Carl Rantz, Vice President of the Boston Printmakers, and Frederick P. Watkey, Director, DeCordova Museum. The juror for awards is artist Gabor Peterdi. The exhibition features one hundred thirty nine prints from the United States and Canada.

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1973

March 18 – May 20: The Boston Printmakers 25th Anniversary Print Exhibition is held at the DeCordova Museum, Lincoln, MA. This is the first year that an invited juror selects the exhibition and assigns awards. Sylvan Dole, Director, Associated American Artists Gallery, New York, is the first national juror. The exhibition features one hundred twenty nine prints from across the United States and Canada.

The Traveling Show is held in Massachusetts at the Brockton Art Center, Hamilton Art Festival, Westenhook Gallery, and the Fitchburg Art Museum, as well as at the Sharon Arts Center, NH.

The Boston Printmakers Second Members Show is held at the Art Complex Museum, Duxbury, July 22 – September 4.

1975

February 27 – April 6: The Boston Printmakers 27th Annual Print Exhibition is held at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Jurors are Clifford S. Ackley, Assistant Curator of Prints and Drawings, Museum of Fine Arts, John Arthur, Director, Boston University Art Gallery; and Vivian Berman, President, Boston Printmakers. The exhibition features eighty eight prints from the United States and Canada.

1977

R. Jackson Smith is elected President.

April 17 – June 19: The Boston Printmakers 29th Annual Print Exhibition is held at the DeCordova Museum, Lincoln, MA. The juror is Frederick P. Walkey, Director, DeCordova Museum. The exhibition features one hundred five prints from the United States, including Alaska, and Canada.

The name of the annual exhibition is changed to the Boston Printmakers National Exhibition.


1973

“Dimensions 2 & 3”, a joint exhibition of the Boston Printmakers and the New England Sculptors Association is held in the Cyclorama Gallery, Boston Center for The Arts.

1977

Each work selected for this exhibition had to reveal an evidence of the artist’s mastery of his medium and his message had to have substance... - Frederick P. Walkey
1978

April 16th – May 14: The Boston Printmakers 30th National Exhibition is held at the Boston Center for the Arts. The juror is artist Robert A. Nelson. The exhibition features one hundred sixty prints from the United States and Canada.


Updated logo

Poster for 30th Anniversary Exhibition

Space Probe-Desert Departure, serigraph and airbrush stencil by Lynwood Krennek. Boston Printmakers Award, Boston Printmakers Collection, Boston Public Library

1979

Tim Hamill is elected President.

April 1 – May 21: The Boston Printmakers 31st National Exhibition is held at the Brockton Art Center, Brockton, MA. The juror is Gene Baro, Curator of Prints and Drawings, Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY. The exhibition features one hundred forty one prints from the United States and Canada.

Poster for 30th Anniversary Exhibition

Wool Gathern, intaglio and relief by Randall J. Kist, Boston Printmakers Award, Boston Printmakers Collection, Boston Public Library

The Seventh Annual Boston Printmakers Members Show is held at the Art Complex Museum, November 23, 1979 – January 20, 1980.

1980

December 2, 1979 – February 3, 1980: The Boston Printmakers 32nd National Print Exhibition is held at the DeCordova Museum, Lincoln, MA. Jurors are Frederick P. Walkey, Director, DeCordova Museum and artist Gabor Peterdi. The exhibition features one hundred fifty eight prints from the United States and Canada.


In the United States the printmaking field seems to engage the serious attention of even larger numbers of serious artists. Prints of high professional quality are produced in large numbers.

The art schools and university art programs and the efforts of professional workshops have promoted higher technical standards than were in evidence a few decades ago.

Gene Baro
In all media one sees a swing away from strict technical categories. In prints this is manifested in less precise editions and impersonal conformity. The revival of etching, the tremendous interest in handmade papers, uniquely colored prints, monotypes and mixed media work have opened up many fresh new possibilities for the traditional print.  

Jane Farmer

1982

H. Citron Boodman is elected President.

March 14 – May 2: The Boston Printmakers 34th National Exhibition is held at the DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park, Lincoln, MA. Jurors are David H. Katzive, Director, DeCordova Museum and artist Antonio Frasconi. The exhibition features one hundred fifty five prints from the United States, including Hawaii, and Canada.

The Tenth Annual Boston Printmakers Members Show is held at the Art Complex Museum, November 21, 1982 – January 23, 1983.

The Traveling Show is held in Massachusetts at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center, Worcester, Emmanuel College, Boston, Governor Dummer Academy, Byfield, as well as Depot Art Center, Naples, FL.

1983

May 22 – July 1: The Boston Printmakers 35th National Exhibition is held at the Boston University Art Gallery, Boston, MA. The juror is printmaker David Bumbeck, Professor of Art, Middlebury College, VT. The exhibition features one hundred fourteen prints from the United States, including Hawaii and Canada.

Pig Alphabet, detail of a hand-colored etching by Arthur Geisert, Materials Award, Strathmore Paper Company

A special traveling exhibition from the Members Show is held at Endicott College, Beverly, Emmanuel College, Boston, and Governor Dummer Academy, Byfield, MA.

1984

Sidney Hurwitz is elected President.

April 15 – May 27: The Boston Printmakers 36th National Exhibition is held at the Brockton Art Museum/Fuller Memorial, Brockton, MA. The juror is Clifford S. Ackley, Associate Curator of Prints, Drawings and Photographs, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. The exhibition features one hundred nineteen prints from the United States and Canada.

The Boston Printmakers is incorporated in Massachusetts as a non-profit 501-3C, a necessary step for applying for grants.

The Twelfth Annual Boston Printmakers Members Show is held at the Art Complex Museum, November 16 – January 20, 1985.

Traveling shows are exhibited at the Fitchburg Art Museum and Emmanuel College.

“Prints by Members of The Boston Printmakers” is held at the Concord Art Association, Concord, MA, September 16 – October 7, 1984.

1985

Marjorie Javan is elected President, a post she holds for the next twelve years.

January 27 – March 3: The Boston Printmakers 37th National Exhibition is held at the Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA. The juror is David W. Kiehl, Assistant Curator of Prints, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. The exhibition features one hundred and thirty one prints from the United States, including Hawaii, and Canada.


The Traveling Show is held at Governor

Dummer Academy, Byfield, Southwestern Massachusetts University, Dartmouth, and Emmanuel College, Boston.

“Boston Printmakers: A Selection of Prints” is shown at the Sherman Gallery, Boston University.

1986

April 19 – June 1: The 38th North American Print Exhibition is held at the DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park, Lincoln, MA. The jurors are Patterson Sims, Associate Curator, Permanent Collection, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, and art collector Lois Torf. The exhibition features one hundred fifteen prints from the United States and Canada.

Mona Lupe, color linocut by Eric Avery, Boston Printmakers Award, Boston Printmakers Collection, Boston Public Library

Charlie’s Cows, intaglio by Ellen Price, Boston Printmakers Award, Boston Printmakers Collection, Boston Public Library

The name of the exhibition changes to the North American Print Exhibition


The Traveling Show is held at the Bank of Boston and Emmanuel College, Boston.
1987
January 18 – March 1: The 39th North American Print Exhibition is held at the Danforth Museum of Art, Framingham, MA. The juror is Andrew Stasik, Director, International Graphics Arts Foundation and Gallery Director, Silvermine Guild Arts Center, New Canaan, CT. This is the first exhibition to be juried from slides and not actual work. The exhibition features one hundred eighteen prints from the United States, including Hawaii, and Canada.

1988
April 10 – August 14: The 40th North American Print Exhibition is held at the Brockton Art Museum/Fuller Memorial, Brockton, MA. The juror is James A. Welu, Director, Worcester Art Museum, Worcester, MA. The exhibition features one hundred twenty prints from the United States and Canada.

1989
April 9 – May 17: The 41st North American Print Exhibition is held at the Art Institute of Boston, Boston, MA. The juror is Clifford S. Ackley, Curator of Prints, Drawings and Photographs, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. The exhibition features one hundred and four prints from the United States and Canada.

The group has succeeded far beyond simply putting together an art show. They have assembled an up-to-date survey exhibit of contemporary printmaking which stands as counterpart to the exhibition "70’s into 80’s: Printmaking Now" currently at Boston’s Museum of Fine Arts.

Andrew Stasik

Open Mike, detail of a drypoint print by Lia Galletti, Boston Printmakers Award, Boston Printmakers Collection, Boston Public Library

It was fascinating to see the widespread revival of the simple woodcut and linocut techniques which were used to create some of the strongest designs and most expressive works in the show.

James A. Welu


A juried members’ traveling show, “Altered States: Development of a Print,” opens at the Wininsky Gallery, Salem State College, Salem, MA.


“The Boston Printmakers, A Members’ Show” is exhibited at the Harbor Gallery, University of Massachusetts, Boston, November 26 – December 12, 1989.

“Altered States” is exhibited at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center, Worcester, Emmanuel College, Boston, and the University of Massachusetts, Lowell.

Maya Daze Vest, detail of a two sided color intaglio print, cut and assembled by Charles Barth exhibited in “Altered States.”
1990
March 10 – May 27: The 42nd North American Print Exhibition is held at the Fitchburg Art Museum, Fitchburg, MA. The juror is Ofelia Garcia, President, Atlanta College of Art, Atlanta, GA. The exhibition features one hundred seventeen prints from the United States and Canada.

1991
April 20 – June 9: The 43rd North American Print Exhibition is held at the DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park, Lincoln, MA. The juror is Ruth E. Fine, Curator of Modern Prints and Drawings, National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC. The exhibition features one hundred thirty one prints from the United States and Canada.

1992
February 26 – April 4: The 44th North American Print Exhibition is held at the Boston University Art Gallery, Boston, MA. The juror is Roberta Waddell, Curator of Prints, New York Public Library, New York. This exhibition is one of the first in the country to show new digital printmaking media. The exhibition features ninety six prints from the United States, including Hawaii, and Canada.

1993
February 26 – April 4: The 44th North American Print Exhibition is held at the Boston University Art Gallery, Boston, MA. The juror is Roberta Waddell, Curator of Prints, New York Public Library, New York. This exhibition is one of the first in the country to show new digital printmaking media. The exhibition features ninety six prints from the United States, including Hawaii, and Canada.

"Members’ Choice," a show in which each exhibiting member chooses a young, emerging artist (non-member) to be in the exhibition, is hosted by the Art Complex Museum, November 17, 1991 – January 12, 1992.

Variety, diversity and technical virtuosity were the hallmarks of the prints that were submitted, a chorus of very individualized voices, each expressing a unique perception of the world and a very personal viewpoint ...

The wide range of styles and subjects was matched by an equally varied choice of media ... 

Virtually all the work demonstrated the artists' mastery of the various printmaking techniques placed in the service of their individual visions.

Roberta Waddell

1995


Two Crows, woodcut by Mary Dryburgh. Boston Printmakers Award, Boston Printmakers Collection, Boston Public Library

Architecture in Contemporary Printmaking is shown at the Paul Creative Arts Center, University of New Hampshire, Durham.

Trudy V. Hansen

1997

Samuel M. Walker is elected President.

March 2 – 29: The 50th Anniversary North American Print Exhibition is held at the Bakalar Gallery, Massachusetts College of Art, Boston, MA. The juror is Trudy V. Hansen, Director, Morse Research Center for Graphic Arts, Zimmerli Art Museum, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J. The exhibition features one hundred twenty four prints from the United States and Canada.

To commemorate its fiftieth year, the Boston Printmakers commission Martha Jane Bradford to create a Presentation Print. Her computer-assisted aquatint etching, Fenway, is given to arts institutions that have hosted and supported the organization since its beginning.

1994

“Architecture in Contemporary Printmaking,” a juried members traveling show opens at the Boston Architectural Center and travels to the American Institute of Architects, Washington, DC.

Invitation for 20th Members Show

Divers, detail of a monoprint by Michael David, Ture BENGTZ Memorial Prize, Art Complex Museum, Duxbury

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Another anniversary event, a print symposium entitled “Shifting Grounds,” includes the Art Institute of Boston, Emmanuel College, Boston Printmakers, Boston University, Harvard University, Massachusetts College of Art, Montserrat College of Art, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, University of Massachusetts, Boston, and Wellesley College. Workshops and special print exhibitions are held at museums, schools, and galleries in and around Boston. This marks the beginning of Print Month, a tradition which continues through subsequent Biennial Exhibitions.

“The Boston Printmakers: Fifty Years,” a retrospective, is shown in the Wiggin Gallery, Boston Public Library. The Boston Printmakers donate its print collection and archival material to the Boston Public Library.

“An Impressed Alliance,” the twenty-first Boston Printmakers Members Show, is held at the Art Complex Museum, November 7, 1997 – January 25, 1998. A special Sylvia Rantz Memorial Purchase Prize offered by the Art Complex Museum is awarded to Aline Feldman.
1999
March 7 – April 3: The 1999 North American Print Exhibition is held at the 808 Gallery, Boston University, Boston, MA. The juror is Marilyn S. Kushner, Curator of Prints and Drawings, Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY. The exhibition features one hundred sixty seven prints from the United States and Canada. Because of the enormous space in the 808 Gallery, the Boston Printmakers sponsor a concurrent student print exhibition, developed by President Samuel M. Walker. The student exhibition is co-sponsored by the Arches Paper Company, which agrees to give a generous paper supply to each participating school and prizes to six students in the show. The Boston Printmakers award three cash prizes. Seventeen New England colleges participate in the First Arches Student Exhibition: Amherst College, Art Institute of Boston, Boston University, Harvard University, Holy Cross College, Maine College of Art, Massachusetts College of Art, Mount Holyoke College, Plymouth State College, Rhode Island School of Design, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, University of Hartford, University of Massachusetts, Amherst and Boston campuses, University of New Hampshire, and Wellesley College.

“Basic Black & White,” a members’ show, is held at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston.

2000
“Artists’ Books” travels to the Cabot Gallery, Montserrat College of Art, Beverly, MA.

2001
February 18–April 8: The 2001 North American Print Exhibition is held at the 808 Gallery, Boston University, Boston. The juror is David W. Kiehl, Curator of Prints, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York. The exhibition features one hundred seventy eight prints from the United States, including Hawaii, and Canada.

The Second Arches Student Exhibition includes students from twenty New England colleges and universities.

“Artists’ Books” travels to The Art Gallery at University of New Hampshire, Durham.
The name of the exhibition is formally changed to the North American Print Biennial.

2003

February 23 – April 6: The 2003 North American Print Biennial is held at the 808 Gallery, Boston University, Boston, MA. The juror is Clifford S. Ackley, Ruth and Carl Shapiro, Curator of Prints and Drawings Chair, Department of Prints, Drawings, and Photographs, Museum of Fine Arts Boston. The exhibition features one hundred fifty-two prints from the United States, including Hawaii, and Canada.

Whelan Press of Santa Fe, NM, donates a printing press as the prize in a drawing of all juried Biennial artists.

The Third Arches Student Exhibition includes students from twenty New England colleges and universities.

The annual Southern Graphics Conference is held in Boston, April 2 – 5, sponsored by the Boston Printmakers, Southern Graphics Council, Art Institute of Boston at Lesley University, Boston University, Massachusetts College of Art, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, and Muskat Studios. Over 1000 national and international printmakers attend; local museums, schools, galleries, and arts organizations hold special print events and exhibitions.

“Small Prints,” a members’ show, has its first exhibition at the Boston Arts Academy and travels to The Art Gallery at University of New Hampshire, Durham.

Candy Norton is elected President.

I, Thomas M. Menino, Mayor of the City of Boston, do hereby proclaim Monday, March 31 through Sunday, April 6, 2003 to be Printmaking Week.

Clifford S. Ackley and members of the Executive Board selecting the Whelan Press raffle winner.
2004

“Time Remembered/Time Past: Boston Printmakers at the Art Complex Museum,” May 9 – September 12, is a juried show in which forty eight members explore the meaning of time.

“Small Prints” travels to the University of Alberta Museum, Edmonton, Canada, and University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA.

Yogi and the Birds, wood engraving by Raymond Goeckler, “Small Prints” show

Cocktails for Two, hand-colored etching by Ann Chernow, “Small Prints” show

The Fourth Arches Student Print Exhibition includes students from twenty two New England colleges and universities.

“Small Prints” travels to Gallery Art 6, Richmond, VA.

The Boston Printmakers sponsors an exchange trip to China. Twenty two artists participate in the two-week program led by Vice President Renee Cavaucchi. The China Art Academy, Hangzhou hosts a professional exchange that includes a joint exhibition, demonstrations for students, and an artists’ panel.

Carolyn Muskat is elected President.

2006

“New Landscape: The Boston Printmakers Members Show” is held at the Danforth Museum of Art, Framingham, MA, January 29 – April 2.

“Small Prints” travels to the Steward Hall Art Gallery in Montreal. Canada and Adirondack Community College, Queensbury, NY.

February 13 – March 27: The 2005 North American Print Biennial is held at the 808 Gallery, Boston University, Boston, MA. The juror is Joann Moser, Senior Curator for Graphics Arts, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, DC. The exhibition features two hundred sixteen prints from the United States and Canada as well as from artists living abroad.

Whelan Press donates a printing press to the Biennial. This time it becomes the prize in a raffle open to all, with proceeds to fund the Boston Printmakers International Artist

The Artist as Canadian, wood engraving by Jim Westergard, Materials Award, Savor Foire: Charbonnet Ink

Bmpapped Character Series: Elise, screenprinted ceramic tiles on mid board by Megumi Naitoh

Strip, detail of an assemblage of wood engravings, light boxes and encaustic wax by Rosemary Fell-Covey
“Echoes of China,” an exhibition displaying the influence of the China trip on the work of the American participants, is shown at the Brickbottom Gallery, Somerville, MA, May 18–June 24.

2007

February 18 – April 1: The 2007 North American Print Biennial is held at the 808 Gallery, Boston University, Boston, MA. The juror is Judith B. Hecker, Assistant Curator, Department of Prints and Illustrated Books, Museum of Modern Art, New York. The exhibition features one hundred fifty two prints from the United States, including Hawaii, and Canada and from artists living abroad.

The Otis Philbrick Memorial Prize is established; the winning print is donated to the Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University. Its first recipient is Kristina Paabus.

Requiro, collaborative screenprint by Daniela Deeg and Cynthia Lollis, Materials Award, Art New England
Notice no Notice - Sound of Silence, screenprint, gouache, graphite, and ink by Kristina Paabu, Otis Philbrick Memorial Prize, Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University

Whelan Press donates a new portable press for the Biennial raffle to fund the Boston Printmakers International Exchange Program.

The Fifth Arches Student Print Exhibition includes students from eighteen New England colleges and Universities.

“60 Years of North American Printmaking,” an anniversary exhibition commemorating sixty years of public and private collecting from the Boston Printmakers, opens in two parts: “Collecting from the Boston Printmakers,” is exhibited at the Stone Gallery at the Boston University Art Gallery, February 18 – April 1; “Creating Public Collections” is exhibited at the Art Complex Museum, February 18 – May 6. This two-part exhibition curated by David Acton, Curator of Prints, Drawings, and Photographs at the Worcester Art Museum, results in this publication.

Translations: A US/China Exchange Portfolio, thirty six prints by artists who participated in the international exchange and their students.

A copy is added to the Boston Printmakers Collection, Boston Public Library.

C. David Thomas is elected President.

The Boston Printmakers sponsor an exchange trip to Vietnam. Twenty artists participate in the program led by President C. David Thomas. The Vietnam Fine Arts Association hosts the professional exchange that includes demonstrations and a joint exhibition at the Hanoi Contemporary Art Center.

Scholar’s Garden, lithograph by Candy Norton, Boston Printmakers Collection, Boston Public Library
Scope and Content Note

The Boston Printmakers' Collection has articles and newsletters published by The Boston Printmakers, correspondence records, financial and sales records of shows and exhibitions, public relations materials, meetings and minutes, and records of entries to shows and exhibitions produced by The Boston Printmakers. These records relate to the organization from 1947-2011.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged into eight series as follows:

Series I: Exhibitions
Series II: Publications
Series III: Membership & Member lists
Series IV: Sales
Series V: Meetings & Minutes
Series VI: Correspondence
Series VII: Various Records
Series VIII: Press Releases
Series IX: Finances

Container List

The containers are listed as follows:

Exhibitions (Series I) 3 containers
Membership and member lists (Series III) 1 container
Sales (Series IV) 1 container
Meetings and minutes (Series V) 1 container
Correspondence (Series VI) 1 container
Various Records (Series VII) 1 container
Press Releases (Series VII) 1 container
Finances (Series IX) 1 container