

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Power of the Presses at Bainbridge Island Museum of Art

A Celebration of the Creative Potency of Printmaking

Bainbridge Island, WA — The Bainbridge Island Museum of Art (BIMA) proudly presents *Power of the Presses*, a large-scale group exhibition that showcases the transformative power of printmaking through artists' books, broadsides, and diverse print works. On display from March 7 through June 8, 2025, the exhibition highlights the enduring relevance of the printing press as both a creative tool and a symbol of revolution, freedom, and democracy.

Artists, long seen as adaptive creative agents, have embraced the printing press for centuries as a powerful medium for communication. *Power of the Presses* illuminates the potency of this art form with an array of works that speak to the importance of print in shaping the way we see the world, engage with each other, and reflect on our shared histories. The exhibition explores themes of community, self-care, social change, and healing through powerful imagery, thoughtful design, and compelling messages.

The exhibition spans the entire second floor of BIMA, from the Beacon Gallery at the top of the stairs to the Feferman Gallery and the intimate Sherry Grover Gallery. This expansive presentation demonstrates how printmaking, through broadsides, prints, and artists' books, continues to transform the way we understand ourselves and the world around us. The works on display serve as an invitation to community, engagement, reflection, and inspiration.

The featured artists in this exhibition include Mare Blocker, Eileen Jimenez, Kitty Koppelman, Paige Pettibon, and Partners in Print (PiP), a Seattle-based organization of printers dedicated to advancing the art of printmaking. These artists' works invite viewers to consider the profound impact that printed words and images can have on individuals and societies.

Hands-On Art Making in the Gallery

Visitors to the exhibition will have the unique opportunity to engage with the art-making process themselves. A working printing press will be on display in the gallery, where guests can participate in live demonstrations and contribute to the creation of new works alongside special guests.

- FIRST FRIDAYS, March June
 4:30 pm 7:30 pm
- WEEKENDS, March June Saturdays - 11:30 am – 4:30 pm Sundays - 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm

DogEar Festival: A Three-Day Celebration

Join us for the *DogEar Festival*, a special three-day event celebrating *Power of the Presses* and all things artists' books, paper, and printing. The festival will take place from April 4 through April 6, 2025, and will feature a variety of interactive events, including artist talks, workshops, and live printmaking demonstrations. The festival offers an exciting opportunity to dive deeper into the world of printmaking and connect with fellow art enthusiasts.

Curator's Statement:

"The power of the press is a power considered sacred by many. The printing press is a tool of revolution, long associated with democracy, freedom of speech, and the ability to reach the masses to exchange ideas and ideals. The printed word or image can unite or divide, heal or hurt, educate or misinform. Artists, as adaptive creative agents, have long embraced the printing press. Power of the Presses, the large-scale artists' books, broadsides, and print exhibition at the Bainbridge Island Museum of Art (BIMA) displays the full creative potency of this hallowed art form. For the duration of the exhibit, a printing press will take center stage and be put to work on-site by visitors and special guests.

"The artists in this exhibit speak to us through beautiful imagery, elegant design, and messages that go straight to our hearts. The works in this exhibit speak to concern and care for self and community, teach us about our past, and print a path toward a better future. The strength of these works speaks to our ability to bring people together, and to heal, learn, and grow through art. Highlighted in the Feferman Gallery are Mare Blocker, Eileen Jimenez, Kitty Koppelman, Paige Pettibon, and Seattle non-profit Partners in Print (PiP).

"Power of the Presses extends across the entire second floor of BIMA, from the Beacon Gallery at the top of the stairs, across the Feferman Gallery, and into the warm intimacy of the Sherry Grover Gallery. Crossing this vast space with print work allows for a broad demonstration of how printing — through broadsides, prints, and artists' books — is

changing us and the world. Each artist's work offers us an invitation to community, a choice to engage, a chance to wonder, and to feel uplifted."

— Catherine Alice Michaeils

About Bainbridge Island Museum of Art:

Bainbridge Island Museum of Art inspires curiosity, wonder, and understanding by connecting people with the contemporary art and craft of the Puget Sound region. The art museum exhibits, interprets, preserves, collects, and promotes works of proven cultural value as well as new works by emerging artists and craftspeople.

The art museum is open daily, 10 am to 5 pm. Free admission. BIMA is located in beautiful downtown Bainbridge Island, at the corner of Hwy 305 and Winslow Way, just steps away from the ferry terminal, and with easy access via public transportation or by car from the Kitsap Peninsula.

BIMA is supported through contributions by members and donors like you, with ongoing support from Cogwheel Construction, The Klorfine Foundation, Leslie & Michael Lebeau, Chap & Eve Alvord, John & Ann Underwood, Kathy Alvord Gerlich, Gnarly Tree Foundation, Ames Family Foundation, Stoel Rives LLP, M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust, Capital Group Private Client Services, BIMA PRISM, ArtsFund, CascadePBS, ArtsWA, and PublicDisplay.Art.