



The Housatonic Museum of Art and the Society of
American Graphic Artists (SAGA) present

Ink and Impressions
SAGA at 110
Ruth Leaf & Atelier 17

A conversation with Merle Perlmutter and Christina
Weyl

Host: Jennifer Reynolds-Kaye



HOUSATONIC
MUSEUM OF ART



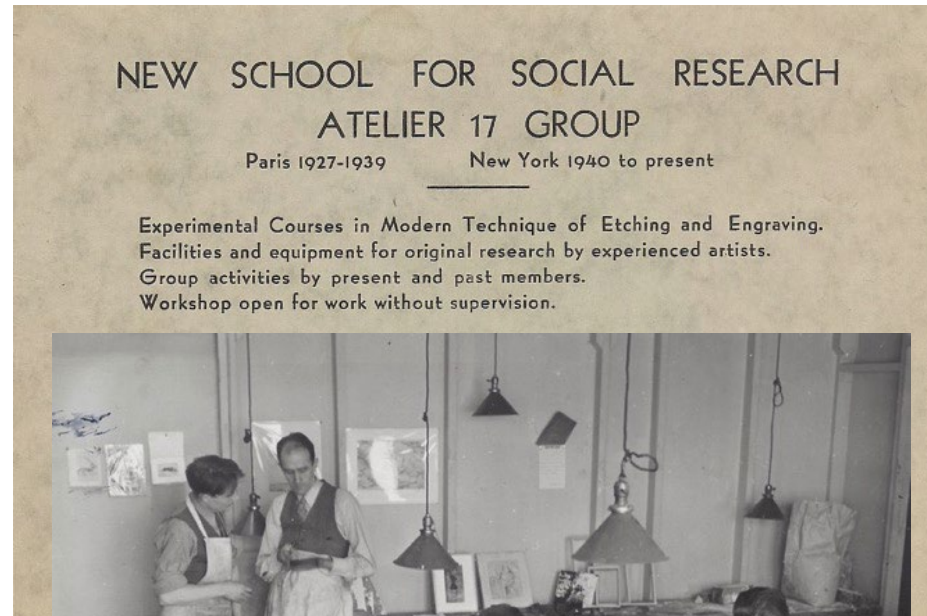
Paris, 1927-1939

47 ter, rue du Moulin Vert (1927-1928)

27 villa Chauvelot (1928-1932/33)

17, rue Campagne Première (1932/33-1939)

☐ First user of "**Atelier 17**" for group show Galerie Pierre (May 1935)



New York, 1940-1955

New School for Social Research, 66 West 12th Street (1940-45)

41 East Eighth Street (1945-53)

523 Sixth Avenue (1953-55)

Atelier 17's locations



Paris, 1950-1988

278, rue de Vaurigard (1950-1954)

Académie Ranson: 7, rue Joseph Bara (1954-1961)

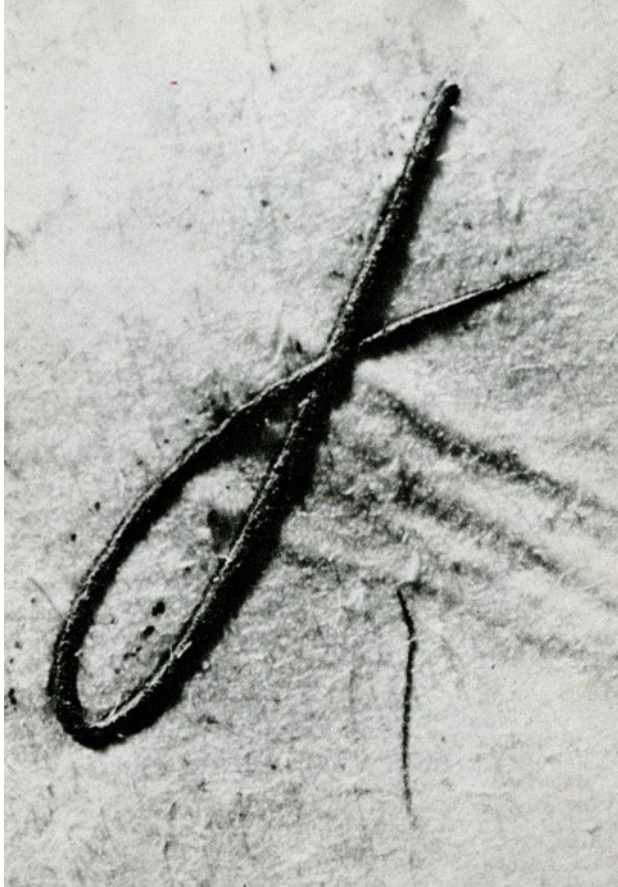
77, rue Daguerre (1961-1969)

63, rue Daguerre (1969-1977)

10, rue Didot (1977-1989)

Some of Atelier 17's (many) legacies

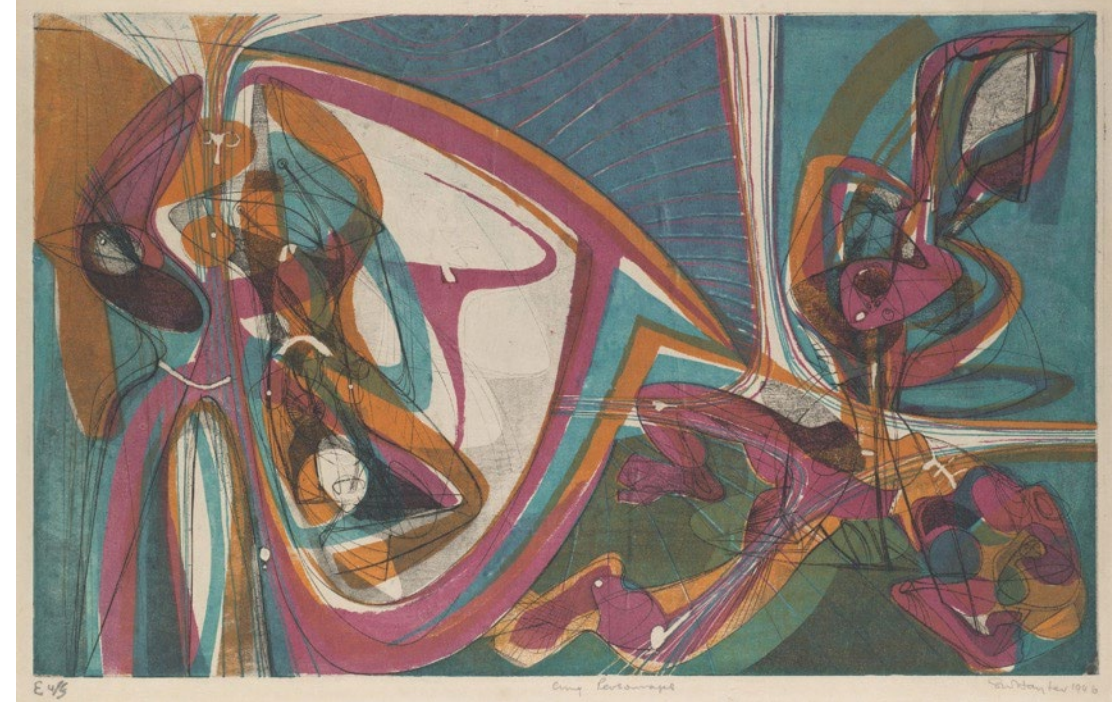
Revival of engraving as creative medium, not reproductive



Exploration of new techniques, such as soft ground etching and sugar lift aquatint



Development of viscosity printmaking, simultaneous color printmaking





Ruth of Hayter's teaching methods



Ruth on the atmosphere at Atelier 17



Ruth on her early printmaking technique and subject matter



Ruth on writing her book and her students at Ruth Leaf Studio

Art Students League, student record card

LEAF
~~LEAF~~, RUTH

MEMBER

not free

APPLICANT'S NAME Ruth Leaf

CITY ADDRESS 120 W. 17th St.

HOME ADDRESS N.Y.C. MD 4/24/43

CHANGED TO 34-32 91 St.

CHANGED TO J.H. Queens, L.I.

DATE

TEL. NO.

TEL. NO.

STUDENT COURSES			MEMBERSHIP RECORD		
PERIOD	COURSE	INSTRUCTOR	ADMITTED YEAR	DUES	TYPE
11/10/41-12/1/41	Life P.M.	Hersch	1942-43	1.50	5489
1/9/42-3/1/42	Lith. Am	Sternberg	1943-44	1.50	PAID 4/20/43
4/15/42-5/1/42	"	"	1944-45	1.50	April 17, 1944
9/14/42-5/28/43	Lith. Am	"	1945-46	1.50	Oct. 4, 1944
3/1/43-3/31/43	Lith. P.M.	Kantor			Oct. 10, 1945
6/1/43-8/27/43	Lith. P.M.	Sternberg			
9/14/43-11/1/43	Lith. Am	Sternberg			
12/15/43-1/1/44	"	"			
3/1 - 5/31/44	"	"			
2/1 - 3/1/44	Lith. P.M.	Sternberg			
10/3/44-12/15/44	Lith. Am	Sternberg			
1/1/45-1/15/45	Lith. P.M.	Sternberg			

REMARKS

Dropped Dec. 1, 1947

Ruth Leaf, untitled (nursing mother), ca. 1941-45.

Lithograph, 12 x 9.5 inches

Collection, Art Students League



Ruth Leaf, *Twilight*, ca. 1950

Etching, plate: 14 7/8 x 17 7/8 in.

Courtesy of Dolan/Maxwell (ex. collection Stanley William Hayter)



Ruth Leaf, *Coney Island Elevated*, ca. 1960



Ruth Leaf, *Musicians*, ca. 1950s. Woodcut, image: 9 3/8 x 25 5/8 in. National Gallery of Art, Washington.



Below: Ruth Leaf Studio, Douglaston, Queens, ca. 1970s

Right: Ruth Leaf in *Newsday*, Sept. 11, 1981.



art review/*Prints of the Island*



By Amel Wallach

There are artists who make prints because they are popular and lucrative and, besides, it's a relief to get out of a lonely studio and into a workshop atmosphere. And then there are those for whom printmaking is a passion and as much a way of life as it is a means of making art.

In recent years, there has been a proliferation of printmakers on Long Island and most of them fall into the latter category. They make prints because they love the process. "When I started with printmaking I found a home," says Ruth Leaf of Ruth Leaf Studio, Douglaston. "I was a terrible painter."

"I fell in love with the medium," Arnold Hoffman of Screen Print Workshop, The Springs, said. "I showed my easel in the corner and stopped painting." Dan Welden, founder and president of the Long Island Printmakers Society, recalled that "I was a lost artist searching for direction before I discovered lithography."

Leaf, Hoffman and Welden are showing their own prints and those of the artists with whom they work as part of a huge exhibit, "Best Graphics of Long

Island 1980-1981," which opens at two Glen Cove galleries Sunday. The opening reception for the exhibit, which runs through Oct. 11, is from 2 to 6 PM Sunday at both Wunsch Arts Center, 1 Forest Ave., and Village Square Art Gallery, Village Square. Welden will lecture and demonstrate the art of lithography at 7:30 PM Oct. 1 at the Village Square Gallery. Sponsored by the Council for the Arts at Glen Cove with the aid of a \$600 grant from the New York State Council on the Arts, the exhibit includes 74 works by 45 artists.

There is also a flurry of other activity that underlines the key role that printmaking has come to play in the current Long Island art scene. Starting tomorrow with a 3 to 5 PM opening and continuing through Sept. 28, the Atelier 778 graphic workshop will show prints by artists who work there, at Great Neck House, 14 Arrandale Ave. The Ruth Leaf Studio Retrospective, with work by 50 of her current and former students, takes place Sept. 19 to Oct. 11 at the Community Gallery of the Queens Museum, Flushing Meadows Park, Flushing. Peter Grippe, Ruth Leaf and Lydia Viscardi will be showing their graphic art, along with sculpture by Bennett Sykes Blackburn and wood constructions by Marie Wheeler.

—Continued on next page



Newsday Photo/L. Michael Dombrowski

Long Island printmakers: top, partners Shirley Roman, left, and Elaine Orens; above, Donn Steward; right, Ruth Leaf.



preview

LONG ISLAND
NASSAU/SUFFOLK

AMAGANSETT. 30 year retrospective of works by Mildred Lindau Paul Linn, 11 AM-5 PM tomorrow, Sunday (rain dates, Sept. 12, 13), Inn At Napeague (outdoors), Montauk Highway, 257-1103.

BAY SHORE. Sculpture by Lou and Earl Stressing; graphics by Norm Altman; "Geometry is Depth," works by Mike Altman, noon-5 PM Monday, Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday, noon-5 PM Friday, through September, Main Street Gallery, 145 W. Main St., 692-4472.

BRIDGEHAMPTON. "Win, Place and Horse Show," group show, noon-6 PM daily except Wednesday, through Sept. 15, Elaine Benson Gallery, Montauk Highway, 537-0233.

—Howard Kanovitz 1970-1981, selected prints, noon-5 PM Thursday-Monday, 1-5 PM Sunday, through Sept. 14, M. J. Greene Gallery, Main Street, 537-0108.

COLD SPRING HARBOR. Bionas by George Gach, 10 AM-5 PM daily except Monday, 1-6 PM Sunday through Sept. 26, Harbor Gallery, 43 Main St., 692-9525.

EAST HAMPTON. "Krasner/Pollock: A Working Relationship," works by Lee Krasner and Jackson Pollock plus memorabilia, 10 AM-5 PM Monday-Saturday, 2-5 PM Sunday, through Oct. 4, Guild Hall, 156 Main St., 324-0006. Film program includes "Lee Krasner, The Long View," "Jackson Pollock: The Man and the Myth," Jackson Pollock's donation, 11 AM, 3 PM Monday-Saturday, 3 PM Sunday.

—Abstract Realism: Seascapes and Landscapes by Billy Schoenfeld, noon-6 PM daily, through Sept. 18, Vened International Art Gallery, 70A Park Place, 324-3303.

—Serigraphs by Joan Rogers; lithographs (abstract landscapes, seascapes) by Quincy, photographs by Nancy Kane, noon-6 PM weekends, through Oct. 10, Art's Proot, 257 Penning Rd., 324-0278.

—Works by Rufus Coes, Richard Kanovitz, Norman Sauer, noon-6 PM daily except Wednesday, through Sept. 26, Gallery East, 257 Penning Rd., 324-0383.

EAST HILLS. Golden Jubilee celebration features art exhibit, 12:15-5 PM Sunday, Village Hall, 484-0996.

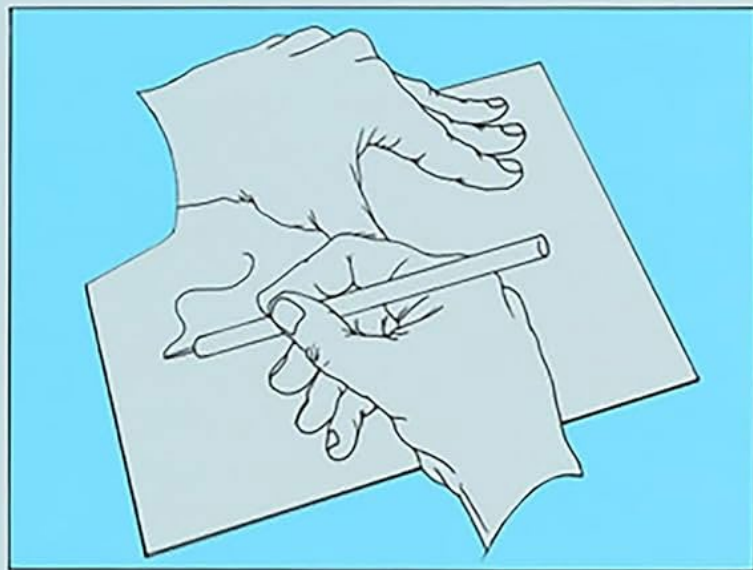
EAST ISIP. "Progress and Prophecy," paintings, sculptures, works by Allen Kogman, Dee Shapiro, Sue Fuller, Annette Meris, Jerry Okamoto, 10 AM-4 PM Monday-Saturday, 8-10 PM Wednesday, 2-5 PM Sunday, through Sept. 27, Gallery, 50 Irish Lane, 224-5402.

EAST SETAUKET. Group show, Long Island Printmakers Society, reception 3-6 PM Sunday, 1-5 PM Friday-Sunday, through Oct. 4, Felice Cole Gallery, 3 West Rd., 751-6948.

FREDRICK. Paintings by Florence Fauser, 9 AM-1 PM daily except Saturday, South Nassau Unitarian Church, 228 S. Ocean Ave.

GARDEN CITY. Paintings by Linda Price, opens with reception 3-5 PM tomorrow, 9 AM-noon Monday-Friday, —Continued next page

Ruth Leaf
**ETCHING,
ENGRAVING**



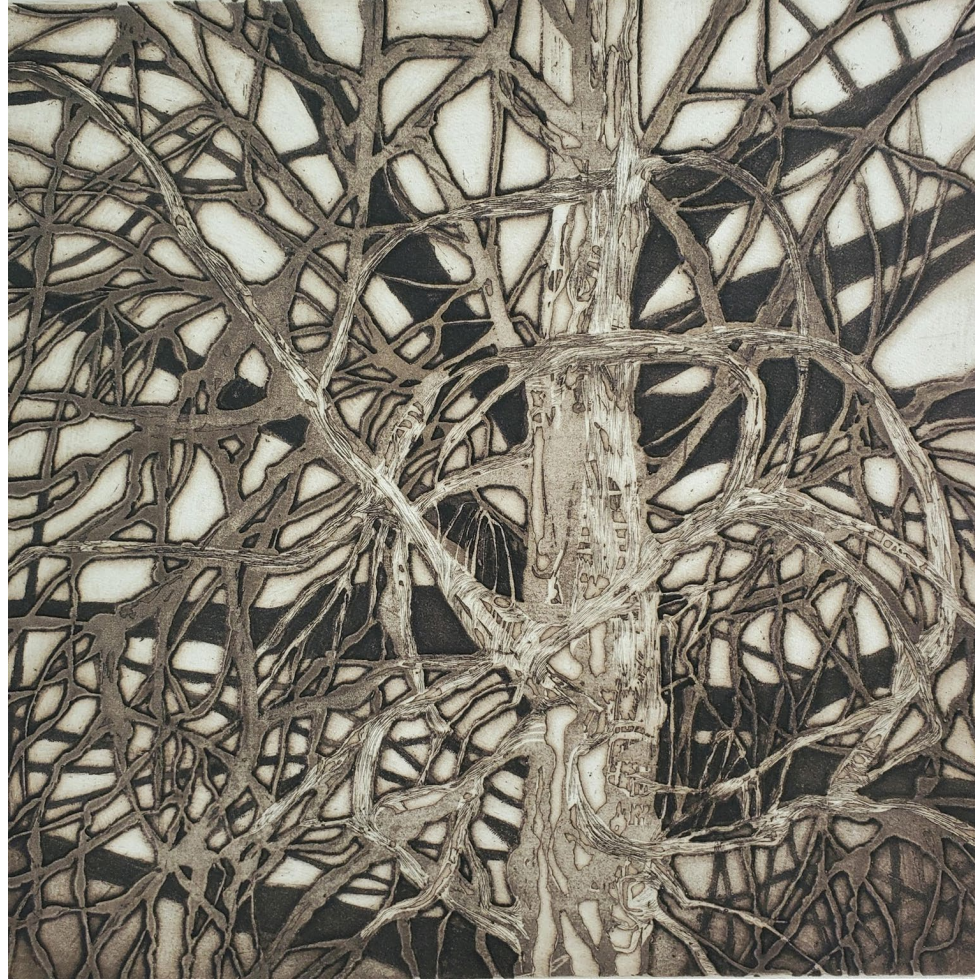
and Other Intaglio
Printmaking Techniques





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Q & A

THANK YOU!

Visit *Ink and Impressions: 110 Years of the Society of American Graphic Artists*,
on view through Friday, February 13, 2026 at The Housatonic Museum of Art:
900 Lafayette Blvd, Bridgeport, CT 06604



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