at the MUSEUM

GREENVILLE COUNTY
MUSEUM OF ART

UPSTATE'S ARTIST INVITATIONAL WINTER 2002

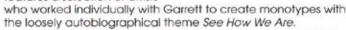


## SNOLLSIEX

## UPSTATE ARTISTS INVITATIONAL JANUARY 23 - MARCH 24

It's one thing to invite an artist to participate in an exhibition. It's quite another to recruit twenty-five of them to take part in a collaborative exercise in an unfamiliar medium—or one, at least, most of them do not practice regularly.

Yet that's exactly what Museum Director Tom Styron envisioned as he worked with master printer Phil Garrett to plan the 2002 Upstate Artists Invitational. Coordinated and funded by the Museum, it features a selection of artists



The concept for the exhibition dates back more than two years to a print exhibition by Greenville artist Carl Blair. After working on that effort, Garrett suggested a large monotype show as a collaborative project.

"We thought this exhibition would reveal that all artists are grounded in drawing and composition," said Styron. "We selected the monotype as a fundamental medium to illustrate this arbitrary challenge."

Working closely with Garrett, Museum staff mounted the difficult task of selecting artists to participate. The final list represents a broad range of people and skills—painters, sculptors, and potters—many of whom have exhibited work in previous Upstate Invitationals.

Early last summer, the Museum underwrote two-day sessions for each of the participants at Garrett's King Snake Press.

"It was a wonderful collaborative experience," says Garrett.
"It was my role to act as the facilitator, to find ways to help the artists realize the line, texture, or tone they were seeking. It takes a lot of communication, both verbal and nonverbal, because everyone comes at the process in a different way. But one thing that was consistent was the professionalism of the artists."

The sessions wound up in late October, and each artist submitted up to three prints for consideration: one was chosen for the exhibition, to be shown with another work—the latter example in the artist's more typical medium.

On view through March 24, the Upstate Artists Invitational also includes a variety of educational and participative components, including a seminar on monotypes and a series of Sunday afternoon gallery talks featuring the artists.

See How We Are was co-curated by Deb Sim, Alexia Timberlake, David Hooker, and Martha Severens.



Russell Biles

Patti Brady

Michael Brodeur

Jim Campbell

Sharon Campbell

Bob Chance

Steven Chapp

Syd Cross

David Detrich

Greg Flint

Paul Flint

Phil Garrett

David J. P. Hooker

Luis Jaramillo

Nancy Jaramillo

Linda McCune

Alice Ballard Munn

Joseph Thompson

Yuri Tsuzuki

Mike Vatalaro

Zan Wells

Frances S. Woodside

Denise Woodward - Detrich