

Yves Tanguy

at the MUSEUM
GREENVILLE COUNTY
MUSEUM OF ART

UPSTATE'S ARTIST INVITATIONAL
WINTER 2002

at the

MUSEUM

EXHIBITIONS

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 who worked individually with Garrett to create monotypes with the loosely autobiographical theme *See How We Are*.

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.



SEE
HOW
WE
ARE

MEET THE ARTISTS

John Acorn
Catherine Bettencourt
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