



Summer Newsletter 2020



Akua® Printmaking Tips

IN THIS ISSUE

[A LETTER FROM AKUA INKS](#)

[PRINTMAKERS IN PLACE](#)

[Roberta Feoli](#)

[Elise Wagner](#)

[NEW VIDEOS](#)

[WORKSHOPS & DEMOS](#)

[OPPORTUNITIES](#)

[Register for Newsletter](#)

Dear Akua Artists,

We want to begin by sending our heartfelt wishes to everyone feeling the effects of the pandemic and economic stress. We hope our printmaking news offers you some inspiration and technical assistance during these difficult times.

In this newsletter, printmakers Roberta Feoli from Italy, and Elise Wagner from Oregon reflect on their pandemic challenges, Susan Rostow offers tips for stiffening Akua Intaglio® inks and shares her latest print animation, and Master Printer, Tony Kirk introduces innovative monotype techniques.

We wish you well and as always, we look forward to hearing your questions and comments.

Warmly,
Akua Inks

PRINTMAKERS IN PLACE

ROBERTA FEOLI



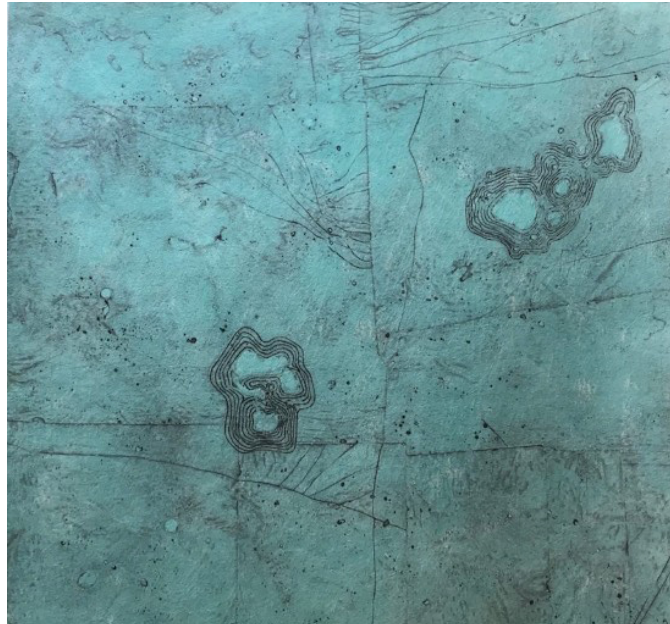
Roberta Feoli," La Reina," Linoleum block printed with Akua Inks

Roberta Feoli

"The pandemic has forced people to wake up every morning in what will be their new, isolated, daily life until it's time to go back to bed. Walking around the house in search of emotions has dragged many into boredom and most humans of this century have absolutely no idea how to handle boredom. My system of survival to repetition and especially to the stupid, ignorant statements shouted on social media has been organizing something that I think I can do well. To teach. Together, with Anna Benedini, a friend from university, engraver and jewelry maker, we started a series of live broadcasts on Instagram and Facebook just for fun. In seven days, what started as a game between friends, has turned into a regular program for hundreds of participants. As a result, we now have meetings of: #IOSTAMPOACASA (I PRINT AT HOME) "

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ELISE WAGNER



Elise Wagner, "Aerial Oceanic 1; 2018," Encaustic collagraph monoprint; 16 x 16 inches

Elise Wagner

"At the time that COVID-19 hit, I was in New York for art week. I was relieved to arrive home healthy and safe to quarantine on a less than half full plane in mid-March. As for everyone, all of my classes were canceled as were my Airbnb guests. I have gone in and out of motivation to be creative and have wondered what the purpose of art is during a pandemic. Not having show deadlines has made it hard to motivate. This coupled with being preoccupied with my survival, greatly affected my creative drive. The extra time in isolation did however afford the ability to revisit many projects I have had on the back burner, one, a multi panel encaustic piece in progress. Following the news and also how certain planets are aligning in a significant way during this time, I also created the collagraph plate for my Earth Transit series. I made a small edition and plan to do more. I also had the time to write and receive several local and national relief grants for working artists. In keeping with an annual tradition of having a Summer Open Studio, I gave myself a deadline by planning my first ever, social distance open studio. I created 21 new prints and paintings. I took one-hour appointments for visitors, and allotted a half hour in between for sanitizing. Ultimately wanting to boost online sales, I also simultaneously released my new work on my website at the same time, this generated some sales, and enabled me more one-on-one time with clients."

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NEW VIDEOS

MODIFYING AND STIFFENING AKUA INTAGLIO INK



Akua's latest video features Susan Rostow demonstrating how to modify and stiffen Akua Intaglio Ink. By showing a comparison between Akua Mag Mix and Magnesium Carbonate powder, printmakers and artists will learn the differences between the use of the traditional powder vs the ease of the Akua Mag Mix, a pre-mixed soy-based paste containing magnesium carbonate powder. The convenience of the pre-mixed paste allows for easy mixing into the ink and does not have the risks of using air-borne powder or particulate. The stiffened Akua Intaglio Ink is then rolled up and applied to carved linoleum blocks and printed by hand onto thin, mulberry paper. Rostow demonstrates an easy-to-use, low tech printing technique by using a wooden doorknob for the hand-printing.

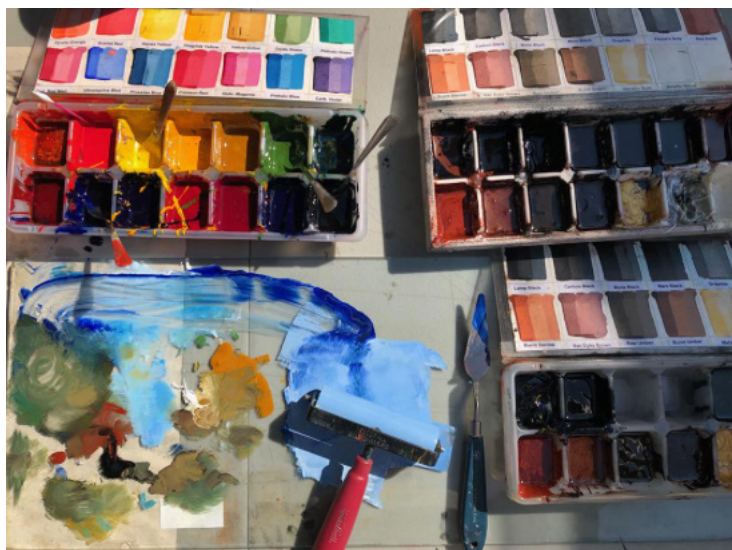
[Click here for Bonus Tips! \(not included in the video above\)](#)



Susan Rostow
"NIADS IN THE SAND," 2020,
stop motion animation created with
linocut prints

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

MONOTYPE WITH TONY KIRK Social Distancing Workshop in Nortah Salem, New York



Tony Kirk has an innovative and efficient approach to teaching monotype workshops. He distributes Akua Intaglio ink to each individual in the group in ice cube trays. Each color has a draw-down of the straight color, a mix of 50% color and 50% transparent base, and a mix of 50% straight color and 50% opaque white. Some students take a set home to create plein air monotypes and return with several inked monotype plates in pizza boxes.

Tony Kirk: For more than four decades Anthony Kirk has been involved in fine art intaglio and relief printmaking first as a student at Winchester and Chelsea Schools of Art in the United Kingdom, then as a lecturer, instructor and Master Printer in the US. From 1987 to 2000 Kirk was head of the etching department at Tyler Graphics where he collaborated with Frank Stella, Helen Frankenthaler, Joan Mitchell and John Walker among others in the printing of their editions.

Tony teaches very small groups on his patio in North Salem, NY by appointment. Everyone keeps safe distance and wear masks. If you are interested in taking a workshop with Tony contact him by phone 914 534 1254 (cell), 914 276 3722 (home) or email at aquafortisetch@aol.com.

[Click here for our Upcoming Workshops and Demos Directory](#)

OPPORTUNITIES

OPEN CALL:

A juried Group Show with Grand Prize:
a Solo Show at Atlantic Gallery in NYC's Chelsea art district. Atlantic Gallery Juried Exhibition 2021, DRAWN TO PAPER, January 5 - 23, 2021

JUROR: Susan Rostow, a Brooklyn-based, multi-media visual artist.

FOR MORE INFO:

<http://atlanticgallery.org/drawn-to-paper/>

