



# Fall Newsletter 2020



Akua® Printmaking Tips

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Dear Akua Artists,

As the printmaking and artist community continues to navigate our new world, we at Akua have been sharing stories through our ongoing “Printmakers in Place” series. Read on to see how printmakers Phyllis and Victor Merriam and Ron Pokrasso are managing and continuing to create new work. We are also happy release our latest video, “Botanical Monoprinting with Susan Rostow,” featuring tips on how to create uniquely embossed and fossilized prints using dried leaves, twigs and other flora.

Thank you for printing!

Warmly,  
Akua Inks

# PRINTMAKERS IN PLACE

## PHYLLIS AND VICTOR MERRIAM



Following a Thread, 2 of the 8, 9" X 11" prints in the handmade clamshell box, Edition of 6.

### **Phyllis and Victor Merriam**

“Last fall, we visited three exhibitions that included Anni Albers’ work at: David Zwirner in New York: Anni Albers, The Museum of Modern Art: Taking a Thread for a Walk and the Art Institute of Chicago: Weaving Beyond the Bauhaus. Although we have always drawn inspiration from Anni Albers’ work, the coming together of these shows served to focus our attention on the processes and architecture of her weavings in a more reflective way. We decided at that time to challenge ourselves with the task of creating a postdigital portfolio that would take inspiration from her life and work.

As it happened, Covid-19 became part of our lives and we were forced into isolation mid process. We were fortunate to have our studio with a small proofing press, a CNC cutter and a quiet space to reflect on things. We decided to allow ourselves six months to complete the prints and a custom case for this portfolio using the materials we had on hand. This has kept us going during these challenging times.”

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## RON POKRASSO



New Life For Winged Victory,  
Monotype, chine , collage, drawing, acrylic on paper mounted to wood, 23" x 32"

### **Ron Pokrasso**

“For years I had been conducting hands-on Akua workshops and one-on-one assisted printing sessions in my Galisteo Street Studio in Santa Fe, NM. When Covid-19 forced a new reality I made some necessary changes. Clear acrylic barriers have been installed between all work stations. A minimum of 6 feet is to be maintained between each person using the space, face masks are required, and a routine of conscientious daily disinfecting is required of all studio participants. At this time only single day private assisted sessions are being scheduled. Although there are currently no hands-on group workshops you can still study with me from my studio. A series of short online zoom demos and full workshops have be created to fill the void until we can safely gather in larger groups. There is space available in the November 10-19 workshop and new sections will be added through the winter. Here’s a recent testimonial from an online participant, “You totally rocked it! You are a natural zoom teacher!” Check out the listings under Online Programs and Custom Services. And for up to date information about current and future programs contact me to be placed on my workshop mailing list. I look forward to working with you.”

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## NEW VIDEO

### BOTANICAL MONOPRINTING



Learn how to emboss and deboss prints using leaves, twigs and other flora in combination with the monotype technique. Susan Rostow demonstrates how to select your botanical elements, prepare them for printing, and mix Akua Intaglio® Inks with Akua Transparent Base for deep and textured monoprints as well as translucent, fossilized, embossed monoprints.

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

## 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/>

