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Artist statement
April 2012

Art goes back to elementary school for me. I grew up being the kid who doodles in every margin. While I spent my free time getting angry at my grade school peers for coloring outside the lines I developed a bad habit, art. I spent my recesses indoors helping out in kindergarten art classes. I learned at a very early age that art has more than just visual impact on a person. My long term goal, is to educate others as an art teacher. In order to reach this goal I have felt that I need to develop myself as an artist in order to clarify what art really means to me.

I was introduced to printmaking early in high school through a simple reduction linoleum. I was fascinated by the process. I loved how each of the layers worked together to create a functioning piece of artwork. I also was interested in the fact the printmaking was different. It wasn’t painting, it wasn’t drawing, and it wasn’t ceramics. It was a new mysterious medium that I was given the opportunity to explore further my senior year. I took a printmaking class where I got to explore all of the basic processes. I knew I had found my medium.

Printmaking allows me to be clean and practice my craft in the same way a graphic designer does, while also letting me get “messy” within the plate itself. Over the years, my prints have come to include the clean craft and organic lines possible in the realm of my multifaceted media. I get to experiment with multiple processes that allow me to experience my art more than a limited focus of painting or drawing would. Printmaking is a versatile discipline that allows me to study a great range of methods. I often try to combine other disciplines, such as drawing, with my printmaking. As I expand my art education to include a plethora of medias, I incorporate them in my printmaking.

When I started printmaking in college I was eager to get my hands on every process I possibly could, while also testing the waters of several different styles of art. Eventually I settled down to focus on my personal style and favorite types of printmaking.
My current body of works centers around two different types of printmaking, collagraph and monotype. I use the two processes together to create unique, one of a kind prints. In the past I had been successful in using the two printmaking mediums separately, but the final outcome was always missing something. My work lacked depth and interest. Combining the two different types of plates allowed me to continue working with my simple collagraphs while solving the special issues.

With my prints I aim to create a complicated spatial feeling. These pieces create spaces that bring you into, and out of layers of the print while creating movement and visual interest. The ways in which I display this spatial feeling vary from piece to piece. I have created this in a simple manner, as well as in more complicated pieces. To create space simply in a specific piece titled “Cityscape” I used one collagraph to portray a view of a city from above the buildings using just straight lines and right angles. In the spatially complicated pieces I use the same style of underlying collagraph. Over this collagraph I layer many monotypes that are also made out of strictly straight lines. These pieces bring the viewer deeper into a feeling of depth and spatiality than the simple collagraph on its own.