



## SQUEAK CARNWATH

### A NEW RELEASE FROM PAULSON PRESS

Paulson Press is pleased to announce the release of three new color etchings by San Francisco Bay Area painter Squeak Carnwath. These new print editions will be available for release October 2003.

In her fourth project with Paulson Press Carnwath combines many different intaglio techniques including sugarlift aquatint, hardground and softground. Carnwath uses signature leitmotifs - bold patterns, rabbits, hatch marks, hands and graffiti-like text - to shape her visual poetry of the human experience, depicting a unique worldview in playful and provocative terms. Through her drawing she identifies her concerns and obsessions; with the images she chooses, she explores her interest in the physical world around her; and through her writing, she records her thought processes and ideas.

Good Luck is a lushly colored print saturated with rich, warm tones of tangerine orange, burnt umber, rust, gray, ecru, mustard, indigo, sea-foam green and soft yellow. Carnwath relies on combinations of images to trigger associations. This print, replete with stream of consciousness writing, an outlined hand, head, wishbone, woman scrubbing the floor, engagement ring, handprint, dice, and cubes, is a visual feast set on a vividly colored checkerboard. Carnwath includes a thick light-gray outline of a rabbit both upright and on its side in the bottom-left quadrant of the print. The predominant image is a piece of notebook paper, upon which is scrawled the very personal statement "Freud sez: 'When you think of me - think of Rembrandt - a little light and a lot of darkness.'" Irony is again present in this work, both in the area identified as a "guilt free zone," and the text "good luck," which leaves the viewer unsure of whether Carnwath's message is optimistic or sarcastic.

Carnwath created two smaller prints, Old Hag and Formal Decisions. Upon a soft white-gray background, the text in Old Hag reads "dumb bunny," at the top and "silly goose duck" on the bottom. As in Good Luck, there is an outline of a rabbit both upright and on its side, but in this print, the ninety-degree shift results in the figure looking like a duck. The title reveals that this is a play on the famous 1915 drawing by cartoonist W.E. Hill, also entitled, "The Old Hag." In the original, the figure either looks like a pretty young girl looking away, or an older woman looking down, depending on the viewer's perspective.

Formal Decisions features a somber palate, with a reddish-brown background, ochre band running through the middle, and central olive paint "blob," although colorful dots punctuate the bottom of the print. Dusty-pink dots are connected, creating geometric shapes, and the outline of a double helix sits atop a gray rectangle in top right. The text, "In painting formal decisions are required," suggests that although the forms in the print look rather arbitrary and spontaneous, they are in fact the result of careful compositional planning.

Squeak Carnwath is represented by the John Berggruen Gallery in San Francisco and the Byron Cohen Gallery in Kansas City, MO. Her work has garnered national attention through museum exhibitions such as The Museum of Contemporary Art, Lake Worth, FL; The Chrysler Museum, Norfolk, VA; the Oakland Museum, CA; and the Contemporary Museum in Honolulu, HI. A major survey of Carnwath's work was published by Chronicle Books in 1996: Squeak Carnwath: Lists, Observations & Counting. She currently teaches at the University of California at Berkeley. Carnwath has also been the recipient of many awards and grants including a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1994 and the 2001-02 Flintridge Foundation Award for Visual Artists.

For more information about these prints, please contact Paulson Press at 510.559.2088. Prices and availability are subject to change without notice.



Good Luck, 2003  
Color sugarlift aquatint and softground and hardground etching  
Image size 27" x 27"  
Paper size 36-1/2" x 35"  
Edition of 35



Formal Decisions, 2003  
Color sugarlift aquatint, aquatint and softground etching with scrape and burnish  
Image size 10" x 9"  
Paper size 18" x 16"  
Edition of 20



Old Hag, 2003  
Sugarlift and spitbite aquatint with chine collé and gampi  
Image size 10" x 9"  
Paper size 18" x 16"  
Edition of 20