



LYNN BELDNER

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A NEW RELEASE FROM PAULSON PRESS

Paulson Press in Berkeley, California is pleased to announce its 2000 Introductions Project: new prints by Bay Area artist Lynn Beldner. Six editions will be available for release in July 2000. This is the third project from this program, which focuses on the work of local emerging artists.

In her artist statement, Lynn Beldner says that "memory, care taking and obsession" form the basis of her art. Carefully chosen objects from everyday life become the focus of her art making and are transformed by her thoughtful and ritual like handling. She uses objects that are the memorabilia of life – mundane household objects such as tea cups and coin purses; domestic "treasures" like slivers of soap and used tea bags; as well as otherwise insignificant and ordinary items that in her hands remind us of the beauty in the commonplace.

For these prints, Beldner focused on the meticulously crafted small-sized clothing forms that often appear in her sculpture. In several prints she dipped these forms in acid and laid them on the copper etching plates. Both the deep brown dress in Untitled 2000.004 (Brown Dress) and the beautiful indigo pantsuit of Untitled 2000.002 (Blue Suit and Circles) are printed over pale yellow background of collaged Japanese gampi paper. Delicate rings of light blue and sepia punctuate the blue suit, creating an effect of "tea rings" that Beldner made by using the bottom of an old tea cup dipped in a sugarlift.

In other prints clothing forms appear with slightly different postures and poses, and are more subtly defined with a variety of materials. In Untitled 2000.006 (Yellow Suit and Red Stitches), rows of red softground dashes simulating stitched needlework delineate the interior space, while in Untitled 2000.005 (Two Stitched Dresses), dotted black and green lines reveal a dress with blue and tan circles hovering above. Continuing a reference to needle work and sewing, Beldner used more delicate lines and "stitch marks" to draw the subtle silhouette of an apron in Untitled 2000.007 (Apron) and the smaller pair of a dress and pantsuit in Untitled 2000.006 (Stitched Suit and Dress).

The intimate forms in each of these prints provide striking, echoing images that take on distinct personalities and human characteristics. The power of Beldner's work comes from her ability to take common objects and transform them into nostalgic artifacts and resonant memorials. By incorporating references to domesticity in her techniques and materials, she pays homage to the personal value we give to common, prosaic objects that make them heirlooms and memorials to the past. The process of recasting these objects invests the images with a quiet dignity and almost tangible human presence.



Untitled 2000.004  
(Brown Dress), 2000  
Color spitbite aquatint with chine collé.  
22" x 30" paper size  
16" x 23" image size  
Somerset white paper  
Edition of 20



Untitled 2000.002  
(Blue Suit and Circles), 2000  
Color spitbite and sugarlift aquatint  
with chine collé.  
22" x 30" paper size  
16 x 23" image size  
Somerset white paper  
Edition of 20



Untitled 2000.003  
(Yellow Suit and Red Stitches), 2000  
Color softground and spitbite aquatint  
with chine collé.  
22" x 30" paper size  
16 x 23" image size  
Somerset white paper  
Edition of 20



Untitled 2000.005  
(Two Stitched Dresses), 2000  
Color softground and sugarlift aquatint  
with chine collé.  
22" x 30" paper size  
16" x 23" image size  
Somerset white paper  
Edition of 20



Untitled 2000.007  
(Apron), 2000  
Color drypoint and spitbite aquatint  
with chine collé.  
17" x 17" paper size  
10" x 11" image size  
Somerset white paper  
Edition of 20



Untitled 2000.006  
(Stitched Suit and Dress), 2000  
Color hardground and spitbite aquatint  
with chine collé.  
17" x 17" paper size  
10" x 11" image size  
Somerset white paper  
Edition of 20