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The Artist Collects: Highlights from the James Reed Collection Intro Panel

Fairfield University Art Museum

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THE ARTIST COLLECTS

Highlights from the James Reed

Print Collection

s a printmaking student at the University of Missouri, Kansas City, James Reed taught himself the L basics of lithography from a copy of the early 19th-century treatise written by its inventor, Alois Senefelder. Soon after, he also began collecting fine art prints. His first purchase, at an on-campus art fair in 1968, was an impression of Charles-François Daubigny's etching Pigs in an Orchard (on view in the exhibition), for which he paid the equivalent of a month's rent.

After college, Reed joined David Folkman's lithography and etching studio, Little Egypt Enterprises, in Illinois. In homage to Folkman, he chose the Egyptian hieroglyphic for a reed as his master printer's "' "Chop." In 1973, Reed received a Ford Foundation Fellowship to study at the Tamarind Institute of Lithography at the University of New Mexico. He later continued his training in lithography at San Francisco State University.

In 1976, Reed opened the fine printmaking studio Milestone Graphics in San Francisco. The studio, now based in Bridgeport, has printed the work of artists including Ann Chernow, Robert Cottingham, and Diane Victor, among many others. As an artist, Reed's work has been the subject of solo exhibitions at the Instituto Technilógico in Monterrey, Mexico; the Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco; and Goat Shed Gallery in Brooklyn. Reed also serves as Manager and Curator of the Gabor Peterdi International Print Collection at Silvermine Art Center in New Canaan.

In 2017, Reed made the generous donation of his collection of more than 1,500 prints to the Fairfield University Art Museum, a transformative gift which will strengthen the museum's commitment to its mission of education, scholarship, and public engagement for many years to come.

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FAIRFIELD UNIVERSITY MUSEUM