

June/July 2020

[View this email in your browser](#)

# CALIFORNIA SOCIETY OF PRINTMAKERS

# Relevant Ink

**from the typewriter of CSP President Dan Harrison**

I was recently inspired by an artist who explained how the medium in which you work influences decisions about the work that are totally unique to the medium. Often have I explored the same subject matter under different media as a way to expand my awareness and knowledge of the subject. These are interesting times we are experiencing, but I like to think of it as just a different medium and tap into inspirations in interesting places. The cosmological significance of time reversal is huge, around we go still without answer.

It's that time of year again, where we would meet, and talk, and share, exchange prints, and engage in conversation about the art on the walls. The Board of Directors decided not to have a virtual annual meeting, but instead to vote on our new board members electronically, and continue our plan for a real meeting and exhibition of our works. Thanks for being a part of this organization of artists, may you continue to feel inspired.

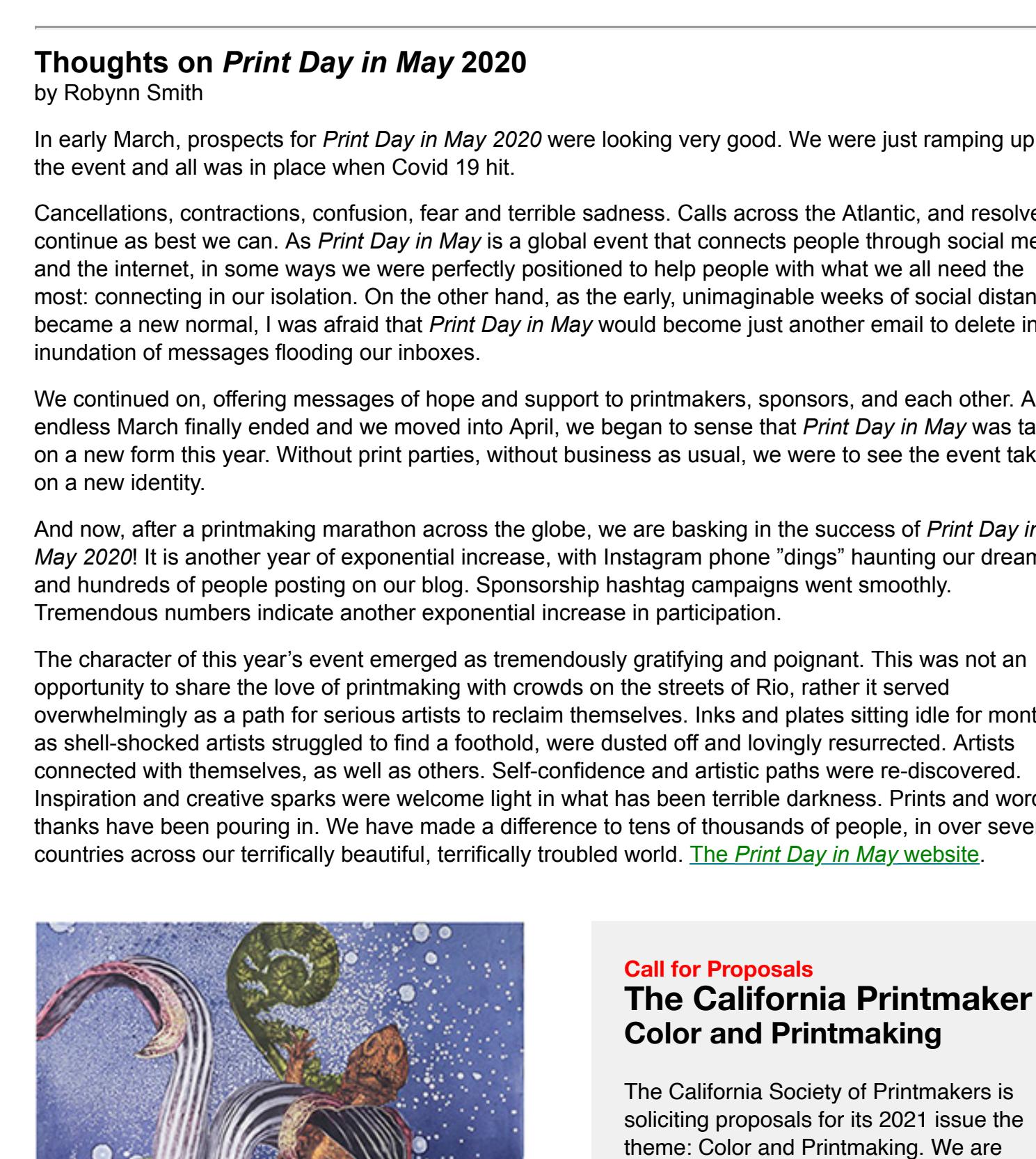
It has been an honor to work with an amazing Board of Directors for the past two years as President of CSP. Thank you everyone for everything! It is also exciting to welcome new members and stir things up a bit. We all make CSP what it is...here's to the future of printmaking!

~Dan

**CSP to Participate in the CODEX Foundation's Extraction Project**

CSP is excited to participate in *EXTRACTION: Art on the Edge of the Abyss*. The Extraction Project is a multimedia, multi-venue, cross-border art intervention conceived and facilitated by The CODEX Foundation that will investigate extractive industries of all forms—from mining and drilling to the reckless exploitation of water, soil, trees, marine life, and other natural resources. The project means to expose and interrogate extraction's negative social and environmental consequences: the damage done to people, especially indigenous and disenfranchised communities; ravaged landscapes and poisoned water; climate change and its many troubling implications.

We currently have two Bay Area exhibition venues scheduled for the summer of 2021. Calls for participation are planned to begin this coming Fall. [Here for more information on the Extraction Project](#)

**Thoughts on Print Day in May 2020**

by Robynn Smith

In early March, prospects for Print Day in May 2020 were looking very good. We were just ramping up for the event and all was in place when Covid-19 hit. Calligraphers, printmakers, and others from Print Day in May across the globe, and resolve to connect as much as we can. Print Day in May is a global event that connects people through social media and the internet, in some ways we are perfectly positioned to help people with what we all need the most: connecting in our isolation. On the other hand, as the early, unimaginable weeks of social distancing became a new normal, I was afraid that Print Day in May would become just another email to delete in the inundation of messages flooding our inbox.

We continued on, offering messages of hope and support to printmakers, sponsors, and each other. As endless March finally ended and we moved into April, we began to sense that Print Day in May was taking on a new form this year. Without print parties, without business as usual, we were to see the event taking on a new identity.

And now, after a printmaking marathon across the globe, we are basking in the success of Print Day in May 2020! It is another year of exponential increase, with Instagram phone "dings" haunting our dreams and hundreds of people posting on our blog. Sponsorship hashtag campaigns went smoothly.

Tremendous numbers indicate another exponential increase in participation.

The character of this year's event emerged as tremendously gratifying and poignant. This was not an opportunity to share the love of printmaking with crowds on the streets of Rio, rather it served overwheleingly as a path for serious artists to recharge themselves. Artists and printmakers alike for months as stay-at-home orders dragged on, were doing what they do best: creating prints. Prints connected with themselves, as well as others. Self-confidences and artistic paths were re-discovered. Inspiration and creative sparks were welcome light in what has been terrible darkness. Prints and words of thanks have been pouring in. We have made a difference to tens of thousands of people, in over seventy countries across our terribly beautiful, terribly troubled world. [The Print Day in May website](#).

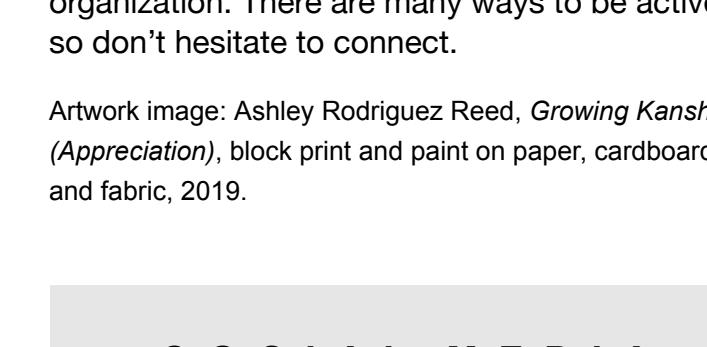
**CSP Shelter-in-Place Grants**

A significant aspect of the Society's mission is to support our members via a variety of programs as they pursue their printmaking practices. In response to these complicated and difficult times, the CSP Board of Directors came together to create a unique initiative for our members: **Shelter-in-Place Grants**. We created this initiative to support members who have been negatively affected by the ramifications of our shelter-in-place orders born from COVID-19.

A call was sent through our members' email listerv in late April. We received 11 applications. Due to an additional condition and budget flexibility, The Board of Directors is pleased to announce we were able to award all 11 applicants with unrestricted cash awards of \$500 each.

We are so grateful for the support and encouragement to our members at this unprecedented time. And all of you who are CSP members are included in this gifting as a portion of your annual dues have gone towards supporting a number of artists in our community.

Thank you.

**Volunteer for CSP in 2020!****Meet Your Board Members****Ashley Rodriguez Reed****Special Events**

Hello Printmakers, I'm Ashley Rodriguez Reed and I have been on the CSP Board as Special Events Chair since 2018. I joined because I wanted to deepen my relationships in the printmaking community and take on a leadership role. I am involved in organizing events such as the annual meeting, tours of local print shops and artist talks. We are all using our creative powers to stay connected while remaining healthy and safe. I'm open to suggestions or ideas you have or if you want to organize something, please do and share it!

Originally from Omaha, I earned my BFA in printmaking, and studied screenprinted yardage in Copenhagen. Continuing my studies at Tyler School of Art, I expanded into installation and sculpture.

Teaching is another one of my adventures. I teach art at a K-8 magnet school in Oakland. Our studio is overstimulating all the time and we introduce many prints and printmaking techniques such as etching, relief printing and screenprinting. I'm looking forward to seeing them in person soon!

Being a part of CSP has been a wonderful experience and I have learned so much from members already. Being involved in any way is greatly appreciated for our volunteer run organization. There are many ways to be active so don't hesitate to connect.

Artwork image: Ashley Rodriguez Reed. Growing Karsna (Appreciation), block print and paint on paper, cardboard and fabric, 2019.

**SOCIAL MEDIA****Creative Connection While We Shelter-in-Place**

- Did you have an exhibition or residency that was canceled?
- Do you have access to your studio?
- Are you making work at home?
- Do you like to make art in your studio that didn't make it to the gallery walls or take us on a video tour through your studio or stay-at-home print projects?

Please reach out to Karen at: [socialmedia@cspinmakers.org](mailto:socialmedia@cspinmakers.org)

**CSP on Facebook**[www.facebook.com/cspinmakers](http://www.facebook.com/cspinmakers)**CSP on Instagram**[instagram.com/california\\_society\\_of\\_printmakers](http://instagram.com/california_society_of_printmakers)

Add [california-society-of-printmakers.org](http://california-society-of-printmakers.org) to your own post captions for opportunities to have your artwork shared through the CSP account!

Your membership dues and financial contributions are tax deductible within the rules of the IRS.

**Residency Profile from 2016 Peter Baczek & John Gruenwald**

Receiving an Artist in Residency from the CSP in 2016 was a liberating experience for me. I have always relied on my own devices to create my prints and had recently revived my intaglio process. The studio space we were provided when I began this residency, with John Gruenwald, had arrived at his studio in San Francisco ready to go with a group of drawings and a rush to begin working. John met me with a small stone set out surrounded by the tools needed to make a mark and we began the collaboration. Working with a Master Printer was transformative for me in that I was free to experiment with the image on the stone without concerning myself with the inherent complexities that are required to successfully transfer that image to paper.

John introduced me to rubbing ink which was applied directly to the stone or rubbed in with a rag. Instead of using crayons in the traditional manner on the stone, I was moving values around with rags, fingers, and blending stumps while John used a piece of paper to apply a sort of pochoir technique. I immediately embraced this somewhat free and unpredictable technique to define my typically refined images. With all the mark making tools available to the lithographer, rubbing inks present the most challenge in translating what the final impression will be compared to the image on the stone.

It was through this concert of artist and printer that four editions were produced by us in a relatively short period of approximately two months. Because of the rapport established between myself and John, I hope to work with him again in the future.

Artwork: Peter Baczek, Slow Curve Study, 2016.

**We have refreshed our website!**

We have been working hard to improve the public face of our organization by refreshing the CSP website with a professional focus on our long history and by celebrating the diversity of contemporary printmaking.

Our exciting new feature is member-managed portfolios. We hope these will attract a broad audience of print lovers, exhibition venues and curators.

The California Society of Printmakers website [2020.cspinmakers.org](http://2020.cspinmakers.org)

Remember the power of Art to heal and the power of Print to protest.

**A la poupee**

French: with the doll

An intaglio method in which cotton felt pads are used to hand-apply several different colors to a single plate. The artist uses a roller to use multiple colors with one run of the plate through the press. Also known as the "doupe" method.

Photo: Frances Valesco, *In My Garden #1*, 12" x 12" x 1.75", 2020.

Frances Valesco is a 501(c)3 non-profit arts organization which promotes the practice and appreciation of fine art contemporary printmaking.

Our mission is to support both the integrity of traditional printmaking and provide a home for artists exploring new directions in contemporary print methods.

Your membership dues and financial contributions are tax deductible within the rules of the IRS.

**CSP Board of Directors**

President: [Dan Harrison](#)

Vice President: [Jami Taback](#)

Treasurer: [Nanette Wyde](#)

Membership: [Rozanne Hermey Di Silvestro](#)

Portfolio Review: [Carrie Ann Flank](#)

Journal Committee Chair: [Bob Rocco](#)

Residencies: [Zach Clark](#)

Social Media: [Karen Gallagher Iverson](#)

Special Events: [Ashley Rodriguez Reed](#)

At Large Members: [Peter Baczek](#), [Jen Cole](#), [Cynthia Rand-Thompson](#)

CSP's e-newsletter is edited by [Nanette Wyde](#).



californiasocietyofprintmakers.org

California Society of Printmakers  
P.O. Box 194202  
San Francisco, CA 94119-4202

Want to change how you receive these emails? You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.

