Stephen Branham
Stephanie Johnson
Mollie Roth

Writing as Muse: Printmaking I
Student Artin Response to Poetry I
Student Writing

In Printmaking I (Art 24020#), students discover an art-making process that draws upon and merges a variety of skills. More than any other two-dimensional art form, printmaking is surface-intensive. Printmaking provides a strong foundation in primary media—intaglio, woodcut, and monotype and at the same time, encourages students to stretch their expressive capabilities. Printmaking allows for a great deal of versatility in the use of media, surface process, and methods.

Examples of student assignments examine several working surfaces, which vary according to the printmaking process. These intaglio prints cover a multitude of processes using metal plates for traditional techniques, such as etching, dry-point, aquatint, and soft-ground printing. Student assignments draw from two broad categories of intaglio processes that use acid techniques and nonacid techniques. Intaglio prints are open to endless possibilities. Professor McWhorter’s students discover that just about everything from feathers, crushed cans and parts of their own bodies are suitable as images for printing. Seeing objects together and systematizing the collected images are ways to discover ideas for images.

The printmaking images represented here were created in response to poems written in Dr. Robert Miltner’s Introduction to Creative Writing (English 20021) Fall 1998 course. We have quoted the most influential lines, when possible, under each image.