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One of One

*Contemporary Monoprints from the Collections of VanDeb Editions and
Susan Eley Fine Art*

November 4-December 31, 2015

OPENING RECEPTION: Wednesday, November 4, 6-8 pm

We are delighted to announce the opening of *One of One: Contemporary Monoprints from the Collections of VanDeb Editions and Susan Eley Fine Art*, a first time collaboration between SEFA and VanDeb, a printmaking studio located in Long Island City, NY. The some two dozen monoprints and monotypes by seven artists have been carefully selected to illustrate the full range and richness of the medium. *One of One* opens on Wednesday, November 4 with a reception for the artists from 6-8 pm, and remains on view through the end of the year.

The featured artists are: **KARIN BRUCKNER, DAVID COLLINS, DEBORAH FREEDMAN, JOSEPH HASKE, JOHN SCHIFF, ANITA THACHER** and **FUMIKO TODA**.

WHAT IS A MONOPRINT? WHAT IS A MONOTYPE?

A monotype is a created by applying ink or paint to a nonabsorbent surface, placing a sheet of paper on that surface and running it through a press. A monoprint differs as it begins with some form of basic printing matrix, such as an etching. The same etched plate can be used to make many monoprints. Following the printing process, artistic elements—paint, collage, ink—are applied to create unique works. The etched portion remains the constant design across any number of monoprints. Like a monotype, each monoprint is unique and uneditioned, or an edition of one. Monotypes were first produced in 17th-century Europe, later in 19th-century France by artists, such as Degas and Gauguin and took off in the middle of the 20th century. Monotypes are often referred to as “the painterly print”.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Born in Switzerland, KARIN BRUCKNER worked in NY as an architect for Richard Meier & Partners and Philip Johnson and Partners before turning to printmaking in 2006. Printmaking has allowed Bruckner to gradually make her way from the strictures of architecture to a looser form of creative expression to achieve complex, layered visual landscapes that are ever more painterly. Bruckner attempts to push the medium of printmaking to its limits, straddling the lines between printmaking, drawing, painting and collage through techniques of paper lithography, etching, collagraph, chine collé and viscosity techniques. Bruckner credits the element of surprise, or the "happy accident" that comes with the printing process with expanding her artistic sensibilities. Bruckner holds a Master of Architecture from the Technical University in Munich and a Master of Science in Architecture and Building Design from Columbia University, NY, where she has lived since 1988.

DAVID COLLINS, a painter and printmaker, was influenced by his father, an electrical engineer who filled the home with drafting tools, navigational maps and architectural supplies. Collin's artwork reveals the influence of these childhood items in the floating and stacked planes, razor straight lines, spheres and conical shapes, suspended against colorful backgrounds. "Through the layering of torn fragments, clean cut planes and patterns, I strive to convey depth, movement and a shifting sense of place," he says. Collins is the recipient of the Robert Blackburn Printmaking Workshop, Project fellowship, NY, and is in the collections of the US Department of State, Pfizer Corporation, General Electric and the Hyatt Corporation, among others. Collins was born in Iowa and raised in Texas. He has a BFA from RISD and lives in NYC.

DEBORAH FREEDMAN is a painter and printmaker whose work is deeply informed by the landscape of the Catskill Mountains. The Four Freedoms prints were commissioned by the Executive Director of the FDR Four Freedoms Park on Roosevelt Island in honor of FDR's speech to Congress in 1941. "Monoprinting is a particularly spontaneous process that allows me to capture images in an animated process of invention. It is unlike both drawing and painting transferring from plate to paper is magic." She is co-founder with Marjorie VanDyke of VanDeb Editions. Her work is included in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the NY Public Library, the US Department of State, the Library of Congress and The Hess Collection, among others.

JOSEPH HASKE. The fluid immediacy of the monoprint process lends itself perfectly to the bold, sensual gesture of Joseph Haske's work. Rich surface texture and glowing color are a constant in his paintings and that quality is beautifully realized in this series of one-of-a-kind monoprints. He has exhibited nationally and internationally, and is scheduled for a solo exhibition with the John Davis Gallery, Hudson NY, in 2016. His work is in numerous collections including ATT, JPMorgan Chase, Citicorp, E.F. Hutton, GE, Rutgers Archives for Print Making, and The Weatherspoon Museum, Greensboro, N.C. Haske lives and works in New York City.

JOHN SCHIFF has been an artist and a renowned, award-winning architect for decades. His work explores the tension between structure and spontaneity. He begins with an invented "alphabet" comprised of "letters," which he develops by creating shapes according to the ratios found in the Golden Section and Fibonacci Series. Schiff cuts these letters out of mylar and places them on a plate, which he inks and runs through an etching press - transferring the information directly from plate to paper. Schiff was a founding partner of Mayers and Schiff Architects and a professor of architecture at Cooper Union. He has received numerous awards, including the American Institute of Architects, American Institute of Graphic Arts, Architectural Record Magazine, Art Directors Club of New York, City of New York/Bard Award, New York Society of Architects, New York State Association of Architects. He lives and works in New York City.

ANITA THACHER is a New York-based artist known for her work in a variety of mediums—film and video, public art, architectural and sculptural installation, painting, photography and prints. Her art explores issues of spatial and personal perception. Memory, childhood and domestic themes are fundamental elements in her work. The spontaneous nature of printmaking provides fertile ground for using architectural references and organic marks which evoke the geometry of the city. She mixes a hard edge with the looser evidence of the artist's hand. Thacher is the recipient of numerous grants and awards and her work is included in public collections such as The Metropolitan Museum of Art, J. Paul Getty Museum and The Museum of Modern Art.

FUMIKO TODA

Fumiko Toda's monoprints have an obsessive quality of intricate detail and repetition of forms and patterns rendered in vibrant color and produced through multiple etchings, monotype and chine collé. She often includes insects and other small creatures, celebrating the natural world. These creatures have biographical significance, as Toda found observing wildlife to be a calming reprieve during her troubled childhood. Toda grew up in a rural community outside of Kyoto. She studied at the Sugii Art Institution in Mie, and graduated from Kyoto University of Art and Design in 2000. In 2001, Toda moved to New York City, where she studied painting, figurative drawing, and printmaking at the National Academy of Fine Art.

ABOUT SUSAN ELEY FINE ART

Susan Eley Fine Art was founded in the spring of 2006 by Susan Eley as a salon-style gallery. Situated in an Upper West Side townhouse in Manhattan, the Gallery offers an intimate, personal viewing experience, contrary to the more formal presentations of art in typical white box galleries. Eley opened the Gallery to attract a new, untapped audience for

contemporary art and to provide regular gallerygoers with a fresh, alternative way to enjoy art in a residential setting. The Gallery focuses on contemporary art by emerging and mid-career artists, who work in a range of media, from paint to photography to sculpture and print. Solo and group exhibitions showcase abstract as well as figurative work from a diverse body of artists from the U.S., Asia, Latin America and Europe. Gallery artists are dynamic, active professionals, who produce strong bodies of work that constantly shift and evolve.

ABOUT VANDEB EDITIONS

Marjorie VanDyke and Deborah Freedman founded VanDeb Editions in 1999. Since then they have worked with 37 artists publishing over 150 editions. They began their association at Robert Blackburn's Printmaking Workshop in 1987, sharing a passionate interest in etching and monotype. Painters, architects, sculptors and filmmakers explore the process of making prints, extending an opportunity to expand their aesthetic vocabulary. Prints published by VanDeb Editions are included in selected collections: The Cleveland Clinic, US Department of State, Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects, Rutgers Archive for Printmaking Studio, IPCNY, The Cleveland Museum of Art, the Detroit Institute of Art, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Architects Newspaper, Nordstrom, J. Crew, Setai Hotels and Chilewich LLC.