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*University of* **NOTRE DAME**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Snite Museum of Art Features Modern and Contemporary Lithography**

*Rock-Paper . . . Lithographs from the Permanent Collection, Part II*  
On view August 23 through November 22, 2015

**NOTRE DAME, IN—May 24, 2015—**The Snite Museum highlights prints by Henri Matisse, Pablo Picasso, Robert Rauschenberg, and Jasper Johns, among others in the conclusion of its two-part series exploring the print medium of lithography with the presentation of *Rock-Paper . . . Lithographs from the Permanent Collection, Part II* from August 23 through November 22, 2015.

This exhibition charts lithography's continued evolution from 1900 through today. The course of the medium's development reflects shifts in styles from expressionism, regionalism, abstract expressionism, pop art, and more recently a return to the figure. Lithography's popularity waxed and waned throughout the twentieth century as new technologies, such as silkscreen and color photography, eclipsed it.



But the 1960s saw a renaissance of sorts for lithography as abstract expressionism became more fashionable. Prices for unique examples of the bold style increased exponentially, creating a market for more affordable contemporary multiples. New publishing workshops, such as Gemini G.E.L., Tamarind Institute, and Universal Limited Arts Editions (ULAE) emerged to fill the growing demand.

Lithographs are prints made from a stone with a design drawn onto it with a greasy crayon. Unlike etchings and engravings, which are made from metal plates with the design incised into the surface, lithographs are more fluid and can look like drawings or paintings. The

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autographic spontaneity characteristic of lithography first discovered in the early 1800s found its full expression by the 1960s with works by Grace Hartigan, for example.

“The artists on view here are genius at demonstrating lithography’s versatility and expressive potential,” said Cheryl Snay, curator of European art at the Snite Museum. “Juxtapositions of key works, such as Thomas Hart Benton’s *Plowing It Under* (ca. 1934), Gerhardt Richter’s *Queen Elizabeth I* (1966), and Renée Stout’s *Marie Laveau* (2009), allow visitors to think about not only lithography’s mechanics, but its—often provocative—content as well,” she continued.

*Rock-Paper . . .* is organized by the Snite Museum of Art and is made possible by the Snite Museum General Endowment.

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#### **RELATED EVENTS**

Fall reception Sunday, September 13, 2:00–4:00 p.m. Free and open to the public.

**Photo Caption:** Grace Hartigan (American, 1922–2008), *Pallas Athene*, 1961, lithograph, 30.13 x 22.25 inches. Acquired with funds from the Humana Foundation Endowment for American Art, 2008.033. Reproduced with permission of the Grace Hartigan Estate.

For additional images, contact Gina Costa at [gcosta@nd.edu](mailto:gcosta@nd.edu) or 574-631-4720.

#### **The Snite Museum of Art, University of Notre Dame**

The Snite Museum of Art is located on the campus of the University of Notre Dame, near South Bend, Indiana. Museum hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.; and Saturdays and Sundays Noon–5:00 p.m. Admission is free. Museum information is available at 574-631-5466 or at the Museum’s website: [sniteartmuseum.nd.edu](http://sniteartmuseum.nd.edu). Driving directions and parking information are available at <http://sniteartmuseum.nd.edu/visit-us/parking-information/>. Find us at [inthebend.com](http://inthebend.com) and [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/snitemuseum).

The Snite Museum of Art provides opportunities to enjoy, respond to, learn from, and be inspired by original works of art. As an integral unit of the University of Notre Dame, the museum supports teaching and research; furthers faith-based initiatives for greater campus diversity and service to the broader community; and reflects the traditions and values of the University.

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