

Intriguing discoveries

Leonie Bradley finds out what is on offer at this year's **London Original Print Fair**, Europe's longest running, dedicated print fair

A highlight in the print calendar, this year's LOPF makes a splash in March. The Fair is well known for its established specialist print dealers offering a who's who in printmaking, from old masters to contemporary artists. Alongside these stalwarts, are a crop of new exhibitors, ensuring surprising discoveries for all.

First time exhibitors include, specialists in antiquarian prints, **Isaac and Ede** and, print publisher, **Upsilon Gallery**. Founded just two years ago by Svetlana Sapozhnikova, who used to work with Emanuel von Baeyer, **Vistavka Fine Art**, deal in old master prints and drawings through to 21st century artists, with a uniquely scholarly approach to collecting. Other recently-established exhibitors include: **Brook Street Gallery**, run by a collective of printmakers with a focus on artists' proofs and low-edition prints, and **Soho Revue**, set up by artist James Randell. Asked about showing at LOPF,



The Goat Who Led the Flock (2019)
Manière noire stone lithograph, 1080 x 770mm.
Courtesy Atelier le Grand Village



Embers (2023) Sammi Lynch. Two-plate softground and aquatint, 278 x 375mm, edition: 10.
Courtesy Soho Revue

James enthused: 'We are hugely excited to show off the output of our new in-house print studio amongst such a rich range of the best contemporary and historical printmaking, and enter ourselves and our artists into that conversation.'

Atelier le Grand Village, a stone lithography studio in France, will be introducing the extraordinary work of South African artist, Diane Victor. Her commanding, graphic works, with a socially and politically driven narrative, are surprisingly little known in the UK, a fact which Atelier founder, Francis van der Riet, is seeking to correct with prints such as *The Goat Who Led the Flock*, an example of the *manière noire* technique that is a specialism of the Atelier. He will also have copies of Victor's magnificent, recently published monograph *Diane Victor: Prints, Drawings Smoke*.

The **Muban Educational Trust**, specialising in Chinese relief prints, who support emerging artists through an

annual award, will be showing a selection of work created by their young talent. **The Wrong Shop** will be launching prints from their collaboration with Modern Institute/Glasgow at the Fair demonstrating their strong belief in the power of collaboration and **Contemporary Tokyo** have proposed the unusually-titled exhibition: *Charming Impressions – A Celebration of Cute Style printmaking*. It really must be witnessed to see how this will be realised! Finally, **Hauser & Wirth**, who have recently set up an editions arm in New York, demonstrate that printmaking is making serious impressions in the art world.

London Original Print Fair is at Somerset House, London from 21–24 March, londonoriginalprintfair.com

Reader offer! Bring this copy of *Printmaking Today* with you to buy two tickets for the price of one at LOPF 2024.