

Fritz Eichenberg
 Untitled
 Woodcut on tissue paper

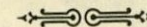
NEW YORK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

2 East 63rd St. (at Fifth Avenue)
 New York, New York
 April 3 - September 11, 1998
 Monday - Friday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

BINGHAMTON UNIVERSITY

ART MUSEUM

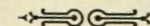
State University of New York
 September 18 - October 30, 1998
 Tuesday - Friday: 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

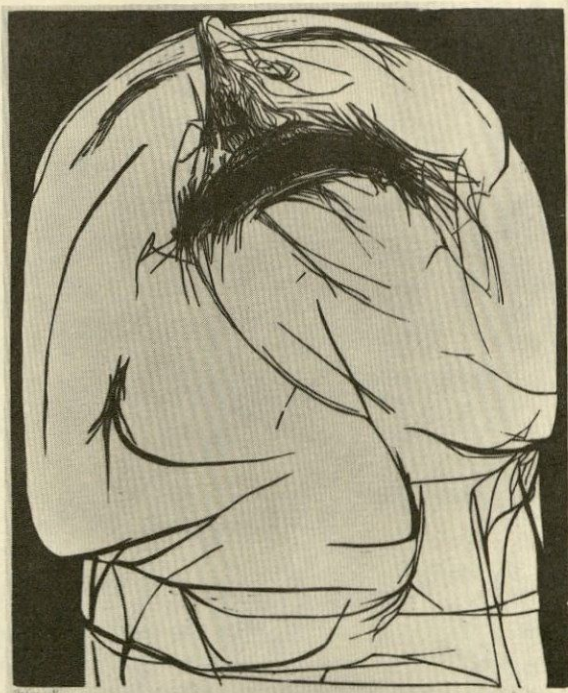


CRAFT OF THE PRINT



Paul Geissler
 Untitled, 1800s
 etching





Leonard Baskin
The Cry
woodcut

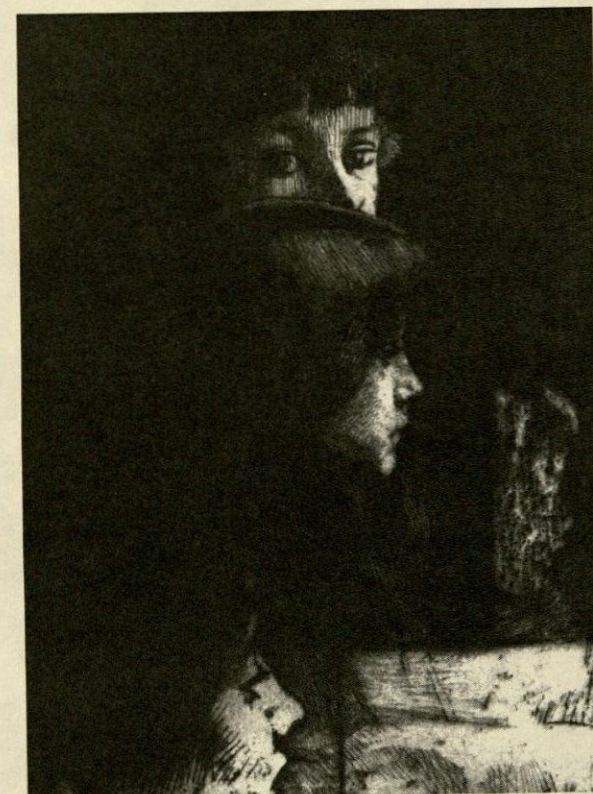
Throughout history, printmaking has developed into a major art form through the development of new techniques, which are described with the examples in the exhibition. Early examples of printing include wooden stamp images from Egypt, brick seals from Babylonia and clay seals in Rome. These relief stamps were used to mark the ownership of goods and for banding animals. The idea of using carved reliefs to print multiple images on a surface originated in China. The invention of paper there in A.D. 105 opened up a whole new world. Now images could be transferred to a suitable surface very simply.

An early religious use of printing occurred in India, where Buddha instructed his followers to transcribe truths in the form of *sutras*, a summarization of the teachings of Buddha. Printing on paper offered a way to mass-produce the sacred words and images in the block book printing method.

Early European relief printing had bold outlines suitable for textile decoration. During the late 15th century, Europeans developed engraved images on metal plates using goldsmiths' instruments.

In modern times, the introduction of new materials and concepts has allowed artists to combine the techniques of traditional graphic media. The relief prints, printable on surfaces, can now be produced with new synthetic materials and with various tools. The modern artist can gouge minute lines on grained wood while also using electric tools to engrave, cut, scratch or drill. The artist can then print on his or her intaglio plates in relief or vice versa, or intermix traditional techniques with other media.

Jacqueline Hogan, Curator of Prints



Albert Besnard
Mes enfants, 1890
etching