

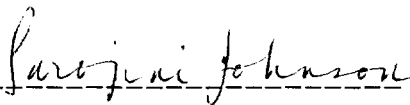
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An Honors Thesis and Senior Project in Printmaking

by

Holly Jerger

Thesis Advisor:
Sarojini Johnson

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sarojini Johnson", is written over a horizontal dashed line.

Ball State University

Muncie, Indiana

May 1997

Date of Graduation: May 10, 1997

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Purpose of Creative Project

The purpose of this Senior Project was to create a body of prints that was a culmination of the work I have produced at Ball State and then to display the work in an exhibition. The Senior Project helps prepare an art student for the professional world. One not only has to produce the work. He or she then has to present the work in a professional manner (mat and frame), create an artist's statement to display with the work, and publicize the show. This thesis consists of photographs of the work I created for my senior project, my artist's statement, and examples of the flyers and postcards I used as publicity for my exhibition, *Table of Contents*.

Artist's Statement
-Holly Jerger

I believe that my interest in psychology has greatly influenced my work. In my psychology classes I have learned how important past experiences and surroundings are. They shape who one is as an individual, and I feel that my artwork should be about the situations and environments that make up my life.

I use figurative and still life imagery to convey my ideas to the viewer. The people and objects that I come into contact with everyday are my subjects, and I use these subjects to create compositions that act as metaphors for the relationships and experiences I have had. Until recently, I separated my figurative work and my still life work. It was not until I began thinking about this project that I realized I was trying to convey the same ideas in both types of images. The figures were the literal representations of the people in my life and my relationships with them while the still lives were symbolic references to those relationships. Integrating the figures and the objects was a natural step in the development of my imagery.

I suppose it is also natural that the work I have done this semester revolves around the themes of leaving, changing, and growing. It has been a year of excitement, anticipation, stress, and fear about graduating and moving on to the next stage in my life. My views about myself and my relationships with other people have changed a great deal this year, and these feelings became the starting point for my images. While I feel that my work has grown, there have been other areas of my life that I have not handled quite as well. But by doing my work, I have been able to deal with some of these other issues while hopefully producing images that the viewer can also respond to.

I have always been able to lose myself in printmaking. Printmaking is very technically and physically challenging. It seems to demand ones complete attention and energy, and I am willing to put forth that effort for the results that can be achieved. My primary focus has been woodcut and intaglio prints. I love the rich, layered surfaces of an intaglio, but often find it difficult to be patient and wait for a plate to etch. On the other hand, woodcuts can be very direct and immediate. Each mark has an integrity of its own, and the black shapes created in woodcuts are very powerful. Intaglio and woodcut have many differences, but it seems that what one may lack the other will possess. This has allowed me to explore many ideas and techniques.

I would like to thank Sarojini Johnson, my mentor for this project, David Johnson, Ken Preston, all the faculty, staff, and students here at Ball State, and my family - all of whom have helped to make this work possible.



Title: Empty Plate, Full Stomach Medium: Intaglio Size: 24" x 18"



Title: Only the Lonely Medium: Woodcut Size: 24" x 32"



Title: The Dinner Party Medium: Woodcut Size: 30" x 42"



Title: The Birdcage Medium: Intaglio Size: 36" x 24"



Title: Debutante Medium: Intaglio and Woodcut Size: 24" x 18"



Title: Being It All Medium: Woodcut Size: 31" x 24"



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Senior Exhibition by
Holly Jerger

in the Francis Brown Study Room
Ball State University Museum of Art

May 16 - 23

Opening Reception: Sat. May 17, 2-4pm