



Caroline Waloski

July 12, 2019

by Joanna Gmuender

The images I create reflect my experiences as a child, daughter, sister, friend, lover, wife, mother, breadwinner, world citizen, and scribe. They are the reflections and projections of being a woman crossing between the 20th and 21st centuries. All my works are haunted by the ghosts, demons, spirits, and goddesses that are fostered by worldly pressure, as well as personal and familial ones. These images simultaneously distill the illusionary and the actual. The borders between reality and fantasy blur recording my life through everything I have seen, been told, felt, or experienced as if in a fairy tale, or fable with strong mythological references. The narratives are both personal and universal.

The iconography of my work is best suited to multilayered images. I primarily work in intaglio and relief printmaking techniques sometimes adding, gold mica monotype, blind emboss, and found objects in an assemblage. A project I have been working on is the "Amniotic Sea", a neon wall installation approximately 16' x 10' with the theme of the female as life giver and nurturer emerging from the sea where all life began. There are three neon prototypes produced along with the working drawing. My paintings also use the same themes with the images presented with the humor one can see only in retrospect, and quite frequently on alternate materials such as patterned psychedelic plastics. Boho, tribal like jewelry and small heat engraved sculptures and boxes inspired by sailor's scrimshaw are also new forms added to my creative expression.

I have been exhibiting steadily since 1980. My work has appeared in many group exhibits: The NY Society of Etchers, USA / The Royal Society of Printmakers, UK / The Silvermine Gallery, New York, USA / St John's University, New York, USA / The Jefferson Market Library, NYC, USA / The Hunterdon Museum, New Jersey, USA / The Williamsburg Art & Cultural Center, New York, USA / Islip Museum, New York, USA / Mini Print International, Cadaques, Spain / Islip Museum, New York, USA, among other international galleries.

Solo exhibits include: The Elk Cultural Center, Poland / The Sirens' Song Gallery, Greenport, NY, USA / The Manhattan Graphic Center, New York City, USA

Invitational Collaborations: The Indira Gandhi Cultural Center, New Delhi, India. "Multiple Encounters" an international artist exhibition exchange through the Manhattan Graphics Center with artists from New Delhi / "Get Mugged" an experimental mug design project exhibited and sponsored by the University of the West of England in Bristol. Fifteen USA artists members of The Manhattan Graphics Center and fifteen artists from the Netherlands were selected to design coffee mugs to be produced in a new ceramic printing process.

Permanent collections: The Library of Congress, The New York Public Library, The New York Historical Society, The Cooper Hewitt Museum.

Lectures: "Trends in Printmaking", Indira Gandhi Cultural Center, New Delhi, India. As part of a group of artists from the Manhattan Graphics Center in NYC I was invited to exhibit and lecture on contemporary printmaking during the opening ceremonies of this artist exchange exhibit titled "Multiple Encounters". "Multiple Encounters" traveled throughout India for two years.

Curatorial Skills: From 2006 until the end of 2018, I was the owner and curator at the Sirens' Song Gallery in Greenport, New York. I am happy that I was able to bring some of the best and most relevant contemporary artists into the North Fork of Long Island community. The Sirens' Song was a salon like gallery where the artists could discuss their process and inspiration for their works on view with guests. For further information: www.sirensongallery.com and The Sirens' Song Gallery & Studio on Facebook.

Professional Associations: A founding member of the Manhattan Graphics Center and a former board member, The New York Society of Etchers.

Education: The Cooper Union (fine art and design), Pratt (printmaking), School of Visual Arts (printmaking).

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"The Amniotic Sea" by Caroline Waloski. Pen, ink, color markers, water colors (working drawing for wall neon mural installation). Finished wall dimensions approximately 16 x 9 feet. Courtesy of artist.



"Sirena" by Caroline Waloski. Neon sculpture (prototype for The Amniotic Sea wall mural), 24 x 18.5 inches. Courtesy of the artist.



"In the Beginning" by Caroline Waloski. Heat engraved image on wooden nesting dolls box, 2 x 3.5 inches. Courtesy of the artist.



"Mermaid and Friends" by Caroline Waloski. Necklace: Heat engraved image on large wooden bead, paired with coral, agate, czech glass, lava, and beach pebbles. Large bead is 1.5 inches. Courtesy of the artist.



"Just Lie Down and Relax" by Caroline Waloski. Etching, aquatint (printed from three copper plates), 11.75 x 6 inches. Courtesy of the artist.



"Sirens' Song IV" by Caroline Waloski. Etching, aquatint, blind emboss, found object, assemblage (printed from 3 copper plates), 7 x 7 inches (from a series of five images). Courtesy of the artist.



“Who’s Been Sitting In My Chair V” by Caroline Waloski. Etching, aquatint, blind emboss (printed from three copper plates), 5.25 x 5.25 inches. Courtesy of the artist.



“Creamed Corn” by Caroline Waloski. Acrylic painting on psychedelic patterned translucent plastic panel, 12 x 12 inches. Courtesy of the artist.



“Reptilius Sillyus” by Caroline Waloski. Etching, aquatint, chine-colle, mica (Reptile Book of prints for a Manhattan Graphics Center project). Hardcover book closed, 9.5 x 6.25 inches. Fully opened accordion on heavy text archival paper, 76 x 6.25 inches. Courtesy of the artist.