



NEWS RELEASE

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Keith Sharp: Double Take
Ken Wood: Scripta Volant (Written Words Fly)

April 17 – July 11, 2015

PHILADELPHIA: The Print Center announces two solo exhibitions: ***Keith Sharp: Double Take*** and ***Ken Wood: Scripta Volant (Written Words Fly)***.

The Print Center is pleased to continue its Centennial with two solo exhibitions awarded from its *89th Annual International Competition*. **Keith Sharp** (Media, PA) and **Ken Wood** (St. Louis, MO) were selected by jurors Dan Byers, Senior Curator, The Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston, and independent curator Tina Kukielski.

Keith Sharp: Double Take brings together recent, selected photographs from two series by the artist. In *Fabrications*, Sharp prints photographic images of scenes of nature onto cotton or silk, which he then installs as curtains in an interior and re-photographs. The resulting images create uncanny juxtapositions between the interior spaces and the landscape imagery which appears sewn into curtains.

In the series, *Seeing Through*, Sharp digitally reworks and layers images to make objects seem transparent. In these photographs, it appears as if the skies and trees, normally understood as around and behind buildings, cars, fences and walls, go right through those objects. As Sharp describes the work, “A surrealist at heart, I attempt to create mysterious and subtle images that cause the viewer to do a double take. I transform the ordinary world around me to create images that play tricks with our perception.”

Sharp has had solo exhibitions at Silver Eye Center for Photography, Pittsburgh, PA; The Arts Club of Washington, Washington, DC; Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts, Wilmington, DE; Philadelphia International Airport, Philadelphia, PA; US Botanical Gardens, Washington, DC; and FotoFest, Houston, TX. His work has been included in recent group shows at Woodmere Art Museum, Philadelphia, PA; Delaware Art Museum, Wilmington, DE; and the Robin Rice Gallery, New York, NY. His work is held in public collections including the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX; Allentown Art Museum, Allentown, PA; Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, DC; and State Museum of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, PA.

Ken Wood: Scripta Volant (Written Words Fly), includes six recent relief prints from his series *Written Words Fly*. The prints are large gestural abstractions composed of undulating lines that travel across the paper. The works are created through a complex and multi-staged process, beginning with small gouache studies. Wood

then enlarged the images using an overhead projector and tracing them onto clear plastic printing plates. He recreates the small strokes of the gouache studies on the plates using large brushes he crafts himself, used to apply clear gel medium. He then cuts out the large meandering lines, and using those cut-outs as a matrix, inks them and prints them in relief. He then prints multiple layers of marks on top of each other, creating varying degrees of opacity. The artist has said this process creates “overlap, gestures collide or move in concert with each other, while colors mix and morph into new colors.”

Wood's prints and paintings have been exhibited in St Louis, MO at The Contemporary Art Museum, The Millstone Gallery at COCA, Philip Slein Gallery, Good Citizen and Art St Louis. His work has also been included in recent exhibitions in Kansas City, MO; Indianapolis, IN; Austin, TX; and Miami, FL. He has taught at the Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI; Temple University's program in Rome, Italy; and Washington University, St Louis, MO. He is Associate Professor of Printmaking at St. Louis Community College - Meramec.

Keith Sharp: Double Take and Ken Wood: Scripta Volant (Written Words Fly) will be on view April 17 – July 11, 2015, from 11:00am-6:00pm, Tuesdays-Saturdays. An opening reception will be held Thursday, April 16, from 6:00-8:00pm, with a gallery talk by the artist and Curator at 5:30pm. Admission is free and open to the public.

About The Print Center

The Print Center celebrates a century of encouraging the growth and understanding of photography and printmaking as vital contemporary arts through exhibitions, publications and educational programs. The Print Center has an international voice and a strong sense of local purpose. Free and open to the public, it presents changing exhibitions which highlight established and emerging, local, national and international contemporary artists. It mounts one of the oldest art competitions in the country, now in its 89th year and the Gallery Store offers the largest selection of contemporary prints and photographs available for sale in Philadelphia.