

# THE PRINT CENTER

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 20, 2018

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(Left) The Print Center's façade; (Right) Installation view: Anne Massoni:  *Holding*, 2013  
Photos: Andrew Pinkham

## The Print Center Announces the Naming of the Zemel Family Gallery

**PHILADELPHIA, PA** - (June 20, 2018) Elizabeth F. Spungen, Executive Director of The Print Center, is pleased to announce the naming of the Zemel Family Gallery, made possible by a gift of \$50,000 to the Centennial Fund from long-time supporter Jay Zemel. The Zemel Family Gallery is the first such named space in The Print Center's historic home and will be celebrated with a private launch event on June 23, 2018 with the Zemel Family, our Board of Governors and Honorary Council, and some of the many artists who have exhibited in that gallery space over the years.

*Collaborating on this gift has provided an opportunity to benefit from Jay's wisdom and humor, and for him to share his remarkable memories of The Print Center and a life enriched by print collecting. Jay's continued dedication and generosity to The Print Center honors our legacy as one of Philadelphia's most significant cultural assets. This gift to the Centennial Fund will serve as inspiration to others to connect with our extraordinary history and ensure that our historic building, imbued with the spirit of a century of great exhibitions, remains a vital home for many more generations of art, artists and collectors.*

- Elizabeth F. Spungen

Board President Hester Stinnett has said, *Mr. Zemel's support of artists through his gifts to The Print Center in support of our mission has made a tremendous difference to Printmakers and Photographers throughout the world.*



The Zemel Family: Jon Shapiro, Vivian Green, Jay Zemel and Babette Zemel, at The Print Center's Centennial Gala, 2015  
Photo: Kelly & Massa

Jay Zemel is the H. Nedwill Ramsey Professor (Emeritus) of Sensor Technologies Department of Electrical and Systems Engineering at the University of Pennsylvania, where he is engaged in research combatting neonatal mortality. He has been a loyal and generous supporter of The Print Center for over 50 years: he served on the Board of Governors from 1982 to 1991, after which he became a member of the Honorary Council, The Print Center's circle of former Board members who made extraordinary contributions to the organization. As a long-term supporter of The Print Center, he created the Jacqueline L. Zemel Prize for Printmaking in honor of his late wife, which since 1999 has provided a biannual prize to a printmaker selected from our ANNUAL International Competition.

Zemel and his wife were an inspired collecting team, much of the work they filled their home with was acquired with the advice of former Print Center Executive Director Margo Dolan (1973-1978). Dolan says *Jay Zemel is an inspiring collector. His enthusiasm for works with which he falls in love as well as his desire to continually acquire works by artists in which he strongly believes, exemplify the best qualities of true support for artists. Recognition of this support over decades by naming a gallery for the Zemel Family could not be more appropriate.*

Ofelia Garcia, another former Executive Director (1978-1984), shared *I remember Jay and Jacqueline as being enthusiastic supporters of the organization and knowledgeable about prints. On the Board, Jay could be counted on to offer good advice and solid support. I am so very happy that they remained engaged through the decades.*

The Print Center has been located in a 19th century carriage house at 1614 Latimer Street in Philadelphia's historic Rittenhouse Square neighborhood since 1917. The organization purchased the building in 1927 and has made many renovations over the years, including enclosing a section of the garden in the 1960s which created the gallery now named for the Zemel Family.

Artist Anne Massoni is a previous exhibitor in this space. *Being awarded a solo exhibition from The Print Center's ANNUAL was an incredible achievement and it was clear that great thought had been given to the placement of the work in this particular space. The simplicity of its lines, the long narrow windows at the top, the beautiful shafts of light that then further amplified the same were breathtaking to me. The Zemel Family Gallery was the ideal location for my work, the exhibition, my introduction to The Print Center and Philadelphia; the exhibition was the beginning of a profound shift in my career and I've forever been grateful that my work was displayed on its walls.*

On view in the Zemel Family Gallery through August 4, 2018 is a solo show exhibition award winner from the 92nd ANNUAL: *Daniel W. Coburn: Becoming a Specter.*

### **About The Print Center**

For more than a century, The Print Center has encouraged 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 92nd year, and the Gallery Store offers the largest selection of contemporary prints and photographs available for sale in Philadelphia.

### **General Information**

The Print Center  
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www.printcenter.org  
facebook.com/printcenterphilly  
@ThePrintCenter #ThePrintCenter

Free and open to the public Tuesday through Saturday 11:00am - 6:00pm  
The Print Center will close early on Saturday, June 23 for the Zemel Family Gallery Launch, and will also be closed on July 4, August 7 – 11 and Saturdays August 18, 25, and September 1, 2018.

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