

The typewriter as muse



THE PRINT CENTER

James Siena's 2018 letterpress print, "Roma tibi subito motibus ibit amor (In Rome quickly with its bustle you will find love)"

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Typewriters may strike the Apple-happy as useless relics, but they're being ingeniously repurposed by forward-thinking artists, as demonstrated in two exhibitions now at the Print Center organized by new curator Ksenia Nouril.

"James Siena: Resonance Under Pressure" is a collection of 10 of the artist's prints from 2017 and 2018, including some made at the University of the Arts.

Siena first used the typewriter to make prints as a 2013 artist-in-residence at the American Academy in Rome, working with arrangements of palindromes (phrases reading the same from right to left as left to right). His time there is reflected here in the letterpress print *Roma tibi subito motibus ibit amor*, a Latin palindrome for, "In Rome quickly with its bustle you will find love."

The second exhibition is the group show "New Typographics: Typewriter Art as Print." It gathers diverse typewriter-involved works by Lenka Clayton, Dom Sylvester Houedard, Gustave Morin, and Allyson Straffella. *Through July 27 at the Print Center, 1614 Latimer St., 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays 215-735-6090 or printcenter.org.*

<https://www.philly.com/arts/what-to-see-in-philadelphia-galleries-hannah-wilke-20190508.html>