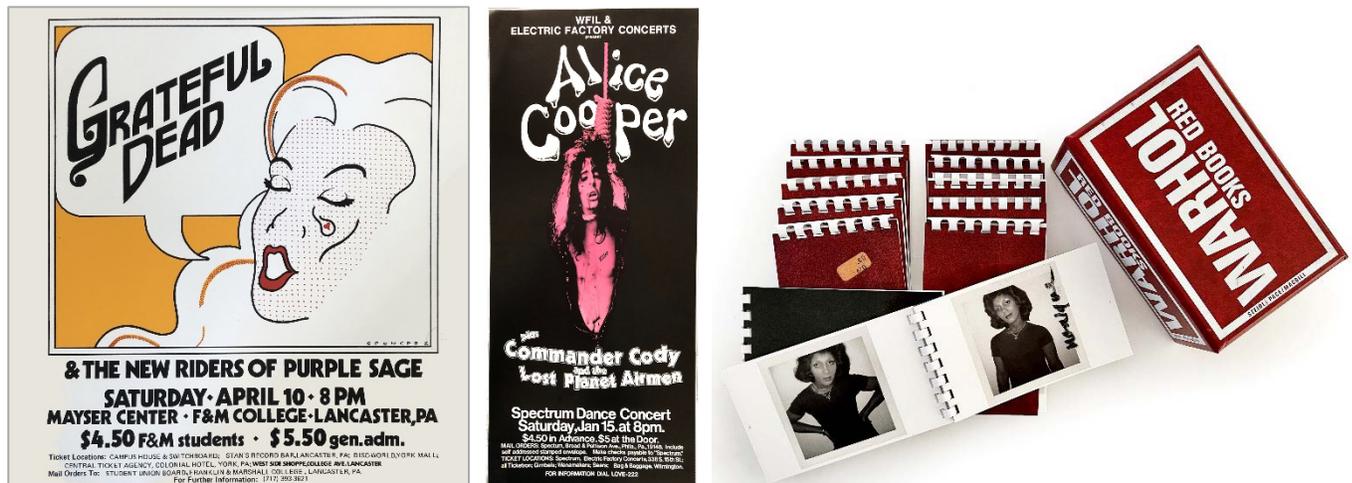


The Print Center Announces A Pop-Up Exhibition and Benefit Book Sale

**A Trip(py) Through Philly's Music History: Concert Posters by Spencer Zahn
and
Benefit Art Book Sale**

September 9 – 10, 2022

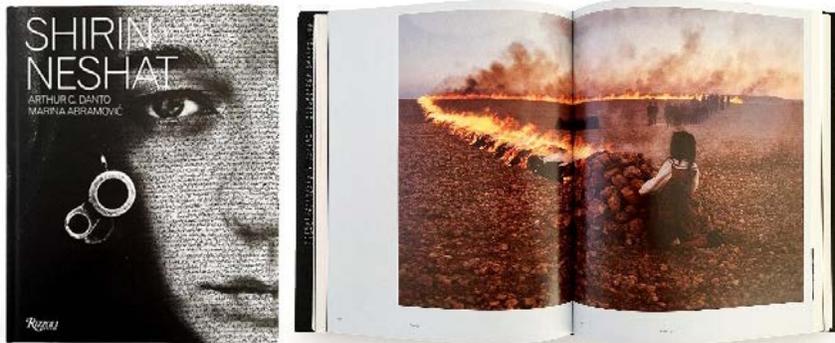
Ticketed Preview: September 8, 2022



(left and middle) Spencer Zahn, Posters for the Grateful Dead, 1971; and Alice Cooper, 1972; (right) Andy Warhol, *Red Books*, 2004

PHILADELPHIA, PA – The Print Center is delighted to announce a two-day Pop-Up exhibition of over 40 vintage concert posters by renowned Philadelphia artist **Spencer Zahn**, in conjunction with a Benefit Art Book Sale, offering volumes donated by Zahn and legendary Pop Art collector Robert Morrison to support The Print Center. *A Trip(py) Through Philly's Music History: Concert Posters by Spencer Zahn* will offer a rare glimpse into Philly's music scene in the late 1960s and early '70s by way of Zahn's distinctive and colorful concert and theater posters for iconic venues like the Electric Factory, Spectrum, Shubert Theater and Academy of Music. The exhibition is free and open to the public.

The Benefit Book Sale will offer a wide array of more than 200 publications donated by Zahn and Morrison, both exceptional art and book collectors, as well as dedicated supporters of The Print Center.



Arthur C. Danto and Marina Abramovic, *Shirin Neshat* cover and spread, 2010

The selection is made up of high-quality photography and other contemporary art books, artist publications and monographs – including many out-of-print and rare volumes.

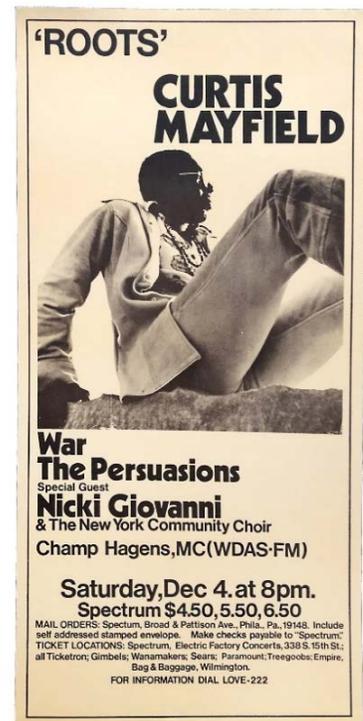
The Pop-Up show and Benefit Book Sale will be held at The Print Center for two days only –

Friday, September 9 and Saturday, September 10, 2022, 11am – 6pm. A ticketed preview will give subscribers the chance to support The Print Center and talk with Spencer Zahn, as well as a first chance to shop the book offerings. The preview will be held from 5 – 7pm on Thursday, September 8, 2022 – tickets can be purchased at printcenter.org.

A Trip(py) Through Philly's Music History: Concert Posters by Spencer Zahn

A Trip(py) Through Philly's Music History: Concert Posters by Spencer Zahn will offer a look back at a transformative era in music and in the city. Zahn, a prolific artist and lifelong Philadelphian, began working with the Electric Factory shortly after its inception in 1968. Quickly becoming a highly regarded artist in the industry, Zahn designed more than 45 posters for various shows and concerts between the late 1960s and early '70s – subsequently creating more posters than anyone else on the East Coast.

Hosted mainly at the Electric Factory and the Spectrum, the concerts and performances that Zahn's posters heralded include those for many then-budding musicians and bands who have since become iconic figures, such as Alice Cooper, Miles Davis, Neil Diamond, the Grateful Dead, Curtis Mayfield and James Taylor, among many others. The posters highlight exciting, now nostalgic, moments including a 1971 Grateful Dead concert at Franklin & Marshall College (this hard-to-find poster is now rare and very collectible) and the 1970 Quaker City Rock Festival. Viewers will get a blast from the past when they read that tickets could be purchased at venues such as Wanamaker's, Treegoobs, Gimbels or Sears at a cost of \$3.50 – \$5.50!



Spencer Zahn, Poster for Curtis Mayfield, 1972

Often created on a quick turnaround time, Zahn enjoyed the challenge that each new poster commission presented, completing his first poster for Three Dog Night in just two days. He describes the first step of his working process as “sitting down and really pondering the posters’ designs,” humbly ascribing his



Spencer Zahn, Poster for the Quaker City Rock Festival, 1970

success to “listening,” “problem solving” and “thoughtfulness.” Zahn looks back fondly at this serendipitous chapter of his career and shares, “the timing, for me, was mindboggling.”

More About the Artist

Spencer Zahn has been involved in the arts since childhood, dabbling in various forms of artmaking from taking up sculpting at age 10, to attending weekend classes at Fleisher Art Memorial. He continued to expand his creative skill set by co-majoring in art in high school and later graduating from the Philadelphia College of Art (now the University of the Arts), ending his senior year on a high note by selling out his first public art show, *SkyScapes*.

Highlights from Zahn’s extensive career include numerous kinds of design work – in addition to posters, his wide-ranging creative expression has included album covers, concert stages and “high heel rock ‘n roll” boots – as well as achievements in advertising, architecture, marketing, painting, photography, printmaking and sound engineering. He describes his motivation over the decades as stemming from always wanting to do something “fresh and new” – always searching for the next challenge – “the tougher, the better.”

Zahn’s open and generous spirit informed both his work and his approach to collecting art and books, resulting in a varied collection that includes deep dives into historic and contemporary photography and printmaking, as well as works in a wide range of media and styles.

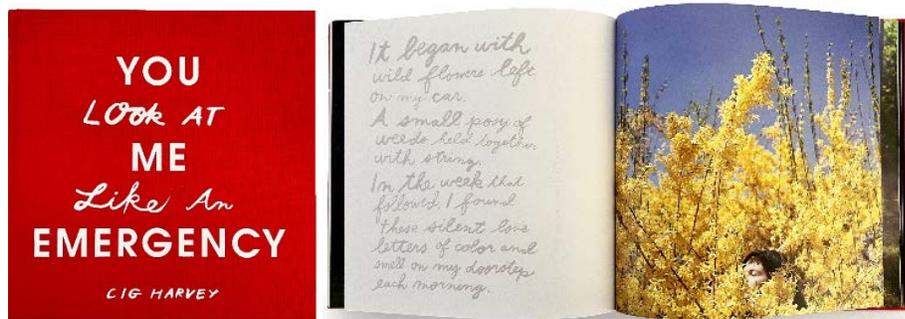
Benefit Book Sale

Featuring over 200 high-quality, rare and desirable art books, this two-day sale will be an unparalleled opportunity to discover and purchase publications drawn from a number of exceptional private collections. Generously donated in support of The Print Center, the proceeds will support its mission of encouraging the growth and understanding of photography and printmaking as vital contemporary arts.



A portion of Robert Morrison’s extensive art book collection, 2019. Photo: courtesy of Freeman’s

Ranging in publication date from the late 19th century to the present, and priced between \$25 to \$5,000, the diverse selection has an emphasis on contemporary photography and many of the volumes are signed by



Cig Harvey, *You Look At Me Like An Emergency* cover and spread, 2012

the artists. Highlights include Andy Warhol's *Red Books* (Steidl, 2004), \$200; a rare *Berlin / Deep in Thought* by Toshitsugu Yamawaki (Studio a la page, 2014), signed, \$300; Michael Kenna's *Japan* by (Nazraeli Press, 2003),

\$400; *Shirin Neshat* by Arthur C. Danto and Marina Abramovic (Rizzoli, 2010), signed, \$300; and Cig Harvey's *You Look At Me Like An Emergency* (Schilt Publishing, 2012), signed, \$300.

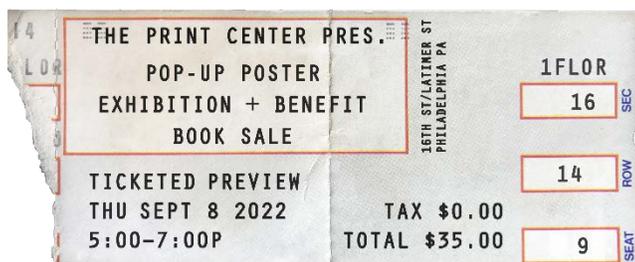
The impressive offerings come mainly from two remarkable art collectors – **Spencer Zahn** and former Board member **Robert J. Morrison** (d. 2019). Zahn, among his other achievements, has been an art collector for almost 50 years. His priority while purchasing artwork was to support artists, galleries and organizations he believed in. Some of the earliest works in his collection were by renowned photographers Edward S. Curtis and Edward Weston. Morrison was an art collector, philanthropist and communications professional, supporting arts and social-service organizations across the region for many decades. He began acquiring artwork at the age of 12, ultimately becoming a legendary collector of Pop Art. Morrison's collection was sold in a record-breaking auction at [Freeman's](#) in 2019.



Toshitsugu Yamawaki, *Berlin / Deep in Thought* cover and spread, 2014

Event Information

The Pop-Up show and Benefit Book Sale will be held at The Print Center for two days only – Friday, September 9 and Saturday, September 10, 2022, 11am – 6pm. A ticketed preview will give subscribers the chance to support The Print Center and talk with Spencer Zahn, as well as a first chance to shop the book offerings. The preview will be held from 5 – 7pm on Thursday, September 8, 2022 – tickets can be purchased at printcenter.org for \$35. Refreshments will be served.



Preview with the Artist

Thursday, September 8, 2022

5pm – 7pm

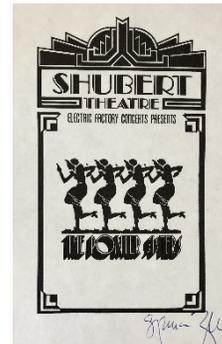
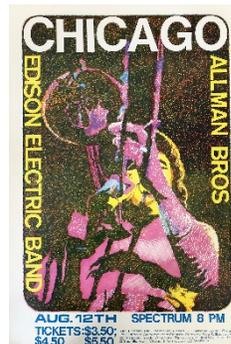
Tickets required; visit printcenter.org

Pop-Up Poster Show + Benefit Book Sale

Friday and Saturday, September 9 and 10, 2022

11am – 6pm

Free and open to the public



(left to right) Spencer Zahn, Posters for Miles Davis, 1970; Chicago, 1970; and The Pointer Sisters, 1973

Fall Season

Following this two-day event, The Print Center will kick off its fall programming with an Opening Reception on Thursday, September 15, from 5:30 – 7:30pm, for two new group exhibitions, **Ukrainian Photography Today** and **A Kaleidoscopic View: Recent Prints from Graphicstudio**. The shows will be on view September 16 – November 12, 2022. Related programming will be announced. Visit printcenter.org for more information.

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 97th year and the Gallery Store offers the largest selection of contemporary prints and photographs available for sale in Philadelphia, as well as being available online. The Artists-in-Schools Program brings arts education to 600 Philadelphia public high schools students each year.

Funders

Support for The Print Center is offered by: Dolfinger-McMahon Foundation; Forman Family Fund; Sheila Fortune Foundation; Fund for Children; Allen Hilles Fund; Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Foundation; Christopher Ludwick Foundation; National Endowment for the Arts; William Penn Foundation; Pennsylvania Council on the Arts; The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage; Philadelphia Cultural Fund; The Philadelphia Foundation; Rosenlund Family Foundation; Michael Shannon Designs; University of the Arts; University of Pennsylvania Office of Government and Community Affairs; Henrietta Tower Wurts Memorial; and our Board of Governors, Luminaries, members and friends.

The Print Center

1614 Latimer Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215.735.6090
info@printcenter.org

www.printcenter.org
facebook.com/printcenterphilly
@ThePrintCenter
#ThePrintCenter

Free and open to the public
Tuesday – Saturday, 11am – 6pm
All visitors are required to wear facemasks



###