

TheoGanz Studio



Elana Goren

Prints and Ghosts

March 10 - April 8, 2018

TheoGanz Studio is very pleased to present *Prints and Ghosts*, a solo exhibition of recent work by printmaker Elana Goren who has created mixed-media monotype explorations of life and death, strengths and weaknesses, contrasts and subtleties. Please join us for the opening reception for the artist on Saturday, March 10, 2018 from 6 - 8 pm.

This exhibition conveys the idea that the animal subjects are always in peril, facing early death as they inhabit the human world, usually spending entire lives unseen by the people who benefit from their existence. These animals are, in essence, living ghosts, unseen and unheard as they face death. Recognition of individual lives is paramount and in this show, the same individual is seen differently with each print of the same subject, sometimes strong, sometimes more of a ghost.

The theme relates to both the idea of ghosts in death as well as ghosts as a term used in the printmaking world. In printmaking, ghost prints are fainter impressions of a preprinted plate where the ink residue from the first print is left behind and yields a lighter, different impression in the second print from the same plate. Sometimes the subtleties of ghost prints come through more strongly than the original and this has been a source of fascination and experimentation for the artist.

“Inspiration comes from many sources, philosophical, artistic, and most importantly, the animal subjects themselves. Philosophers such as Jeremy Bentham and Peter Singer questioned the accepted status quo that humans should have unfettered license to torture, abuse and destroy non-human lives as they see fit. The message and the story of the darker side to human nature is represented brilliantly by Francisco de Goya, whose etchings have inspired me since I was a teenager. But, I am mostly motivated by the misery of the animals I see all around us; from the calf desperately licking the air through the grates of an overcrowded cattle truck that’s speeding down the highway on a hot day to the video of a screaming monkey as probes are being drilled into its head. These horrors, these injustices must be commented on and dealt with if we are to evolve and improve our society, move away from barbarism towards a civilized coexistence with fellow animals. With my awareness of the conditions in which non-humans exist in the human world, I am determined to shed light on what is happening through the visual language of my artwork.” (Elana Goren/Artist Statement)

Elana Goren is a printmaker, teacher, illustrator and graphic designer who has taught graphic design at SUNY New Paltz as well as painting and printmaking at the Westchester Center for the Arts. She has taught monotype and etching with other printmaking methods at the Garrison Art Center and has given etching presentations at the School of Visual Arts. She has also worked as an art director for major companies and institutions including the Denver Art Museum and Scholastic, Inc. Elana holds a BFA in Graphic Design from the School of Visual Arts and an MFA in Printmaking from SUNY New Paltz.

Elana’s work has been seen in both domestic and international galleries and museums. She is on the board of directors for the New York Society of Etchers and her work is represented in public and private collections including the permanent collection of the National Museum for Animals & Society. She has received professional awards and her work has been published in various publications. Currently, Elana is a featured artist in Volume I, Edition 4 of *Carrier Pigeon Magazine*.

TheoGanz Studio is located at 149 Main Street in Beacon, New York and is open Saturday and Sundays from Noon - 5 pm and by appointment/917.318.2239. Contact Eleni Smolen at theoganzstudio@tds.net. Visit theoganzstudio.com and elanagoren.com.

