



PRESS RELEASE

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**DVAC presents *Art Werger: Below the Surface:*
A solo exhibition featuring large scale intaglio prints**

DAYTON (September 18, 2017) – The Dayton Visual Arts Center (DVAC) is pleased to present *Art Werger: Below the Surface*, a solo exhibition featuring the works of noted Ohio University professor and printmaker Art Werger. The exhibition begins October 6th and continues through November 4th, 2017.



Below The Surface will feature several of Werger's large-scale intaglio prints and a 400-print installation.

"*Below The Surface* is a breathtaking show," said Eva Buttacavoli, DVAC Executive Director. "Printmaking is a true labor of love and this exhibition showcases Werger's incredible commitment to his craft. The images are large, intense and absolutely stunning."

Werger, Ebb and Flow, 2016, etching, aquatint with white ground, 33 in. x 48 in.

Werger grew up in the suburbs of New York where he developed a passion for drawing at an early age. After studying illustration and painting at the Rhode Island School of Design, he switched to the field of printmaking. Over the last thirty years, he has focused on etching, aquatint and mezzotint and has become an internationally renowned artist in those media having received over 250 awards in national and international exhibitions. In 2012, he received the Award of the Rector at the International Print Triennial in Krakow, Poland and the Prize for Full Correspondence between technique and imagery at the First International Mezzotint Festival in Ekaterinburg, Russia.

Werger has works in the collection of the Guanlan Printmaking Base in China, The Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., the Boston Public Library, the Brooklyn Museum, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, the Trenton Museum in New Jersey and over three hundred corporate and private collections.

The opening reception for *Art Werger: Below the Surface* will take place on October 6th from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. A Gallery Talk will take place October 19th from 5:30- 8:00 p.m. Both events will take place at

DVAC, located at 118 N. Jefferson St. in Downtown Dayton. Entry to the exhibition and programs are free and open to the public.

Werger was selected through the 2014 Biennial Call for Exhibitions, juried by Jason Franz, Founding Executive Director & Chief Curator, Manifest Creative Research Gallery and Drawing Center, Cincinnati; John Kortlander, Professor, Drawing & Painting, Columbus College of Art and Design and 2012 DVAC Biennial Call Artist; and Liz Maugens, Co-Founder & Director, Zygote Press, Cleveland.

The Presenting Sponsors for *Art Werger: Below the Surface* are Susan & Ira Thomsen, Exhibition Partners are Amelia Hounshell & Brian Albrecht, and the Education & Public Program Sponsor is Dr. Robert L. Brandt, Jr.

For more information about DVAC or the *Art Werger: Below the Surface* exhibition visit www.daytonvisualarts.org, and follow DVAC on Facebook (Dayton Visual Arts Center), Twitter (@DaytonVisArtCtr) and Instagram (daytonvisualartscenter).

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ABOUT DVAC

The Dayton Visual Arts Center (DVAC) helps sustain the arts community by providing a place to show, market, and sell work and also helps satisfy the needs and wants of art-lovers who have a place to see artists' work and, often, meet the artists. At its core, DVAC advances art for the community and a community for artists. DVAC receives operating support from the Ohio Arts Council, Culture Works, Montgomery County Arts & Cultural District, The Dayton Power & Light Foundation and the Virginia W. Kettering Foundation, and Members.

2017-18 Corporate Members: Heidelberg Distributing, Henny Penny Corporation, Houser Asphalt & Concrete, LWC Inc., and Square One Salon & Spa.

Also On View:

Back in the Day When We Used to Dance I – a site-specific mural by Morris Howard

Dayton Printmakers Cooperative Spotlight: Abby Maurer

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Reduced Summer Gallery Hours: 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., Tuesday–Thursday

11:00 – 3:00 p.m., Friday & Saturday

Closed Sunday & Monday | 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. on First Friday



Printmaking Terms

- **intaglio**: a general term for a type of printmaking where a design is incised or engraved into a material.
- **etching**: In traditional pure **etching**, a metal (usually copper, zinc or steel) plate is covered with a waxy ground which is resistant to acid. The artist then scratches off the ground with a pointed **etching** needle where he or she wants a line to appear in the finished piece, so exposing the bare metal.
- **aquatint**: is an intaglio printmaking technique, a variant of etching. In intaglio printmaking, the artist makes marks on the plate (in the case of aquatint, a copper or zinc plate) that are capable of holding ink. The inked plate is passed through a printing press together with a sheet of paper, resulting in a transfer of the ink to the paper.

Like etching, aquatint uses the application of a mordant to etch into the metal plate. Where the engraving technique uses a needle to make lines that print in black (or whatever colour ink is used), aquatint uses powdered rosin to create a tonal effect. The rosin is acid resistant and typically adhered to the plate by controlled heating. The tonal variation is controlled by the level of mordant exposure over large areas, and thus the image is shaped by large sections at a time.

- **mezzotint**: In printmaking, mezzotints achieve tonality by roughening the plate with thousands of little dots made by a metal tool with small teeth, called a "rocker." In printing, the tiny pits in the plate hold the ink when the face of the plate is wiped clean. A high level of quality and richness in the print can be achieved.