

Elizabeth

news

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MOTHERWELL AND HOLT IN JOINT EXHIBITION AT BENNINGTON COLLEGE

BENNINGTON, VT—An exhibition featuring “À la Pintura: Artist’s Books by Robert Motherwell” and “Art and Invention,” works by George A.C. Holt opens Tuesday, April 5, in Usdan Gallery in the Visual and Performing Arts Center on the Bennington College campus. The opening reception is from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Bennington College Visual Arts Division, the show runs through April 26, and the public is welcome to attend free of charge. Usdan Gallery hours are 1:00 to 5:00 p.m., Mondays through Saturdays.

“À la Pintura,” a tour de force of contemporary graphic art, highlights the series of 24 large-scale prints and text produced by Motherwell between 1968 and 1972 in response to poems of Rafael Alberti. The English translation of Alberti that inspired Motherwell was the work of Bennington poet and translator Ben Belitt, who owns the prints on exhibition. The suite was shown at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in 1972 and in Usdan Gallery in 1973. Motherwell’s first retrospective was also held at Bennington, in 1959. Selections from three other artist’s books of Motherwell’s will be included as well: “El Negro,” “Octavio Paz Suite,”

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and "Ulysses." Pending approval, these will be on loan from the Dedalus Foundation through the courtesy of Catherine Mosley, former printer to Motherwell and current Bennington College faculty member.

"Art and Invention" will show representative portions of the work of George A.C. Holt. Printmaker, draughtsman, painter, and worker in collage, mosaic, metal, and other media, Holt had a long and varied career that included making important contributions to the 1930s restoration of the Hagia Sophia in Istanbul. He was a Bennington College faculty member from 1941 to 1968. "Art and Invention" was organized with the support of the Holt Art Fund, with special assistance from Ernst and Sarah Schwarz.

Curator for both exhibitions is Thomas Fels, an independent curator, writer, and exhibition organizer who has worked as a consultant to the J. Paul Getty Museum, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Canadian Centre for Architecture, among other museums. His books include *O Say Can You See: American Photographs 1839-1939* and *Watkins to Weston, California Photography, 1849-1950*. Fels is assistant to the curator of prints and drawings at the Clark Art Institute and director of the art archives project at Bennington College.

For more information, please call 802-442-5401, ext. 218.

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V. Art
E. Fels