



In Between

TAMMY HARRINGTON

MAY 5 -
JULY 30,
2022

ASC ARTS & CRAFTS SOCIETY

Exhibition Statement:

Tammy Harrington

My artwork is influenced by the Chinese folk art of paper cut. The crisp graphic appearance of paper cut appeals to my sensibility as a printmaker. This work is a blending of my interpretations of traditional Chinese designs into personalized figurative compositions. Initially in the print work, the paper cut designs appeared as textures and patterns that melded with the figure. I took the next step and actually cut into the paper and printed surface. The combination of the papercut with other media shifts the idea of space to be both dimensional and flat. The use of pattern (printed and cut out) depicts the figure as it exists in an ephemeral state, in a place between reality and the mystical. The delicate lines merge with bold shapes and color to create visual movement and vibration. The combination and interaction of the layers of paper cuts create complex and unpredictable visual space and depth.

Oftentimes, the still figure seems to exist in a state of chaos and commotion as if she is caught in turbulent waves or stormy winds. Patterns and imagery attach themselves to the figure and surround it at the same time. These patterns represent the duality of my existence as a Chinese American. Depending on the moment, I teeter between how Chinese and how American I am and how this ratio of cultural identity is perceived by others. My physical appearance, my actions, and the way I speak are judged and evaluated. The red latticework is the stable entity, the geometric severity straining to contain the visual hodgepodge.



Exhibited Works

- Cover: *Passage*, Intaglio print and paper cut, Image: 28" x 21", Framed: 40" x 32"
- Coming into Being*, Intaglio print and paper cut, Image: 21" x 28", Framed: 32" x 40"
- Shield*, Intaglio print and paper cut, Image: 28" x 21", Framed: 40" x 32"
- Whisper*, Intaglio print and paper cut, Image: 28" x 21", Framed: 40" x 32"
- Repose*, Intaglio print and paper cut, Image: 21" x 28", Framed: 32" x 40"
- Cocoon*, Intaglio print and paper cut, Image: 28" x 21", Framed: 40" x 32"
- Splendor*, Intaglio print and paper cut, Image: 20" x 16", Framed: 26" x 20"
- Renewal*, Intaglio print and paper cut, Image: 16" x 20", Framed: 20" x 26"
- Reverie*, Intaglio print and paper cut, Image: 16" x 20", Framed: 20" x 26"
- Metamorphosis*, Intaglio print and paper cut, Image: 20" x 16", Framed: 26" x 20"
- Cradle*, Intaglio print and paper cut, Image: 20" x 16", Framed: 26" x 20"
- Transcendent*, Intaglio print and paper cut, Image: 16" x 20", Framed: 20" x 26"
- Serendipity*, Intaglio print and paper cut, Image: 16" x 20", Framed: 20" x 26"
- Aegis*, Intaglio print and paper cut, Image: 16" x 20", Framed: 20" x 26"
- Five Blessings: Bats*, Intaglio print and paper cut, Image: 24" x 18", Framed: 40" x 32"
- Beautiful Snake*, Intaglio print and paper cut, Image: 24" x 18", Framed: 40" x 32"
- Double Happy: Magpies*, Intaglio print and paper cut, Image: 24" x 18", Framed: 40" x 32"
- Tigress*, Intaglio print and paper cut, Image: 24" x 18", Framed: 40" x 32"
- Abundance: Koi*, Intaglio print and paper cut, Image: 24" x 18", Framed: 40" x 32"
- Infinity: Mystic Knot*, Intaglio print and paper cut, Image: 24" x 18", Framed: 40" x 32"
- 100 Birds*, Paper cut on Tyvek and fabric, 48" x 36"
- Contemplation*, Paper cut on Tyvek and fabric, 72" x 60"



With the rise in anti-Asian rhetoric and actions over the past few years in America, it is imperative for institutions to have conversations about identity and uplift Asian and Asian American artists; Tammy Harrington's *In Between* is an exquisite addition to the ongoing national discourse. Harrington creates designs derived from traditional Chinese art and contemporary American graphics, a combination that references her own cross-cultural identity. Her delicate self-portraits explore the duality of her heritage as a Chinese American, the intricate cut and printed patterns mirroring the complexity of Harrington's relationship to these parts of herself. The overlapping ornaments ebb and flow, inviting the audience to unravel their layers. Self-portraits of Harrington are hidden within these intricate patterns, concealed and constrained by borders they occasionally break through.

Jessica Lenehan
Curator



The Arts & Science Center has three aspects of collecting and exhibition: art of the Delta, art by Arkansas artists, and art by African American artists.

ASC is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, a distinction held by fewer than 4% of museums in the United States.

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