

[Rivers of Light](#) by [Elizabeth Lennard](#) (On Sale!)

Lithograph on Paper - Main Subject: Cityscape



Item Number

7824170783

Retail Value

\$950

ArtRev.com Price

\$120

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Dimensions (As Shown)

23.75W x 16.25H Inches

60.32W x 41.28H cm

Medium

Lithograph on Paper

Edition

- Limited Edition of 150

- Hand-Signed 

- Numbered 

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About Elizabeth Lennard

With the development of color photography, the rendering of photographic hand coloring fell into near disuse. Though many black and white photographers worked temporarily with color applied by hand, this technique existed as a limited area in photographic art.

From the moment photography was first available, the public, familiar with painted miniatures, regretted that the new invention did not have color. Although they were captivated by its incredible detail and rich tonality, this was not enough.

Not unlike the Victorians, Elizabeth Lennard paints photographs. However, her intent is not to invest her pictures with reality. Quite the contrary. If anything her imagery communicates a mysterious unreality.

Elizabeth Lennard began taking photographs of neighborhood kids when she was 16. In her last semester of high school she took a photography class, though she had no intentions at that time of becoming a photographer. Later, while in art school, Elizabeth

studied drawing and lithography, and worked with watercolors and pastels. She began experimenting with hand coloring during her first year in art school, and since then has developed an impressive technique. Why hand color and not color film? "There are many reasons," she says. I like the texture of oil paint on a print. I don't like the object that a color photograph is. Paint gives a more organic, living substance to the hand colored photograph. And I love color."

Lennard uses the structural manifestations of the American urban and suburban landscape and transmutes them into something unsettling but beautiful. Ms. Lennard uses color to reinvent reality and create a magical world of her own making.

Sensuous pinks, greens, and yellows in ice cream tints are Lennard's magic. Her rearrangement of the familiar is not through the conventional juxtaposition of surprising form, but through an alchemy of color that forces us to reexamine our surroundings and delight in them. Lennard's is the yellow brick road, to a world of "what ifs," that enables us briefly to repair our tired sensibilities and once more see with joy and surprise of a child.

Sometimes it is easier for a foreigner to observe cultural phenomena in a detached way. And so the French appreciate Lennard's work to the extent that they have shown her in their most prestigious showplace, The Centre Nationale d' Art Moderne, Georges Pompidou, in Paris.

Lithograph on Paper

This printing technique uses a planographic process in which prints are pulled on a special press from a flat stone or metal surface. The surface has been chemically treated so that ink sticks only to the design areas, and is repelled by the non-image areas. Lithography was invented in Germany in 1798. The early history of lithography is dominated by great French artists such as Daumier and Delacroix, and later by Degas, Toulouse-Lautrec, Picasso, Braque and Miro.

Based on the principle that oil and water repel, a Lithograph is created when an artist produces an oil-based or pen image on a stone or piece of metal. This surface is then moistened and covered with an oil-based ink. The resulting chemical reaction between the oil and water drives away the ink on the surface except where the drawing was first done. Fine quality paper is then placed against the surface and a lithographic press is used to create the print. Modern technology and processes have provided artists with many unique methods with which to create magnificent lithographs. In the 1890s color lithography became enormously popular with French artists, Toulouse-Lautrec most notably of all, and by 1900 the medium in both color and monotone was an accepted part of printmaking, although France and the US have used it more than other countries. George Bellows, Alphonse Mucha, Pablo Picasso, Jasper Johns, David Hockney and Robert Rauschenberg are a few of the artists who have produced most of their prints in the medium.

As a special form of lithography, the Serilith process is sometimes used. Serilith are mixed media original prints created in a process where an artist uses the lithograph and serigraph process. The separations for both processes are hand drawn by the artist. The serilith technique is used primarily to create fine art limited print editions.

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