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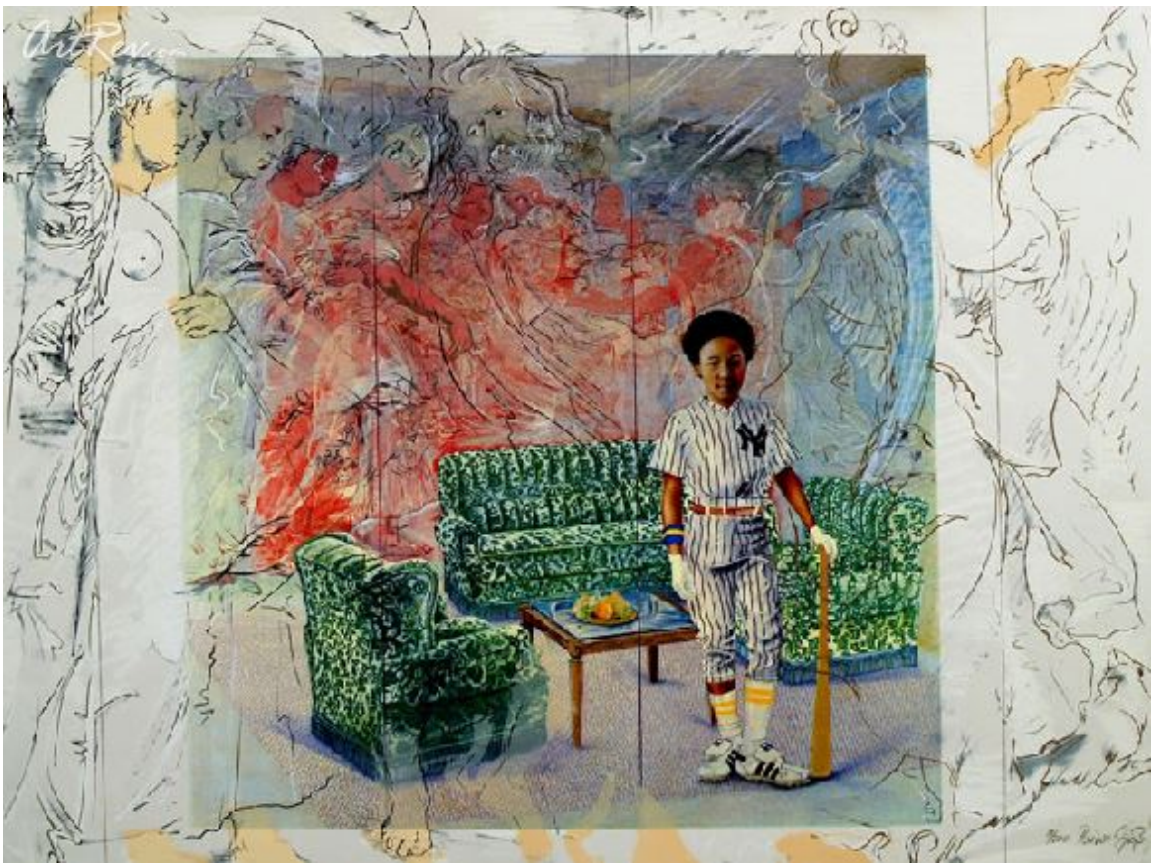
Louisville Slugger *by* Rainer Gross (On Sale!)

Lithograph on Paper - Main Subject: Abstract



Item Number
8500077541

Retail Value
$150

ArtRev.com Price
$75
You Save 50% Off [-$75.00]

Dimensions (As Shown)
34.5W x 24.5H Inches
87.63W x 62.23H cm

Medium
Lithograph on Paper

Edition
- Limited Edition of 200
- Hand-Signed
- Numbered

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About Rainer Gross
Rainer Gross was born and educated in Cologne, Germany. He came to the United States in 1973. At that time he worked with Howard Kanovitz and later with Larry Rivers. His work is represented in numerous private collections. Mr. Gross' excellent draftsmanship and subtle color sense are evident in his acrylics on paper. His paintings and drawings interpret Americana charged witn allegorical and classical allusions. A still life of lilies and carnations is paired with a background of Roman mosaic depicting dancing figures.

Mr. Gross' imagery and style maintains a foothold in pre-Renaissance painting traditions and grasps the candor and gloved social commentary of Pop art and Photo-Realism He describes his direction best as ".... personal improvisations with themes in art history. I consider myself a student of paintings. I see no conceit in quoting from the past."

The copying of re-rendering ot old masters has a long and venerable history. The Romans copied the Greeks, the Renaissance

masters copied the Romans and the academicians of the 19th century copies the Renaissance masters. More recently, such stellar figures as Van Gogh, Cezanne and Picasso were "borrowers" who in turn became "lenders" to countless modernists.

Rainer Gross is an artist who subscribes to the theory that there is much to be gained from the study of art history and the adaptation of the styles of other eras. He calls his approach "personal improvisations with themes in art history." Although his attitude is far from universal, it was once the mainstay of art education and the foundation on which many an original talent built a personal esthetic.

Gross is interested in the styles of art at various periods in history. He likes to take off from the art of the past, to use it as a point of departure.

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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