

print pomona art book fair

print pomona art book fair is a prominent event in the world of independent publishing, art books, zines, and printed media. This annual fair attracts artists, publishers, collectors, and enthusiasts from across the country and beyond, showcasing a diverse range of printed art forms. As one of the most significant gatherings dedicated to printed matter in Southern California, the Print Pomona Art Book Fair offers a unique platform for emerging and established creators to display their work, foster connections, and engage with a wider audience. This article explores the history, significance, featured participants, and the overall experience of attending the Print Pomona Art Book Fair. It also delves into the fair's impact on the art community and provides essential information for visitors and exhibitors alike.

- Overview and History of Print Pomona Art Book Fair
- Exhibitors and Featured Artists
- Events and Activities at the Fair
- Visitor Experience and Practical Information
- Impact on the Art and Publishing Community

Overview and History of Print Pomona Art Book Fair

The Print Pomona Art Book Fair was established to celebrate and promote independent art publishing and printed works in a community-focused setting. Since its inception, it has grown into a major event that highlights the significance of print media in contemporary art culture. The fair primarily focuses on art books, zines, prints, and other forms of printed ephemera, providing a dedicated space for creators who utilize print as their primary medium.

Located in Pomona, California, the fair benefits from the city's rich artistic heritage and proximity to Los Angeles, a global hub for the arts. The event has expanded each year in both size and scope, attracting a diverse array of exhibitors ranging from small independent presses to renowned international publishers. The Print Pomona Art Book Fair serves as a vital platform for discovery, networking, and sales within the art book and printmaking communities.

Origins and Growth

Originally conceived as a grassroots initiative, the Print Pomona Art Book Fair has evolved into an influential annual event. It was founded to address the need for more accessible venues where artists and publishers could directly engage with audiences interested in printed art forms. Over time, the fair has incorporated a range of programming that enhances the experience and draws broader community participation.

Annual Timing and Venue

The fair typically takes place in the spring, aligning with other cultural events and art fairs in the region. Its venue in Pomona is carefully selected to accommodate large crowds and provide the necessary infrastructure for exhibitors. The location also supports local businesses and contributes to Pomona's reputation as an emerging arts district.

Exhibitors and Featured Artists

The Print Pomona Art Book Fair features a wide spectrum of participants, including independent artists, small presses, publishers, and printmakers. This diversity is one of the fair's strongest attributes, offering attendees exposure to various styles, themes, and printing techniques. Exhibitors often showcase limited edition prints, handmade books, experimental publications, and artist multiples.

Independent Publishers

Independent publishers form the backbone of the fair's exhibitor base. These small and mid-sized presses focus on producing unique, artist-driven content that often challenges mainstream commercial publishing norms. Many of these presses specialize in niche genres such as experimental literature, graphic novels, photography books, and artist monographs.

Artists and Printmakers

Individual artists and printmakers use the fair as an opportunity to present their printed works directly to collectors and fans. This includes screen prints, lithographs, letterpress books, and risograph prints. Many artists use the event to debut new projects, collaborate with other creators, or sell rare and collectible editions.

Notable Participants

Over the years, the fair has attracted notable figures in the art and publishing worlds, including emerging talents who have gone on to gain wider recognition. The presence of influential publishers and artists elevates the fair's status and draws considerable attention from media and institutions.

Events and Activities at the Fair

The Print Pomona Art Book Fair offers more than just exhibition booths. It incorporates a variety of events designed to engage attendees and deepen their appreciation for printed art. These activities range from panel discussions and artist talks to workshops and live demonstrations.

Panel Discussions and Talks

Industry professionals, artists, and publishers often participate in panels and lectures that discuss current trends, challenges, and innovations in art book publishing. These sessions provide valuable insights into the creative and business aspects of print media.

Workshops and Demonstrations

Hands-on workshops allow attendees to experience printmaking techniques firsthand. These sessions may cover screen printing, letterpress, bookbinding, and zine-making, offering educational opportunities for both novices and experienced practitioners.

Special Installations and Performances

Some editions of the fair include curated installations or live performances that complement the printed work on display. These interdisciplinary components enrich the overall atmosphere and highlight the creative possibilities within print culture.

Visitor Experience and Practical Information

Attending the Print Pomona Art Book Fair provides a unique opportunity to explore a vibrant marketplace of printed art while engaging with creators and like-minded enthusiasts. The event is designed to be accessible and welcoming to a broad audience, including collectors, students, and casual visitors.

What to Expect

Visitors can anticipate a bustling environment filled with diverse printed materials, interactive events, and opportunities to purchase rare and limited-edition works. The fair's layout typically includes vendor booths, communal areas for discussion, and spaces for events and workshops.

Tips for Attendees

- Plan to spend several hours exploring the booths to fully appreciate the range of work on offer.
- Bring cash, as some exhibitors may not accept credit cards.
- Attend talks and workshops to gain deeper insights into the printmaking and publishing processes.
- Wear comfortable shoes and be prepared for indoor and outdoor areas depending on the venue.
- Engage with exhibitors to learn about their creative processes and upcoming projects.

Accessibility and Amenities

The fair organizers prioritize accessibility, ensuring that the venue accommodates visitors with varying needs. Amenities such as food vendors, seating areas, and restrooms are typically available to enhance the visitor experience.

Impact on the Art and Publishing Community

The Print Pomona Art Book Fair plays a significant role in supporting and advancing the independent art publishing sector. By providing a dedicated platform for printed media, it helps sustain the creative economy and encourages experimentation within the field.

Fostering Community and Collaboration

The fair encourages collaboration among artists, publishers, and audiences, fostering a vibrant community centered on print culture. Networking opportunities at the event often lead to new projects, partnerships, and the sharing of resources.

Promoting Independent Publishing

By spotlighting independent presses and self-published artists, the fair challenges the dominance of mainstream publishing and promotes diverse voices and perspectives. This advocacy helps maintain a dynamic and inclusive art book ecosystem.

Economic and Cultural Contributions

The Print Pomona Art Book Fair contributes to the local economy by attracting visitors and supporting small businesses. Culturally, it enriches the artistic landscape by preserving and advancing print-based art forms, ensuring their continued relevance in the digital age.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Print Pomona Art Book Fair?

Print Pomona Art Book Fair is a premier event dedicated to artists' books, zines, printed art, and independent publishing, held annually in Pomona, California.

When does the Print Pomona Art Book Fair usually take place?

Print Pomona Art Book Fair typically takes place annually in the spring, often around March or April.

Where is the Print Pomona Art Book Fair held?

The fair is held in Pomona, California, often at venues like the Pomona Fairplex or other local art spaces.

Who can exhibit at the Print Pomona Art Book Fair?

Artists, independent publishers, small presses, and printmakers who create artists' books, zines, and printed art are eligible to exhibit.

Is the Print Pomona Art Book Fair open to the public?

Yes, the event is open to the public and welcomes collectors, artists, students, and anyone interested in art books and print culture.

Are there any workshops or talks at the Print Pomona Art Book Fair?

Yes, the fair often includes workshops, panel discussions, and artist talks focusing on book arts, printmaking, and independent publishing.

How can I purchase books or art at the Print Pomona Art Book Fair?

Visitors can buy directly from exhibitors at their booths, with many artists and publishers offering unique and limited-edition works.

Where can I find more information about the next Print Pomona Art Book Fair?

More information, including dates, location, and exhibitor applications, can be found on the official Print Pomona website and their social media channels.

Additional Resources

1. Print Pomona: The Art Book Fair Experience

This book offers an immersive overview of the Print Pomona Art Book Fair, showcasing the vibrant community of artists, publishers, and collectors. It features high-quality photographs of the fair's installations, booths, and events, highlighting the diversity of printed art. Interviews with key participants provide insight into the fair's role in promoting independent publishing and graphic arts.

2. Independent Prints: Artists of Print Pomona

Focusing on the creators behind the prints, this book profiles a selection of independent artists featured at Print Pomona. It includes artist statements, images of their work, and discussions about the techniques and themes explored in their prints. The book serves as a celebration of creativity and innovation within the printmaking community.

3. *Art in Print: A History of Print Pomona*

Delve into the origins and evolution of Print Pomona with this comprehensive history. The book traces how the fair has grown from a small local event into a major hub for print art enthusiasts. It includes archival photos, timelines, and commentary from organizers and longtime participants.

4. *Printed Matter: Exploring the Zines and Art Books of Print Pomona*

This volume focuses on the diverse range of zines, art books, and printed matter available at the fair. It examines the importance of print media in contemporary art and how Print Pomona fosters a space for experimental and alternative publishing. The book is filled with colorful images and excerpts from standout publications.

5. *Print Pomona: Curated Collections*

Highlighting select curated exhibitions from the fair, this book presents themed collections of prints and art books. Each section is accompanied by essays that contextualize the works within broader artistic trends and cultural conversations. It's an essential resource for understanding the conceptual frameworks behind Print Pomona's showcases.

6. *The Craft of Printmaking: Techniques at Print Pomona*

This educational book delves into the various printmaking techniques demonstrated by artists at Print Pomona. From traditional methods like screen printing and etching to contemporary digital processes, the book explains the craft with detailed images and step-by-step guides. It is both an inspiration and a practical resource for aspiring printmakers.

7. *Artists' Voices: Interviews from Print Pomona*

Featuring in-depth interviews with a diverse group of artists, publishers, and curators, this book captures the personal stories behind the works shown at Print Pomona. The conversations explore artistic motivations, challenges in independent publishing, and the significance of print culture today. It offers a candid and intimate look at the creative community.

8. *Print Pomona: The Future of Print Art*

Looking ahead, this book investigates emerging trends and innovations in print art as seen at the fair. It discusses new materials, technologies, and the evolving role of print in the digital age. Contributions from thought leaders and futurists provide perspectives on how Print Pomona continues to shape the art world.

9. *Collector's Guide to Print Pomona*

Designed for collectors and enthusiasts, this guide provides tips on acquiring and preserving prints and art books from the fair. It includes profiles of notable works, pricing insights, and advice from experienced collectors and dealers. The book aims to support the growth of print art collecting inspired by Print Pomona's offerings.

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