

John Lysak

John Lysak is an established printmaker who works with a range of processes and techniques including monotype, lithography, screen-printing, and digital printing. With a keen understanding of the human psyche, Lysak's works portray everyday activities with a shadowy theatricality and expressionistic undercurrent. Influenced by literature, media and culture, he creates images of people and animals in bold, contrasted light. His newest series of ink and watercolor paintings are occupied by introverted, meditative figures. Dreaming, sleeping, contemplating, the figures of these worlds pensively direct their gaze beyond the boundaries of the painting. Lysak's stylistic approach captures the expressions and personalities of his subjects, while their singular identities remain mysterious. Veiled in a painterly depiction, his subjects are relatable as they engage in ordinary tasks of everyday life. Subdued earth tones and deep blues, greens, and blacks emphasize the expressive moods of his works.

Lysak received his B.F.A from Evergreen State College in Olympia, and his M.F.A at Carnegie Mellon, Pittsburgh. He was a professor of printmaking at Edinboro University in Pennsylvania for two decades. The artist was a Master Printer from 1988 to 1995 at Stone Press Editions in Seattle where he helped edition regionally and internationally known artists. He has been awarded residencies at the Frans Masereel Centrum in Belgium in 2006, 2007, and 2009 and has taught at *Il Bisonte* Graphic School of the Arts in Florence. Lysak is frequently invited to present his work in solo and group exhibitions in museums and educational institutions both in this country and abroad. In the Pacific Northwest, the artist's prints have been shown at the Tacoma Art Museum, Bellevue Arts Museum, and State Capitol Museum, and at Lisa Harris Gallery, now Harris Harvey Gallery, since 1994.