

Massachusetts College of Art and Design Presents

**Rebellion and Grace:
The Graphic Workshop 1970-1992**

Silkscreen posters inspired by student rebellion and political activism

August 24 – September 25, 2015 in the President's Gallery



[Left David Majeau, Felice Regan and The Graphic Workshop, *STOPP*, 1970

Center James DiSilvestri and The Graphic Workshop, *Two More in Mississippi*, 1970

Right: Felice Regan and The Graphic Workshop, *The Giant Panda, Endangered*, 1987]

WHO/WHAT:

Massachusetts College of Art and Design (MassArt) presents *Rebellion and Grace: The Graphic Workshop 1970-1992* from August 24 – September 25, 2015 in the President's Gallery (Tower Building, 621 Huntington Avenue, Boston). The exhibition will survey the history and accomplishments of The Graphic Workshop, an artists' collaborative in Boston, conceived at MassArt. The Workshop produced hundreds of silkscreen posters from 1970-1992 using color and art to proclaim political ideas, and to publicize avant-garde theater, public health campaigns, and the plights of endangered species. *Rebellion and Grace* will feature eighty-five posters and archival materials tracing the group's activism from the anti-war and civil rights protests of the 1970s to the environmentalist movement of the 1980s and 1990s.

The exhibition is curated by MassArt Library Director Paul Dobbs; Former Keeper of Prints at the Boston Public Library Sinclair Hitchings; MassArt Professor Emeritus Elizabeth Resnick; Graphic Workshop Founders Felice Regan and Chris Mesarch (both MassArt BFA '70), and Darlene Gillan, MassArt Director of Alumni Communications.

Featuring the works of:

- **MassArt Graphic Workshop Faculty Advisor Rob Moore** - The Workshop's mentor and guardian until his battle with AIDS and death in 1993.
- **Felice Regan '70, Chris Mesarch '70, and Deb Jones '73** – Key MassArt students who launched the Workshop; Regan was once dubbed the “Queen of the Screen” and steered the group through two decades of collaboration.
- **Individual artists including:** Agusta Agustasson, Brian Alterio, Jill Anderson, Laurel Barney, Mary Beath, Leo Byrnes, Paul Campbell, L. Caradimos, Anna Comolli, Sarah Creighton, Gary DiPasquale, James DiSilvestri, Jeremy Foss, James Gabriel, Michael Gabriel, John Hayes, Lisa Houk, Christine Kidder, Thomas Kuchinski, David Majeau, Judy Kensley McKie, David Sipress, James Weiner, and Judy Ziegler.

WHERE:

President's Gallery
Massachusetts College of Art and Design
621 Huntington Avenue, in the Tower building (11th Floor)
Boston, MA 02115
(Corner of Evans Way and Huntington Avenue. Accessible on the MBTA green line E train at the Longwood/Medical Area stop or by the 39 bus.)

WHEN:

August 24 – September 25

The President's Gallery is open Monday through Saturday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm (closed on Sundays).

**** Free Exhibition Reception in the President's Gallery 5-6pm, followed by Panel Discussion, 6-8pm, in the Tower Auditorium: September 17** - Panelists will address the implications for education and activism that are raised by the exhibition. Panelists will include Felice Regan and Chris Mesarch, surviving founders of The Graphic Workshop; Thomas Starr, Professor of Graphic Design, Northeastern University; and Elizabeth Resnick, Professor Emerita, Massachusetts College of Art and Design.

ENTRY:

All exhibitions at MassArt are free of charge and open to the public.

INFO:

For more information call 617.879.7337, email gallerinfo@massart.edu or see www.massart.edu/rebellionandgrace.

Follow MassArt on social media and share your experience with hashtag #RebellionAndGrace.

Twitter: [@MassArt](https://twitter.com/MassArt), Instagram: [@massartboston](https://www.instagram.com/massartboston), Facebook: [MassArtBoston](https://www.facebook.com/MassArtBoston)

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About Massachusetts College of Art and Design

Massachusetts College of Art and Design is one of the top colleges of its kind in the United States. Founded in 1873, MassArt has a legacy of leadership as the only independent public college of art and design in the country and the nation's first art school to grant a degree. The College offers a comprehensive range of baccalaureate and graduate degrees in art and design, all taught by world-class faculty, along with continuing education and youth programs designed to encourage individual creativity. Whether at home in Boston or on the other side of the globe, the artists and designers of MassArt are dedicated to making a difference in their communities and around the world. MassArt recently received the prestigious [2015 Community Engagement Classification](#) by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching for its dedication to community through public programming and curricular opportunities. For more information, visit www.massart.edu. Follow MassArt on social media: Twitter [@massart](https://twitter.com/massart), Instagram [@massartboston](https://www.instagram.com/massartboston), [Facebook.com/massartboston](https://www.facebook.com/massartboston), and [LinkedIn](#).

About the Graphic Workshop

The Graphic Workshop was started by students at MassArt to churn out protest posters during the 1970 national student strike that flared up after six students were killed at Kent State and Jackson State universities while protesting the U.S. government's invasion of Cambodia. Described as a "visual propaganda unit" that was subsidized by "blood, sweat, and friendship," the collaborative was a round-the-clock silkscreen production center under the direction of MassArt faculty member Rob Moore.

The Graphic Workshop eventually evolved, adapting itself through two decades of wily not-for-profit operation whose hallmarks were idealism, elegance, and wit. It produced hundreds of silkscreen posters between 1970 and 1992, presenting progressive ideas and illustrating the evils that still ignite rebellion to this day: war, racism, and environmental destruction. The Workshop won numerous prestigious awards and contributed posters to a Smithsonian exhibition titled, *Images of an Era: the American Poster 1945-75* that toured the world 1975-1977.