

Visual Culture of the Americas @ CRAMpress
"Waterless Lithograph" Print Workshop

Who is CRAM?

The CRAM Collective and Gallery was established by Tobey C. Anderson in February 2006. The CRAMplex houses studios and storage facilities used by 6 artists: Tobey C. Anderson, Carolyn Wren, José Medina, John Venditti, Pam Maw, and Marinko Jareb. The CRAM Collective has over 35 artist members including international members from Santiago de Cuba.

CRAM Press was developed by Tobey C. Anderson and José Medina in 2010 with the support of Alan Flint. Flint is a Master Printer who is well known in his field across Canada and abroad, and he has operated several print studios, including the independent Anti Press he operated for 12 years in Hamilton, Ontario. The newly established CRAM Press specializes in small format printmaking using an etching press Flint acquired from the estate of artist Harold Town. Print techniques we are capable of using with the current equipment and facilities include waterless lithography, relief (linoleum and wood block), mono prints, and collography. Development of intaglio printing is underway and will be implemented with the acquisition of a second, larger litho press later in 2010.

Workshop Facilitator:

José Medina. CRAMpress Print Master and coordinator.

José Armando Medina Sanabia was born in Santiago de Cuba, Cuba in 1977. He graduated from *José Joaquín Tejada* Fine Arts Academy with the best Academic File in the specialty of Printmaking and Drawing in the year 1996. He got a Bachelor of Education of Visual Arts at the University of Pedagogical Sciences in Santiago de Cuba in 2003. He headed the Print Board of the Academy of Arts in Santiago de Cuba from 2000 to 2008. He has been given more than 20 honours and awards, and has participated in over 90 exhibitions, including solo and group shows in Canada, Cuba, Colombia, England, United States, Spain, Italy, Mexico, and Australia. José received the decoration Guest of Honour of Santa Marta City, Colombia in 1997. His work has been permanently exhibited in the Museum Bolivariano of Contemporary Art of Santa Marta, Colombia, and Plains Art Museum, Fargo, North Dakota, USA since 1997 and 2007 respectively. José Medina has specialized in collagraph, a print technique that he learned from the first Print Masters that introduced it in Cuba. He was a practicing visual artist and a printmaking professor at the *Luis Diaz Oduardo* Cultural Workshop and the Fine Arts Academy in Santiago de Cuba for 12 years. At present, he is a member and practicing visual artist of the CRAM Art Gallery and Collective in St. Catharines, Ontario. In 2009 he became the Print Master and Coordinator of CRAMpress, the CRAM International Print Studio.

What is CRAM? The Manifesto:

Located in the heart of Niagara at 24 James Street - 2nd floor in downtown St. Catharines, Ontario, between Christopher's Magazine & Smoke Shop and The Office Tap & Grill*. The CRAMplex houses studios, CRAM Press and Gallerie CRAM, Canada's smallest print studio and art gallery. CRAM showcases a proactive collective of emerging and established professional artists who have a connection to Niagara and who advocate opinions and ideas from outside the metro and international art scenes. CRAM is a growing concern. CRAM is also looking for attention...

CRAM Aims To:

- A new local scene by presenting hot contemporary art at monthly events in the 8 x 10 ft. gallery and CRAM Complex setting, and in alternative places.
- Support and promote CRAM artists, new art, and sales.
- Create a crawl destination and contribute to the growth of art and culture in downtown St. Catharines.
- Provide its patrons and membership with deals, discounts, tee shirts, a quarterly newsletter, membership cards, and maybe postcards and posters. No promises we can't keep, but it may take a while to get around to everything.
- Profusely give free opinions about art, life, fashion, food, fishing, and politics.
- Expunge "art speak".
- Adhere to critical, candid, and politically incorrect documentation, discourse and dialogue with a sense of humour whenever possible.
- Avoid, squelch, or oppose the art mainstream, consumerism, fad, fashion, derivative art and related mediocre practices, including fast food, except when it comes to shameless self-promotion.
- Establish and enjoy national and international recognition points via the internet, media, traveling and exchange shows from outside the metro centres.
- Maintain a strict and dictatorial approach to management of facilities, programme, activities, policies, practices, media, membership, operations, budget, profits and profile. Our motto: "If you don't like it, CRAM it!"
- Maintain an exclusive membership.

- Exercise on a regular basis, eat healthy foods, get plenty of sleep, dress warmly and comfortably, oppose all wars, maintain autonomy in thought and action, make art and then die.
- Consume sensibly most of the time and not drink and drive

Description of the "*Waterless Lithograph*" Print Workshop:

A workshop-demonstration of waterless lithography on aluminum.

Technique created and developed in Canada at the beginning of the 90s. CRAM member Alan Flint was one of the two originators of the techniques used today.

Basic materials to be used in the workshop to create the image: laser printer toner, black permanent marker.

Participants will work in small groups to create one or two plates that will be fixed and printed using a fairly fast printing procedure.

The print will be made in one color (black).

Participants will receive one print each (signed by the collective).

Number of participants: no more than 20 per session.

Time: 8:30 pm

Fee: \$20 per participant