



OREGON ARTS
COMMISSION

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Prints by Gregory Grenon Shown in the Governor's Office *On View through August 29, 2008*

An exhibition of prints by Portland artist Gregory Grenon is on display in the office of Governor Ted Kulongoski through August 29, 2008.

Grenon, well known for his paintings on glass, has chosen prints made from 1983 through 2005 for the Governor's office exhibition. The exhibition surveys various printmaking techniques including lithography, monotype and etching. Like his paintings, the prints are vibrantly colored, exuberant and playful portraits of women. With enigmatic titles such as "I will not be disrespectful and talk in class," the prints hint at a secret story behind the characters depicted. Says Grenon: "You will find a muse in every print here. In painting every day, my work is my diary and my discipline...I see it one way and one moment. A viewer will see it differently, that is the muse."

The prints may be seen Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM, at:
Office of the Governor, Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street, 2nd floor, Salem
Information: (503) 378-3111

Grenon grew up in Detroit, Michigan where he studied at the College for Creative Studies and Wayne State University. He worked with Chicago's Landfall Press, a fine publisher and printer of artist editions, before moving to the Pacific Northwest where he has become one of the most recognized artists in the region. His work has been included in exhibitions throughout the west and beyond, including the Seattle Art Museum, Tacoma Art Museum, Bellevue Art Museum, Portland Institute for Contemporary Art (PICA), Portland Art Museum, The Art Gym at Marylhurst and the Schneider Museum of Art in Ashland. Grenon was previously represented by the Jamison/Thomas Gallery and is now represented by the Laura Russo Gallery and William Traver Gallery.

Among other honors, he received an Individual Artist Fellowship from the Oregon Arts Commission in 1984, and a National Endowment for the Arts Visual Arts Fellowship in Painting in 1992. His paintings and prints have been collected by individuals and major institutions including the Hallie Ford Museum of Art at Willamette University; Portland Art Museum; Seattle Art Museum; Tacoma Art Museum; Boise Art Museum; Philbrook Museum, Tulsa, OK; and the New York Public Library.

Through August 2, 2008, Grenon's work is also being exhibited at the Laura Russo Gallery in a joint show entitled "Gregory Grenon- *Unspeakable Hair*, Works on Paper and Mary Josephson- *Full Length Feature*, New Work. " Mary Josephson will follow Gregory Grenon with an exhibition in the Governor's Office from September 1 - October 10, 2008.

The Art in the Governor's Office Program honors selected Oregon artists with exhibitions in the reception area of the Governor's Office in the State Capitol. An exhibit in the Governor's office is considered a lifetime honor. Artists whose work has been shown there include Gordon Gilkey, Sally Haley, Yuji Hiratsuka, Manuel Izquierdo, James Lavadour, Henk Pander, Michele Russo and Margot Thompson.

The Oregon Arts Commission provides leadership, funding and arts programs through its grants, special initiatives and services. Nine commissioners, appointed by the Governor, determine arts needs and establish policies for public support of the arts. The Arts Commission became part of the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department in 1993 in recognition of the expanding role the arts play in the broader social, economic and educational arenas of Oregon communities. In 2003, the Oregon legislature moved the operations of the Oregon Cultural Trust to the Arts Commission, streamlining operations and making use of the Commission's expertise in grantmaking, arts and cultural information and community cultural development.

The Arts Commission is supported with general funds appropriated by the Oregon legislature, federal funds from the National Endowment for the Arts and funds from the Oregon Cultural Trust.