

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Artists prepare to print big.

Witness the creation of giant fine-art prints on May 6 and 7.

BOSTON – Local artists will converge at the Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont Street, and print oversize wood carvings. The public can attend and watch the printing process unfold. BIG INK LLC, a New England-based art education company, is teaming up with the BCA for the first time to make this learning opportunity available.

Artists started carving monumental pieces of plywood in February using hand chisels. BIG INK Director Lyell Castonguay has been guiding them through creating these plates, traditionally defined as woodblocks.

A technician uses a rubber roller to apply ink to the woodblock and lays a sheet of paper on top. A press then applies pressure, transferring the ink from wood to paper. The result is a woodblock print.

Artists will spend hours carving their images, which range in size up to almost four by eight feet. "Seeing woodblocks printed at this scale is awe-inspiring," states BIG INK Founder Lyell Castonguay. "You can feel each artist's anticipation build, and it is a treat to be present during the reveal of a finished print."

BIG INK travels the country, hosting dozens of similar demonstrations in partnership with museums, universities, art centers, and galleries. Their portable printing press, called The Big Tuna, is unique in the ability to print large yet travel readily.

The event will be open from 11 AM to 4 PM on May 6 and 7, where visitors can see up-close printing demonstrations.

The slate will feature Saturday appearances by Deborah Cornell, Juan Lopez, Adrian Tio, Aurora Goodland, Rebecca Potter, Lauren Adelman, Kiara Reagan, Casey Park, and Steph Shapiro.

Sunday's artists are Iwalani Kaluhiokalani, Stephanie Sullivan, Karmimadeebora McMillan, Sara Delaney. Bob Maloney, Chelsea Teta, Isabella Penney, Michelle Stevens, and Liv Stanislas.

Admission is free.

Info: bigink.org/calendar

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