

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Lyell Castonguay

Phone: 207-576-9356

Email: contact@bigink.org

Event: The Big Tuna returns to the Center for Contemporary Printmaking.

Discover local art during BIG INK weekend in Norwalk on September 30 and October 1.

Artists from the local community will gather at the Center for Contemporary Printmaking to use The Big Tuna, a giant mobile printmaking press, to create large-scale relief prints. The event is open for the public to attend and observe the printing process. BIG INK LLC, an art education company based in New England, is collaborating with CCP for the fourth time to organize this demonstration of fine-art printing.

The demonstration will feature local and regional artists' work. Each participant signed up for an online workshop to learn how to carve a woodblock. They have been working from home, receiving guidance from their instructor, BIG INK's founder, Lyell Castonguay. The workshop culminates with an in-person meeting at CCP, where they print their finished carvings together.

Castonguay and his co-founder Carand Burnet will set up a portable print shop inside CCP's studio building. Castonguay and his students will apply special ink to each woodblock, lay paper on top, and run it through The Big Tuna printing press.

"The printing demo at CCP celebrates artistic creation and forges new connections in the community," states Castonguay. He adds, "We encourage the public to attend. It's a chance to see the oldest form of printmaking still in practice today."

Like the fish, The Big Tuna mobile press is large and powerful. It can print a wood carving up to 40 by 96 inches. Most equipment its size weighs several tons, but this model is custom designed for travel. Since 2012, BIG INK has organized workshop demonstrations in partnership with museums, universities, art centers, and galleries nationwide.

Participating artists include Adrian Tio, Fred Bower, Lindsey Knipe, Sandra Borre, Jason Noel, Helen Cantrell, Danielle Richard, Darci Hanna, Magda León, John McCaughey, Kate Butler, Ann Tetelman, Erin Lobb Mason, Sally Frank, Emma Morrow Sarver, Courtney Wittekind, Allan Greenier, Emily Keating, Allison Belolan, and Jane Cooper.

The event is free and open to all ages on September 30 and October 1, 11 AM - 4 PM. For more information, please visit bigink.org.