

Anna and Alexei Jeretic



Etchings and Drawings

for Dale Husemoller

on his 88th birthday

Loomis, Massachusetts



Planet Mouse, soft-ground etching by Alexei Jeretic, 4 x 3 in., 2021



Triangles and Oak Tree Alley: prints by Anna Jeretic, The City: drawing by Alexei Jeretic, 2021

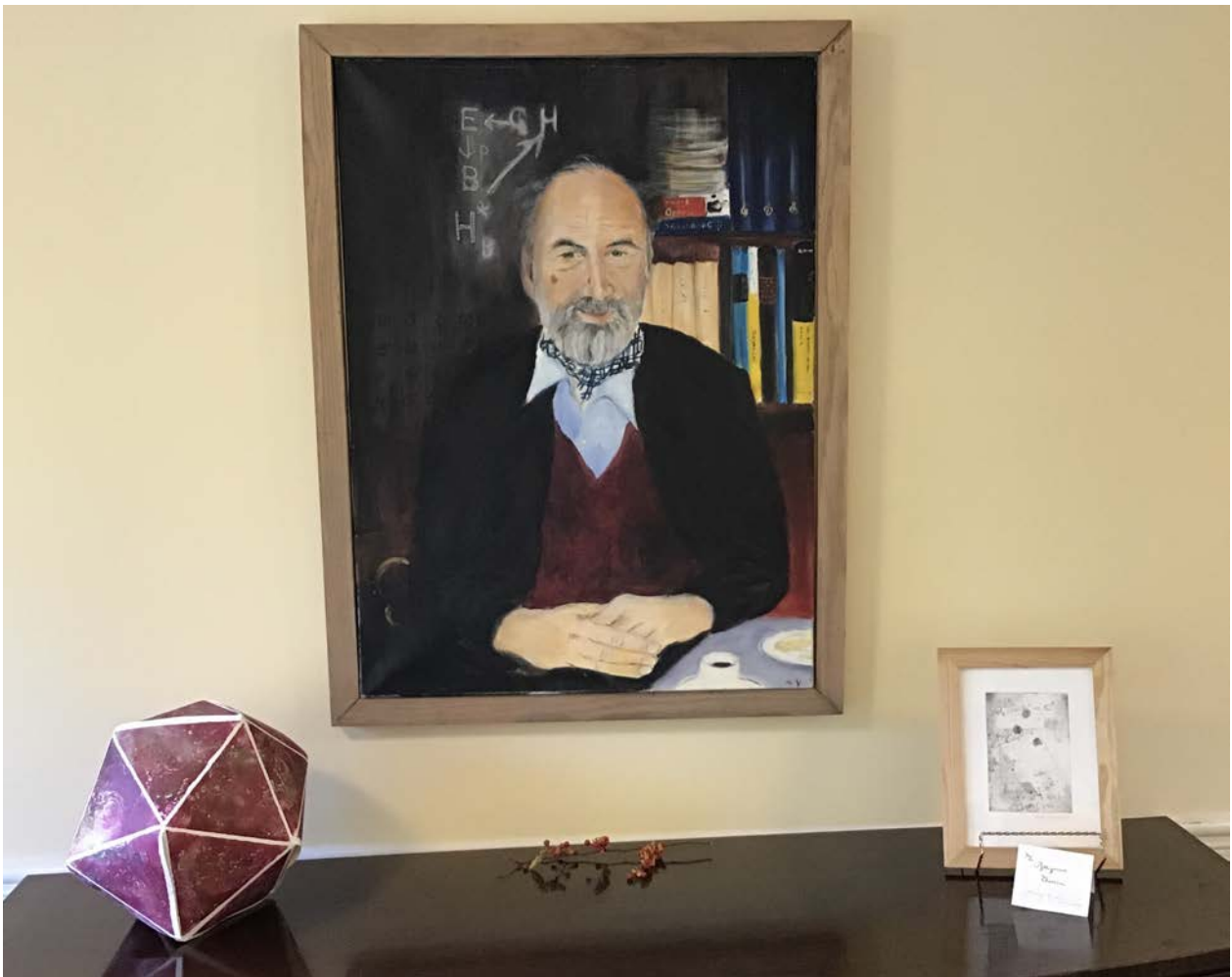
Below: Windows of My Mind, print by Anna Jeretic, Light through the Forest, print by Alexei Jeretic, 2021





Two hallways of exhibition

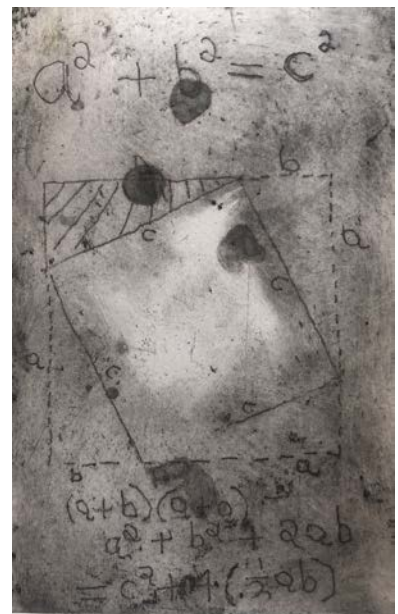




Portrait of Dale Husemoller: oil painting by Anna Jeretic, 1997 with Buckminster Fuller geodesic dome, and etching by Dale Husemoller



Geodesic Planet, drawing by Alexei Jeretic, 8 x 11 in, 2021



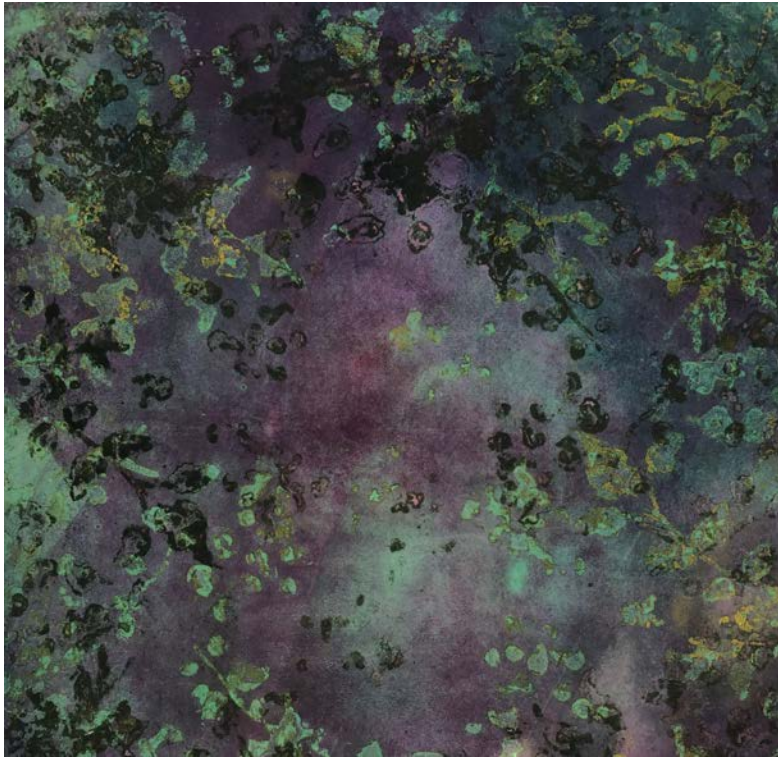
Pythagorean Theorem, etching by Dale Husemoller, 6 x 3.5, 2016



*Zebra Stripes, 12 x 12 in, etching by
Anna Jeretic, 1998*



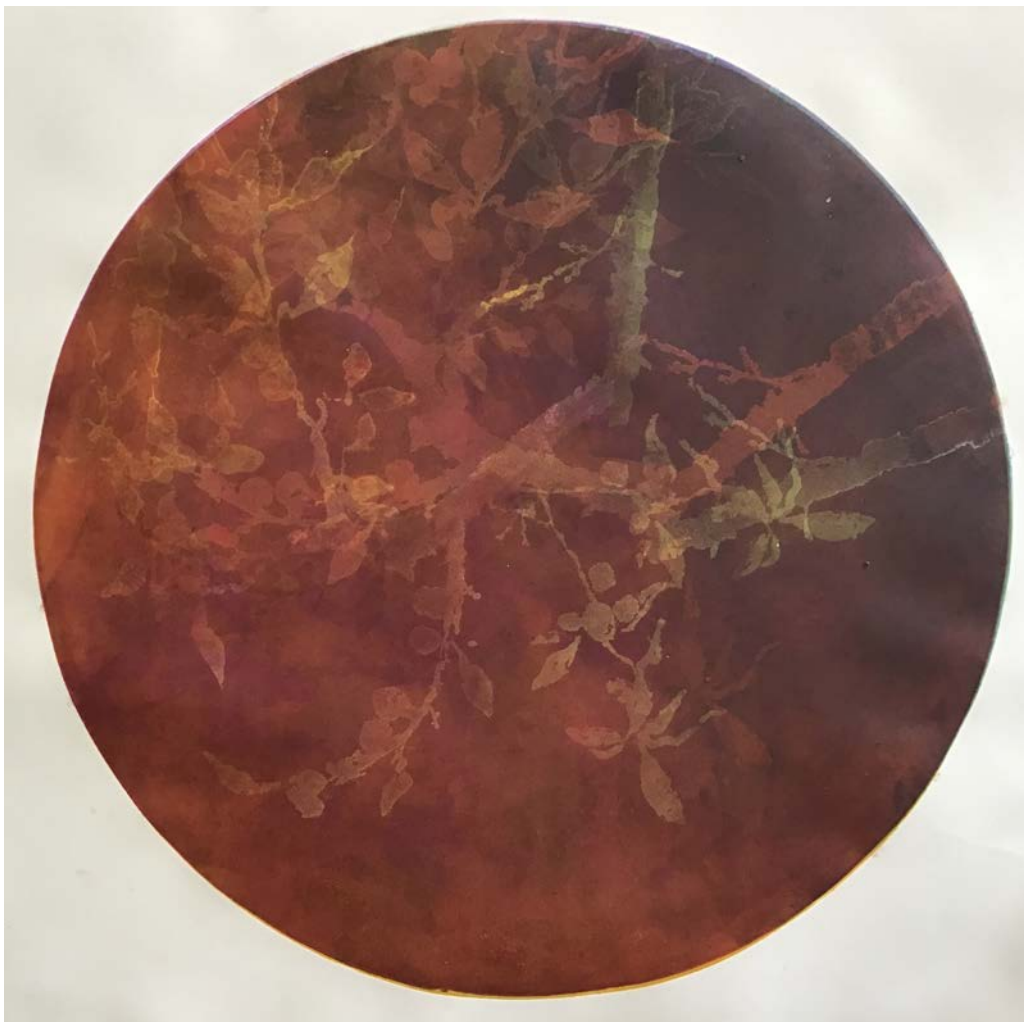
*Planet Swirls, drawing by Alexei Jeretic,
11 x 8 in, 2021*



*Maple Leaves, detail from 14 x 10 in
etching by Anna Jeretic, 2021*



*Fontainebleau Forest Path, etching by Anna
Jeretic, 14 x 10 in, 2020*



Mirabelle Branch, etching by Anna Jeretic, 19 in. diam., 2020



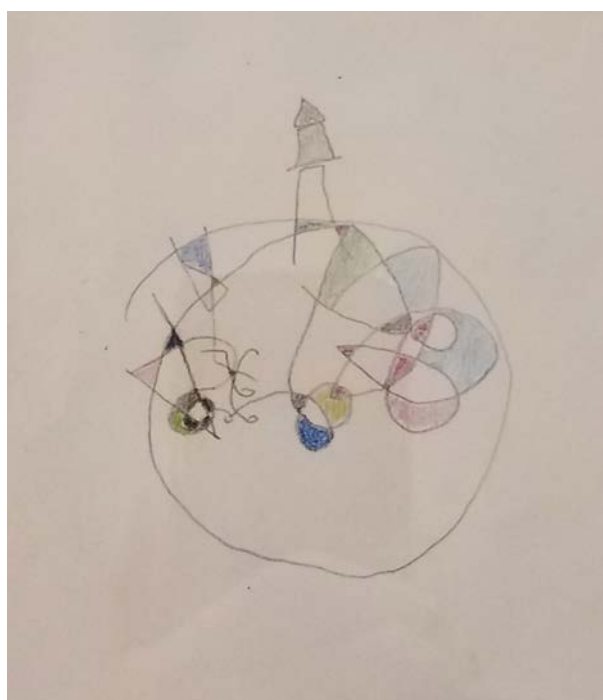
Crabapples at Loomis



Cougar on Mars, colored etching by Alexei, 6 x 4 in, 2021



Leaves against the Sky and Cranes, print by Anna Jeretic, 11 in. diam., 2020



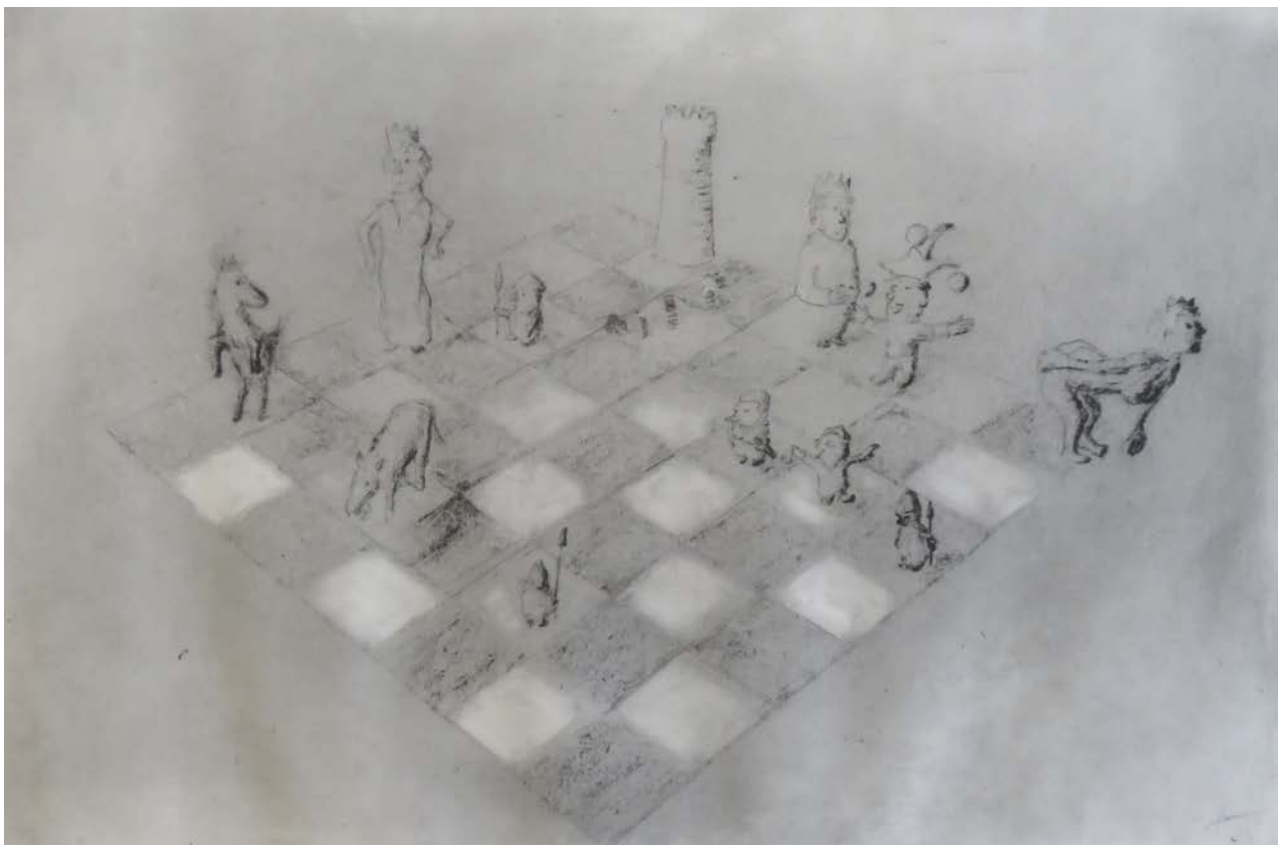
Planet, drawing by Alexei Jeretic, 11 x 8 in., 2021



View of gazebo from Loomis window



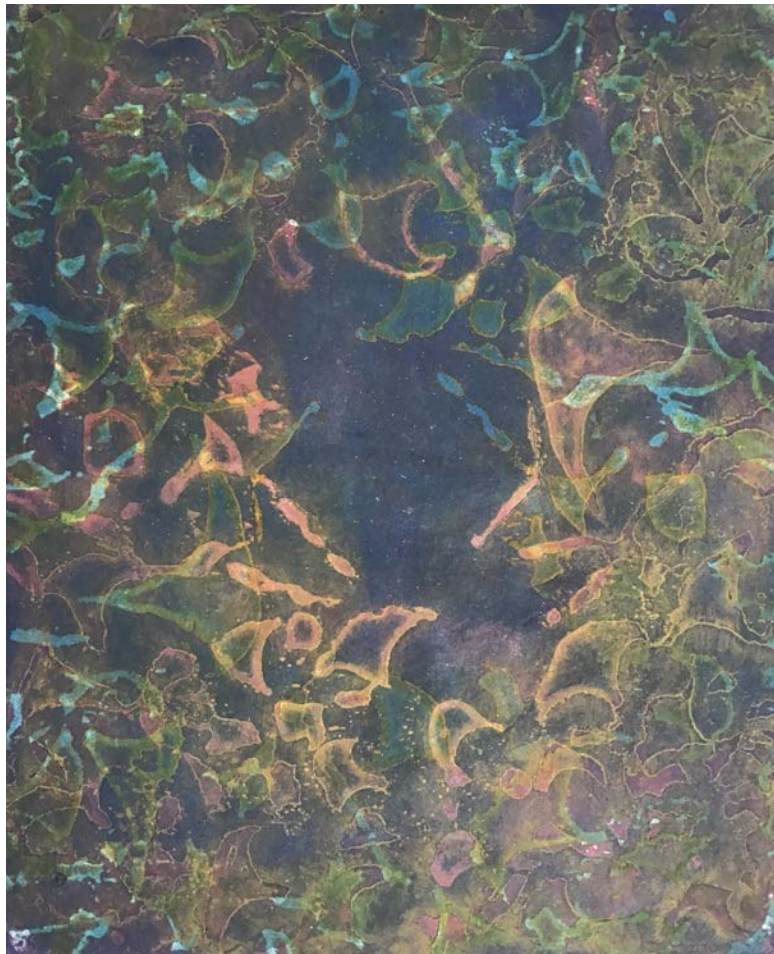
*4 x 4 Chestnut Leaves, print by Anna Jeretic, 20 x 20 in., 2021
and Chess Set, print from drawing by Alexei Jeretic, 8 x 11 in.,
2016*





*Morning Light through Branches out my Window, print by
Anna Jeretic, 12 x 9 in., 2016*

Presentation



Joy, print by Anna Jeretic, 10 x 7 in, 2021

One of the many objectives of this show I can begin with is to celebrate, through art, the spirit of mathematics, and the passion my father has for it. Passion for a certain subject is great to have in life, and my father instilled it in me. I've always hoped to have my children share this, because it represents a path toward well-being, something you can count on to feel good even during the inevitable ups and downs of life.

Mathematics, a science, most often doesn't cross paths with art, but there has been some evolution recently. One of the most important contemporary art museums in Paris, the Cartier Foundation, made a beautiful show for mathematics not so long ago. It may also have to do with the environment crisis. There was a period I went to a many lectures in Paris about that and at almost every lecture by a climatologist, especially the more visionary ones, seemed to conclude with, « we need artists to help solve the problems ». They always seemed to conclude that imagination and vision were keys to find solutions to the greatest dilemmas, something we tend to forget. A taut and alert mind, even a rigid one, be it scientific or artistic, may help the wheels to turn in an efficient way, but only the open mind brings on epiphanies.

The environmental bent in my work as well as Alexei's can be seen for example in the large Buckminster Fuller etching, which is an iconic image from the environmental thinking born in the seventies. Alexei's *Trees and Soldiers*, for which he has several versions, is another one, and has inspired various interpretations.



Transparent Soldiers, soft ground etching by Alexei Jeretic, 12 x 16 in, 2021



Pine branches, etching by Anna Jeretic, 9 x 20 in, 2021

In this group of prints and drawings, I tried to bring out certain themes that played a rôle in the basis of my artwork, such as calligraphy and geometric shapes. When my father wrote on the blackboard, I was sensitive to the neat white writing on the dark grey. In addition, he had the habit of pointing out shapes, such as triangles, dodecahedrons, fiber bundles, such as when spaghetti got clumped together (something the five of us fought over to have), elliptic curves, which were also subjects of his books. This love for the physical and abstract world fuelled my imagination and consequently my art, and some of this, in fact, or even a greater dose of it, was extended to Alexei in a kind of oblique way.

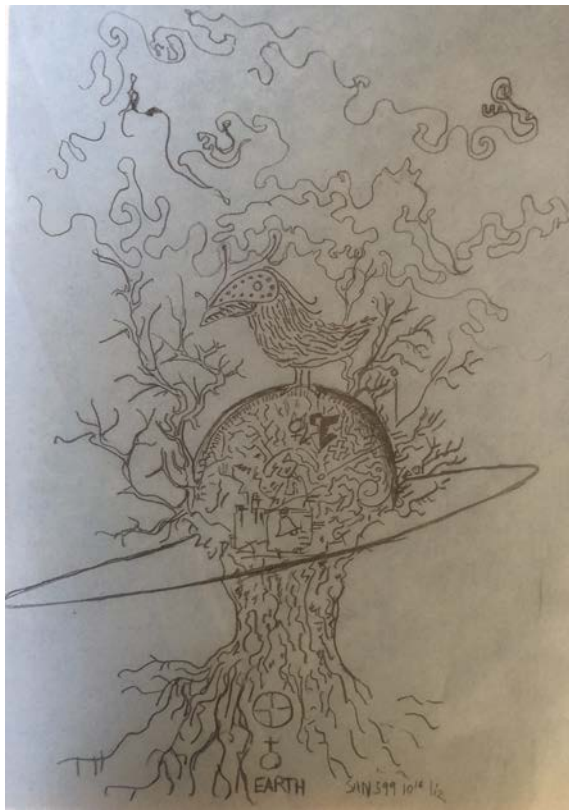
Fiber Bundles, drawing by Alexei Jeretic, 11 x 8 in, 2021



Planet Mouse again this time with white ink on black paper.

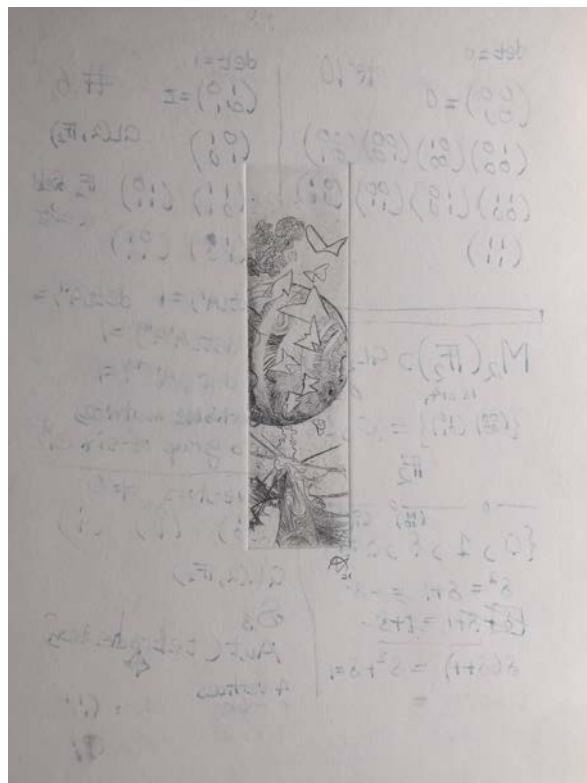
These abstract entities evoke a kind of script. When you look at a mathematician's blackboard, it only stands as an unknown language to most of us. In art, the same type of expression can occur. The artist likes to invent new alphabets, new hieroglyphics. In fact, in a general way, an artist likes to invent a personal language.

Another source of inspiration : my father took the 5 of us a lot to the zoo. This instilled in us a love for animals, which I have explored quite a bit in etching as well as painting. In Alexei's complex images, an animal seems to be always present, most often moving around.



Crow and Earth, drawing for soft-ground etching, 9 x 7 in, 2021

Otherwise in this show you can see a love for cosmic subjects, a fascination for what is beyond our powers, our reach. As if we like to experience a salutary state of humility in front of the greatness of the universe. An artist can truly thrive with this sense of smallness and achieve a dosage of sincerity, all the while feeling very much at one with the elements.



There are a few works here where we brought the imprint of my father's notes onto the paper we printed on. These are prints of prints.



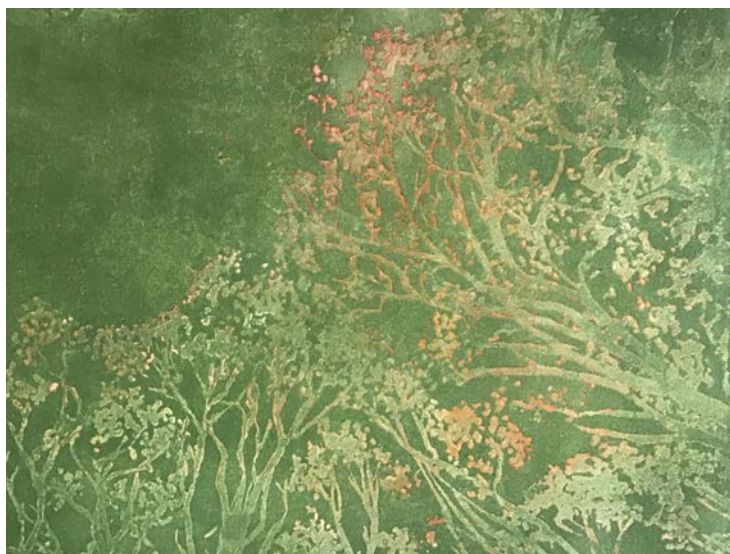
One of my father's most recent projects has been one about 2 x 2 matrixes, which he worked on with Paloma, another granddaughter. There is one 2 x 2 print here to commemorate that. The print shows small plants on the ground, which take on the shape of stars. Here heaven and earth fuse, something an artist can do in an image.



Creation, etching by Anna Jeretic, 13 x 9 in, 2008

I'm particularly interested in the abstract shapes which can be found in leaves against the sky, which sometimes seem to mute into birds, animals and humans as if the shapes follow the 7 days of creation. This can be found in the etchings entitled « Creation », and may constitute the most pervasive theme in my work.

Another childhood memory : my father, when he drove us in his convertible, always encouraged us to look up at the trees against the sky. This theme can be seen in many of my prints and paintings.



Also I'm searching for light in color etching, sometimes through the use of two plates. I'm probably now repeating myself in my work today, yet I keep searching for new possibilities.



The invitation reads « artists from Paris ». This reminds me of the time when I was 4 years old my father said to me « someday I'll take you to Paris » : someday I would be old enough to go. In my mind, I was thinking Paris was a kind of theatre with steps to go up, and the top was lit up in yellow and orange lights, with pink and red curtains. Two years later we did go as a family ; Paris was the center of mathematics at the time. This was in the heart of the 1968 student revolution. And so began my story there.

Anna Jeretic



Thank you very much for participating in our event today.
We have come so numerous and enthusiastic that it gives such hope that we would be friends.
The reason why we have made the show was for my grandfather.
He is a resident here with you.
He is a mathematician, my mother is an artist, and I try to do a bit of both of that, as I accompany my mother in her show.
So I like to talk about how sometimes the contrast between art and math makes it hard to obtain something both beautiful and simple.

I like to bring out contrasts between dream and quadratic. The quadratic is seen in roads and buildings. I Brittany once when I saw this in a badger crossing a road.

To bring that contrast about obtains sometimes dizzying lightning flashes.

They are different charges, as gravity pulls water down the stream.
And my sister, who writes for me today, is like a moon reflected in the pond.
Thank you.

Alexei Jeretic

Etching Workshop



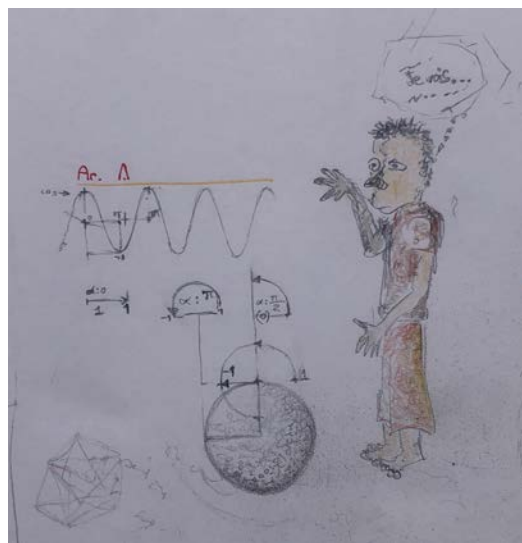


Zach Ruhl, the tireless organizer of the show, in front of our workshop production of prints.

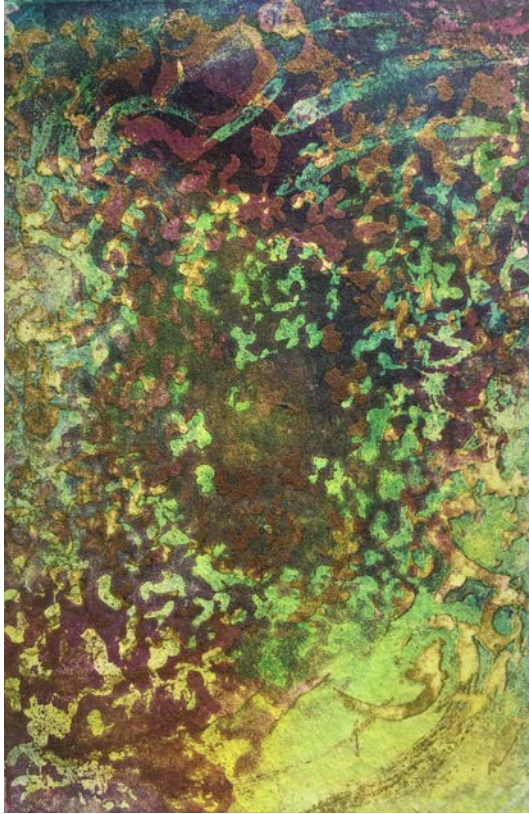




Dale Husemoller with 4 out of 5 of his children, and Alexei



Detail of Drawing by Alexei Jeretic, 4 x 6 in., 2017



Creation, sugar aquatint print by Anna Jeretic, 6 x 4 in., 2021

