

## Carol Strause FitzSimonds

[csfitsimonds.com](http://csfitsimonds.com)

*I find my inspiration in making ordinary places and common objects meaningful. Because of their natural beauty or intrinsic simplicity, images call to me. I try and tell their stories in line and color, in shadow and light. The emergence of the book as "art" form has added yet another direction in concept and presentation for my work. Suddenly touch is linked to look and see. As a form, a book begs to be touched and opened. Each individual print becomes part of a larger, sculptural work. What I love about printmaking and book arts - is absolutely everything!*

A master craftsperson in attention to detail, Carol often blends Old World techniques and materials with 21<sup>st</sup> Century technology to achieve incredible likeness in form, lushness and variety of texture in her prints. She brings this same intensity for exquisite detail to her unique artist books. Her passion and talent for printmaking and book arts has taken her work across the globe.

Carol works from her home studio overlooking the Sakonnet River in Portsmouth, RI. Still married to her college sweetheart, she is the proud mother of one son. Carol has crafted original prints for almost 40 years and unique books for 20. She has exhibited her art at colleges, museums, and galleries across the United States and overseas in Ireland, Australia, England, Italy, China and Czechoslovakia. She shares her passion for printmaking with other artists through teaching at the Providence Art Club and participating in collaboration projects such as the Printmakers Network of Southern New England's *Travel*, a hand-bound 3-book collection of poetry and original prints and *Hot Type*, the 4<sup>th</sup> original print portfolio project she has coordinated for the Providence Art Club.

Her art has received numerous awards in juried competitions across the country. Carol considers receiving the Providence Art Club Medal and her silhouette added there on the wall as her most meaningful achievement to date. Collections containing her prints include: the Smithsonian National Museum of American History; United States Library of Congress; Art Museum of Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts, China; National Museum of Women in the Arts; Newport Art Museum; Jane Voorhees Zimmerli Art Museum; New Britain Museum of American Art; Fairfield University; Villanova University; Syracuse University; American University; Wheaton College and others.

A former partner in the Torpedo Factory Printmakers Inc. studio/gallery in Alexandria, Virginia, Carol has earned the rank of "artist, fellow, or elected" member in such national organizations as: the Copley Society of Art, American Color Print Society, Catharine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club, National Association of Women Artists, Society of American Graphic Artists, Boston Printmakers, Audubon Artists Inc., and American Artists Professional League.