

OBSERVER-DISPATCH

PrattMWP professor has work purchased by Metropolitan Museum of Art

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Posted Nov 7, 2018 at 12:01 AM

Updated Nov 7, 2018 at 9:25 AM

UTICA — Professor Serena Perrone’s artwork at PrattMWP College of Art and Design has been purchased by the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Perrone — assistant professor of printmaking and drawing at PrattMWP — created “A Volcano Pilgrim in Exchange for Fire,” which was acquired by The Metropolitan. The piece is a series of prints that match up to form a continuous line. The entire piece expands 25 feet and displays landscapes of volcanoes.

Inspired by the poetry of Craig Arnold, Perrone began studying the images of volcanoes to be used in her art.

“These images of active volcanoes located in Italy, Peru, Colombia, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Mexico and Japan are paired with fragments of text culled from the travel blog of the late poet Craig Arnold in the days leading up to his death in April of 2009 in Japan, while hiking volcanoes and conducting research for his next book of poetry which was to have been titled ‘An Exchange for Fire,’” she said.

“Moving geographically from Italy to Japan as they move chronologically through time from his first blog post to his last, the 20 prints in this series chronicle the 20 days on which he wrote during his Japan expedition,” Perrone said.

The series of prints will enter the permanent collection at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, where Perrone hopes it “will be enjoyed by generations to come, and the words of the late poet Craig Arnold will continue to reach new audiences.”

Perrone is a graduate from the Rhode Island School of Design and Southern Illinois University Carbondale. She began teaching at PrattMWP College of Art and Design in 2016 and currently works as a visiting critic at the Rhode Island School of Design. Her art has been exhibited at the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis, Cleveland Museum of Art, Philadelphia Museum of Art and the International Print Center New York.

Perrone also has work in permanent collections at the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York Public Library, Yale University Art Gallery, Cleveland Museum of Art, Detroit Institute of Arts, Smith College Museum of Art, RISD Museum, Philadelphia Museum of Art and Library of Congress.

When she is not teaching, Perrone lives in Italy where she is the founder and director of Officina Stamperia del Notaio, an international artists' residency program and printmaking studio.

For more information about Perrone and her artwork, visit serenaperrone.com and cadetompkins.com.