

Lynn Chadwick

The Complete Prints

2025



Printmaking is among the most ancient of human creative expressions. Alongside the celebrated painted images of Palaeolithic cave art, we find numerous handprints; some created by painting the palm and fingers with liquid ochre and stamping them onto cavern walls, others formed by blowing pigment over the hand to leave a negative impression, encircled by a soft ochre halo.

This instinct to press, stamp, and transfer images has endured through millennia, and today remains a fundamental part of artistic education. From the simple potato prints of primary school to the more sophisticated techniques of lino and mono printing taught in secondary schools, the tradition continues to evolve.

Early Experiments

Lynn Chadwick's earliest known prints reflect this same spirit of playful experimentation. His first works were lino-cut Christmas cards (made for friends and family) depicting sculptures he had created that same year or imagined geometric constructions. Often embellished with hand-painted colour or line, each card was unique. Chadwick's informal approach allowed him to enjoy the process freely, experimenting with coloured inks, textured backgrounds, and personalised variations.

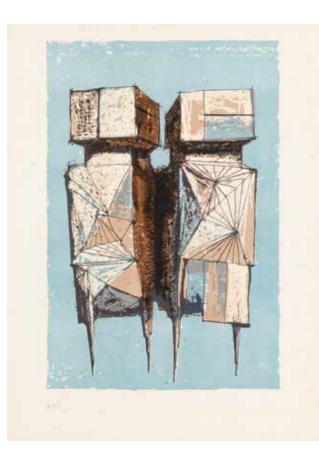
His first formally editioned print came in 1952; a two-colour lithograph depicting seven black-and-white figures on a red ground. Chadwick carefully scraped back areas of red on the lithographic stone to lighten the surrounding tone, drawing the viewer's eye toward the diamond-shaped spaces between the figures. This early work revealed his fascination with abstract, triangular-based forms.

Methods and Materials

Chadwick's drawings frequently incorporated printed elements. His enduring interest in triangles, diamonds, and squares - shapes that relate directly to one another - led him to experiment with wooden and glass shapes dipped in ink and pressed to paper. He delighted in the unpredictable textures created within these strict geometric boundaries, adding ruler-printed lines to suggest larger forms or radiating fans reminiscent of the structural rods in his sculpture.

He also employed wax and oil-based resist techniques to create richly textured surfaces, producing marbled and camouflage-like effects that echoed the plastered infills of his sculptures, textures that lent his works their timeless, almost archaeological presence.

Colour was central to Chadwick's printmaking practice. His hand-coloured variants of, Two Figures - Watchers 1960 demonstrate how he continued to experiment even after completing the lithograph - reversing images, altering colour placements, and exploring tonal and textural variations.

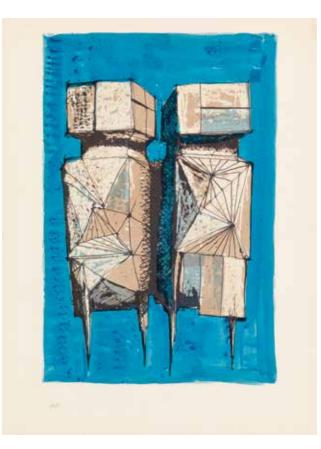


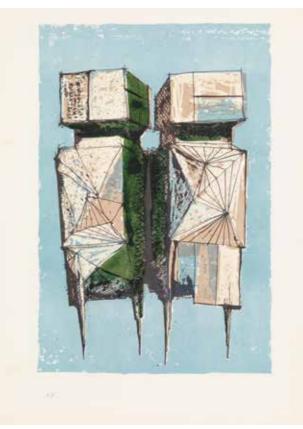
















previous page
Two Figures (Watchers) 1960
Hand-coloured over lithographic print
48.5 x 37.5 cm

Photography and the Moon

Photography, another of Chadwick's passions, also inspired his prints. His series *The Moon in Alabama* drew upon the early daguerreotype of the moon, whose shadowed crescents and cratered surfaces informed his compositions. The title itself was inspired by Alabama's role in the development of NASA's Saturn rockets during the 1950s. Chadwick even purchased a Hasselblad camera, like those used in space photography. The prints' mottled surfaces, spots, and fingerprints recall both the imperfections of early photograph and the material intimacy of printmaking itself.

His later Moon Series (1965–66) explored a more abstracted vision, incorporating the rounded corners of early photographs, crescent shapes, and deep shadows to form eye-like compositions; motifs that echoed contemporaneous sculptures such as *Star* and *Monitor*.

Shape and Structure

Chadwick himself noted that as a child, he would arrange triangular and square "Lotts" bricks into lines and shapes on the floor of his bedroom; an early impulse that became a fundamental influence on his sculpture, drawing, and printmaking. This connection is most clearly seen in the *Trig* series (I–IV), where he composed figures entirely from

triangular wooden blocks, using simple mono-printing methods that he later translated into sophisticated lithographs.

Even Beast (1950) began as a triangle drawn with the inked edge of a ruler and embellished with vigorous calligraphic marks; so successful in its simplicity that Chadwick reissued it as an etching in 2003.

Revisiting and Refining

Throughout his career, Chadwick frequently revisited earlier themes, exploring and refining them across media. Drawing and printmaking provided him with an intimate, immediate way to continue his visual thought process, distilling sculptural ideas to their purest forms.

Chadwick's prints present a remarkable entry point into his world. They encapsulate all of his great themes; Teddy Boy and Girl, Beasts, Conjunctions, Watchers, Pyramids, Electras and more, and being pre-digital, offer a direct window into his creative process. Free from the physical constraints of sculpture, these works retain a striking freshness and clarity, expressing the same vision that established Chadwick as a defining figure of postwar British art.

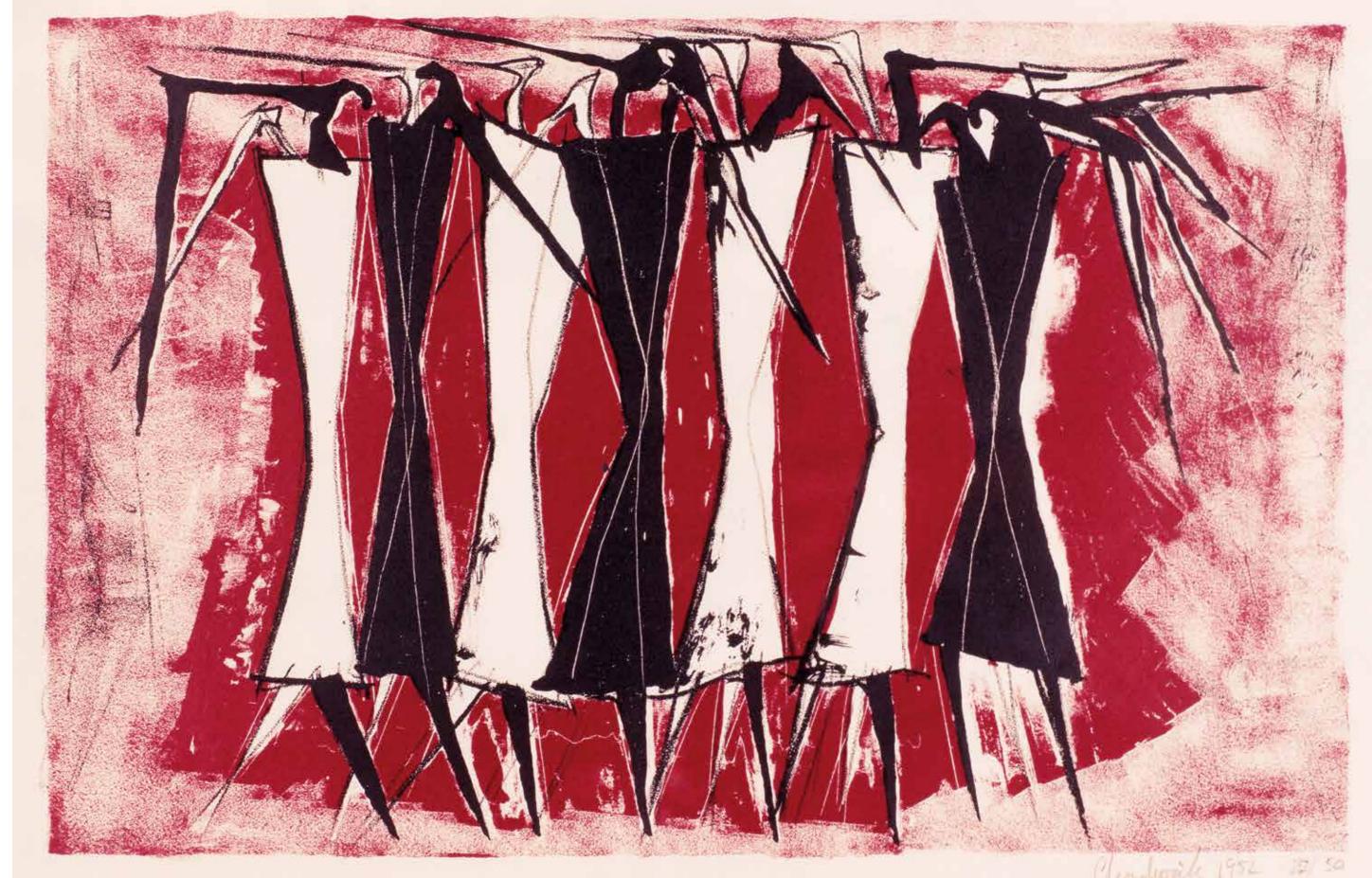
Rungwe Kingdon



studio photographs
Lynn Chadwick in his
Lypiatt Studio
circa 1966
Photography by
Peter Croydon

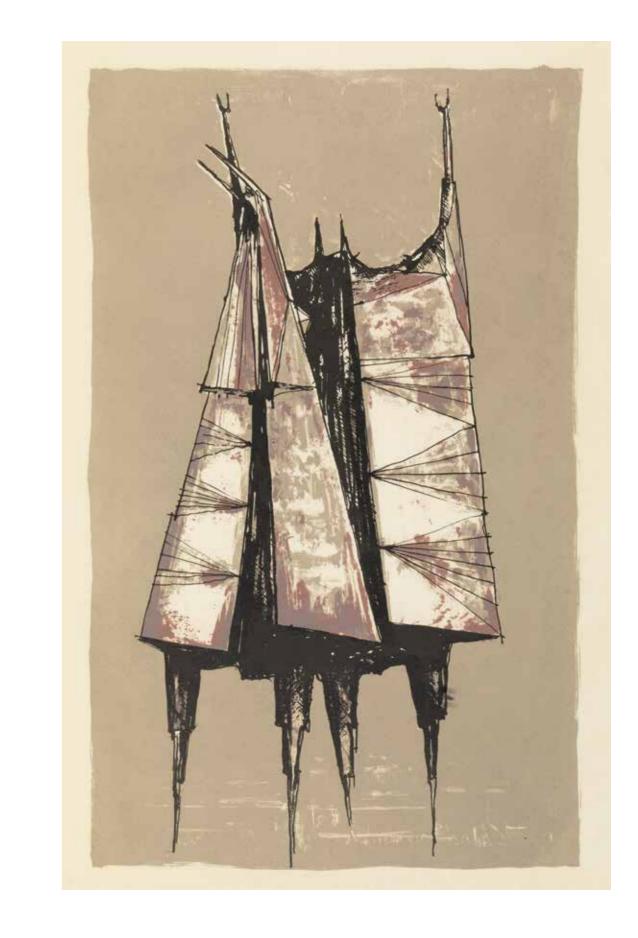






Figures 1952 Lithograph Edition of 50 25.1 x 39.1 cm





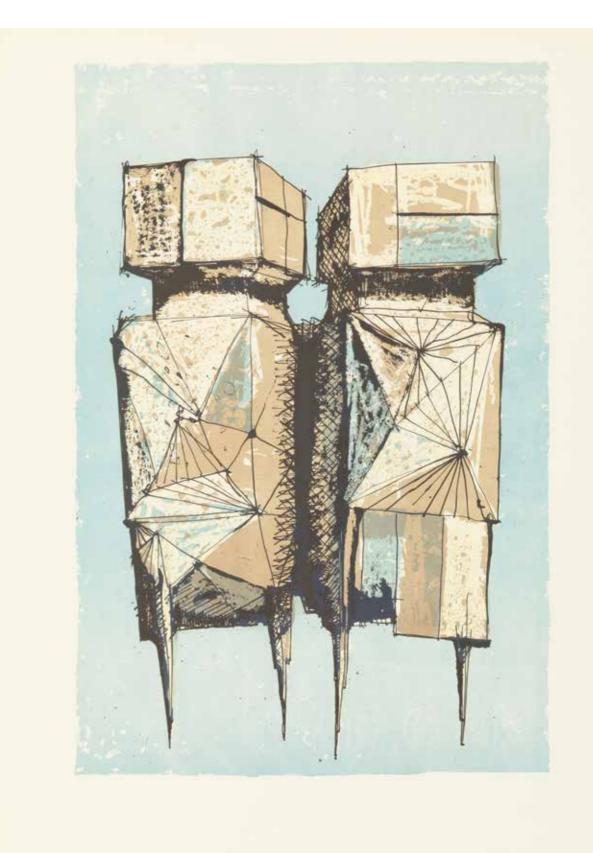




Second Maquette for Teddy Boy and Girl 1956 Bronze Edition of 6 39 x 12 x 10 cm







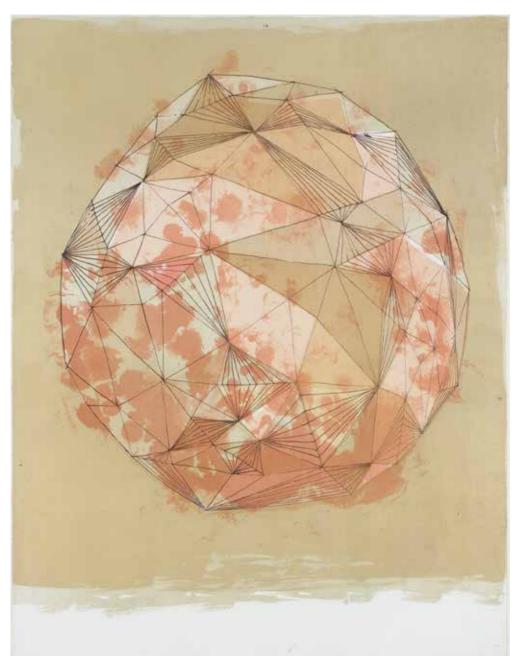




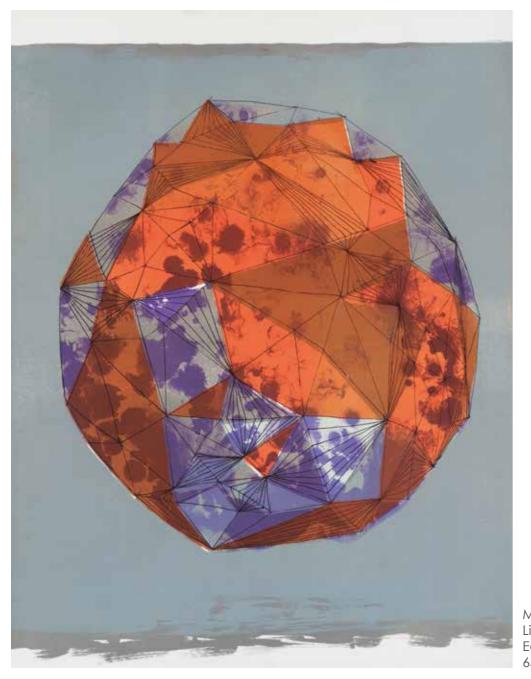




Moon in Alabama (1) 1963 Lithograph Edition of 65 65.7 x 50.8 cm



Moon in Alabama (2) 1963 Lithograph Edition of 65 65.7 x 50.8 cm

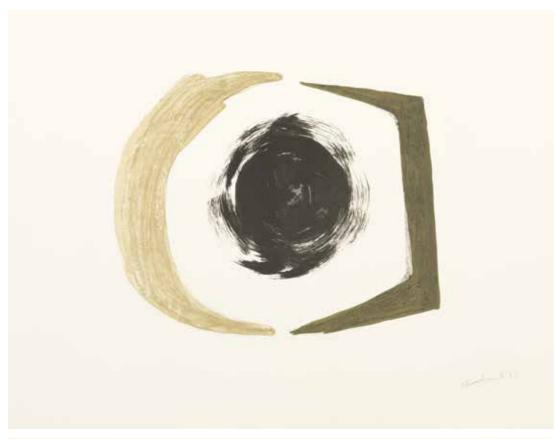


Moon in Alabama (3) 1963 Lithograph Edition of 65 65.7 x 50.8 cm



Red and Black Composition II 1963 Lithograph Edition of 30 63.2 x 50 cm









top left Moon Series A 1965-6 Lithograph Edition of 75 50.4 x 65.4 cm

bottom left Moon Series B 1965-6 Lithograph Edition of 75 50.4 x 65.4 cm

above Moon Series C 1965-6 Lithograph Edition of 75 50.4 x 65.4 cm







top left Moon Series D 1965-6 Lithograph Edition of 75 50.4 x 65.4 cm

bottom left Moon Series E 1965-6 Lithograph Edition of 75 50.4 x 65.4 cm

above Moon Series F 1965-6 Lithograph Edition of 75 50.4 x 65.4 cm

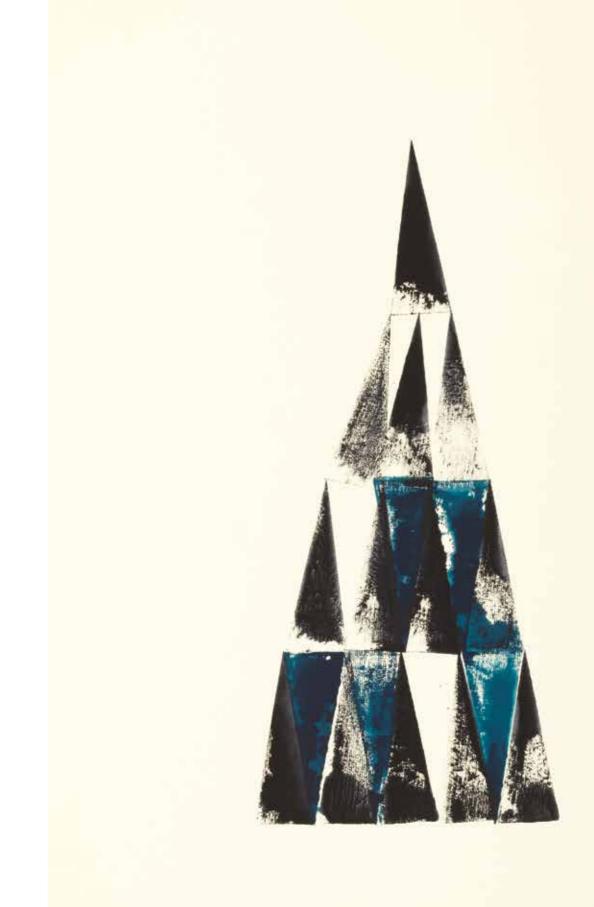




Figure I (Trig) Trial Proof 1966 Lithograph Edition of 50 81.9 x 59.4 cm



Figure | Trig 1966 Lithograph Edition of 50 81.6 x 59.7 cm



Figure II Trig 1966 Lithograph Edition of 50 81.6 x 59.7 cm

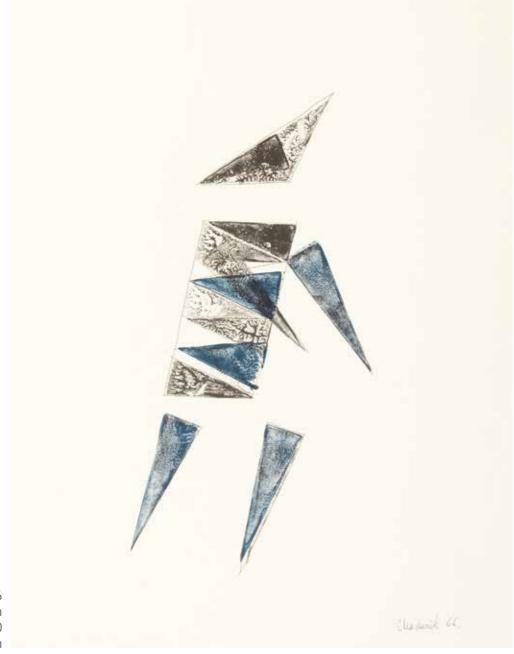


Figure III Trig 1966 Lithograph Edition of 50 81.6 x 59.7 cm





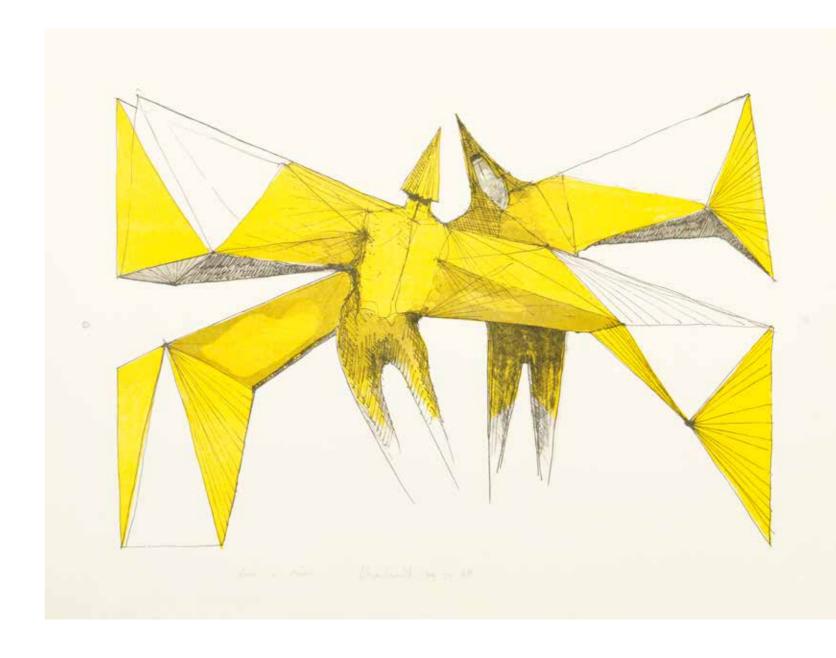
Two Watchers V Third Version 1967

Bronze

Edition of 4

176 x 122 x 40 cm









Seated Figure Sitting (Elektra) 1969 Lithograph Edition of 210 59.4 x 81.9 cm















Homage to Picasso 1971 Lithograph Edition of 80 76 x 56 cm



Homage To Picasso 1971 (Without Yellow) Lithograph Edition of 90 76 x 56 cm





Fur Coat 1971 Lithograph Edition of 200 76 x 56 cm

λ/m

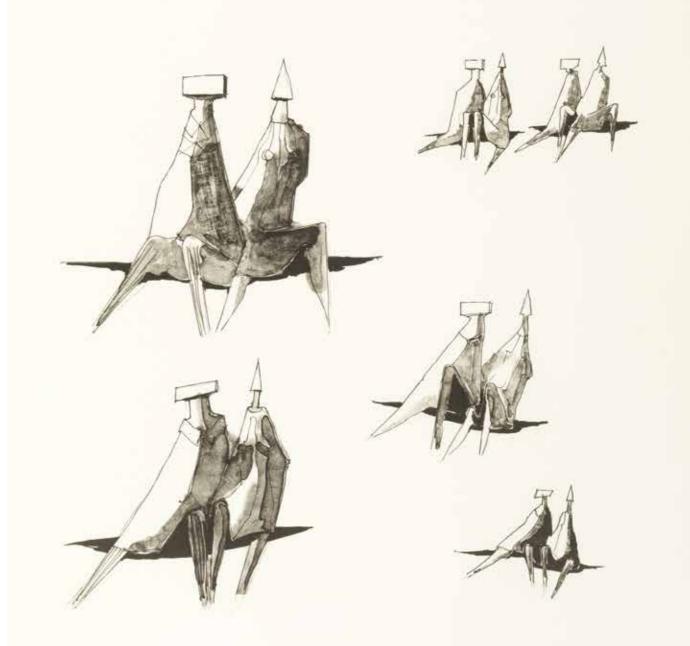
Markent 1



Two Sitting Figures I 1971 Lithograph Edition of 150 76 x 56 cm



Two Sitting Figures II 1971 Lithograph Edition of 150 76 x 56 cm



Two Sitting Figures III 1971 Lithograph Edition of 100 76 x 56 cm



Maquette II Two Sitting Figures 1971 Bronze Edition of 6 37 x 30 x 28 cm



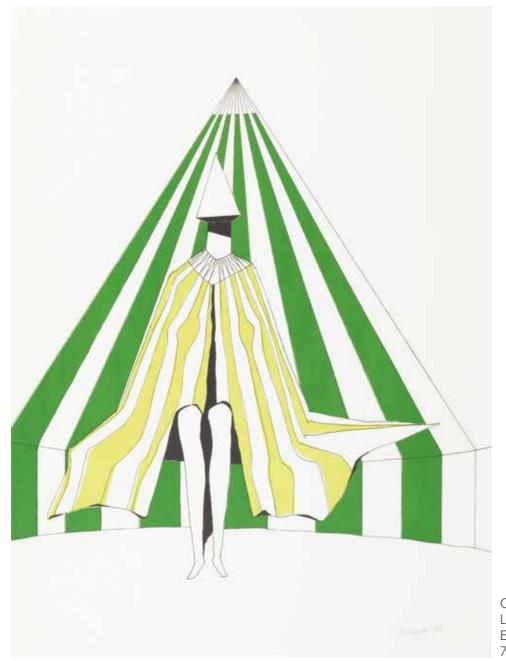
Sitting Couple, Fünf Bildhauer Für Halldór Laxness 1971 Lithograph Edition of 100 56.5 x 45 cm

Church 72





Winged Figures 1971 Bronze Edition of 6 38 x 29 x 19 cm

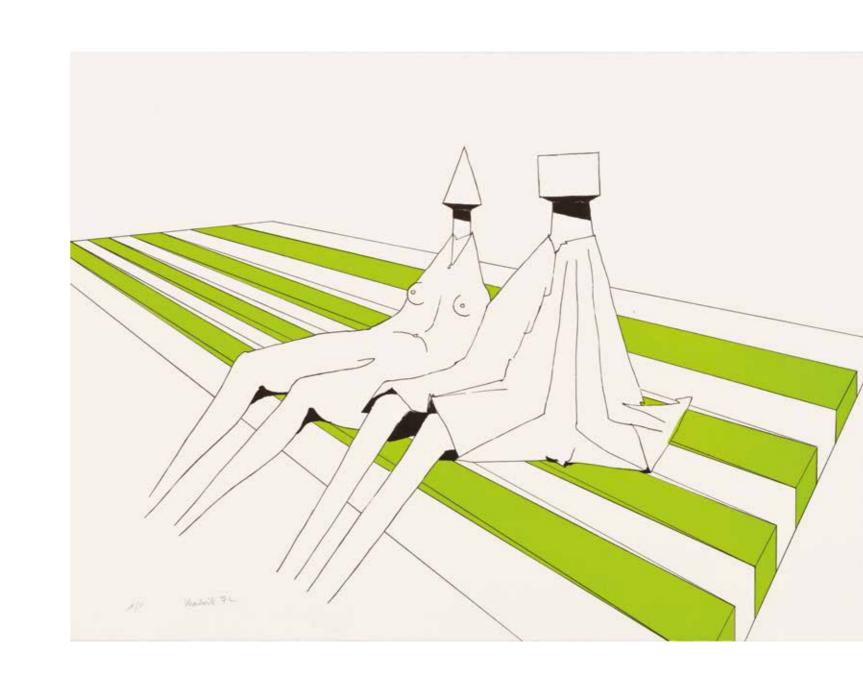


Grand Central I 1972 Lithograph Edition of 99 76 x 56 cm



Grand Central II 1972 Lithograph Edition of 100 90 x 63 cm















Madrick

Portfolio of Four Lithographs: Frontisoizio: Two Sitting Figures 1973 Lithograph Edition of 99 70 x 50 cm



























top left
Teddy Boy and Girl 1971
Lithograph
Edition size unknown
54.5 x 67.5 cm

bottom left Teddy Boy and Girl 1971 Lithograph Edition size unknown 54 x 67 cm

top right
Boy and Girl 1971
Lithograph
Edition size unknown
54 x 67.5 cm

bottom right
Boy and Girl 1971
Lithograph
Edition size unknown
54 x 47.5 cm

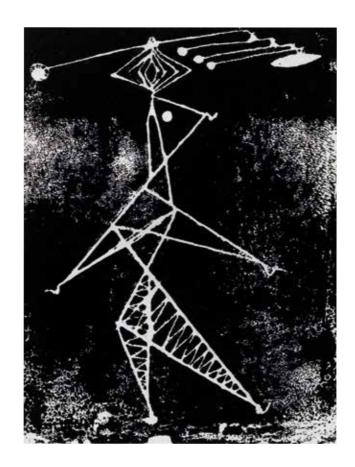




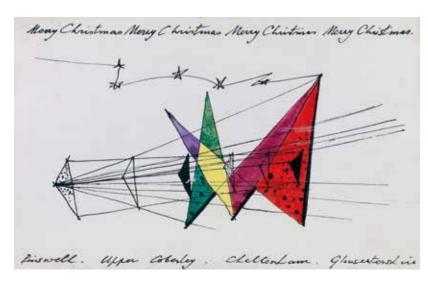


Sitting Couple Date unknown Edition size unknown 56.5 x 75 cm









top left Linocut circa 1955 Edition size unknown Size unknown top right
Greeting Card (Geometric Shapes)
circa 1950
Linocut
Edition size unknown
Size unknown

above
Greeting Card (Christmas)
circa 1952 -55
Commerial print, hand coloured
Edition size unknown
Size unknown

above Fish circa 1950-51 Off-Set Litho, Monoprint and Gouache Unique 16.5 x 28 cm Fish motif from Christmas Card design Catalogue Design: Gallery Pangolin Printing: ESP Colour Photography: Steve Russell Studios

Sculpture measurements are height x width x depth Works on paper measurements unframed are height x width



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