

# Rockin' and Rollin'

## MIDTOWN STYLE...

What do you get when you combine a 36" X 60" piece of ¾" MDF, relief ink, the feet of beautiful dancers AND a steamroller? San Antonio knows the answer, so does Austin and San Francisco, even Missoula, Montana. You will, too, on Saturday, June 11 when steamroller printing happens in Midtown.

The popular nationwide art form has lacked a presence in Houston until Houston's newest arts organiza-

tion, PrintMatters, came to the rescue. PrintMatters and Art Supply on Main in Midtown have created Rockin' Rollin' Prints, a day long festival, where artists from around the state bring their oversized woodcuts carved to this year's theme "the seven deadly sins," all to be printed under the 47" drum of a steamroller. An optional "printing press" will be the moving feet of beautiful dancers. Former Houston Ballet's Sandra Organ Solis will bring her dance company, Earthen Vessels: SODC, to assist in what promises to be an annual event. Food and festivities will be part of the day along with artists from Drive-By Press who will be printing t-shirts and posters from the back of their station wagon.

Free online registration for artists is available through June 1, 2011.

Here's how the day will (should!) unfold: (1) Artists register with their carved 3' X 5' MDF board, then proceed to a designated inking area. (2) A special relief ink (with modifiers) is applied with paint rollers, with special care given to cover corner to corner. (3) The board

is then placed onto an approved, designated, traffic-free Midtown street (4) Next, a "Clean Hand Brigade" lays the oversized piece of paper down on the unusual "letterpress bed." A padding is then placed on top of the paper. (4) The grand finale! The steamroller rolls across the paper and voila! the paper is peeled back and a magnificent print is revealed!

A special thanks to Midtown Management District, Community Artists' Collective as well as Gamblin and

Canson for donating ink and paper.

PrintMatters sponsors PrintHouston, a month-long celebration of traditional

and non-traditional print-making during the month of June. Exhibitions include works at Art League of Houston, Houston Museum of African-American Culture, Museum of Printing History, Hooks-Epstein Gallery and

other participating galleries including Midtown's Philomena Gabriel Contemporary. The Community Artists' Collective will showcase children's prints created at the Midtown Arts Center. Prominent speakers including artists, gallery owners and professors from across the state are also scheduled.

PrintMatters meets the first Sunday of every month at Art Supply on Main located in Midtown, 2711 Main. Individuals can join as an associate member, but an artist member must be juried into the group. Artist membership - \$35, associates and collectors - \$25. ☒

### For more information:

[www.artsupplyonmain](http://www.artsupplyonmain) and  
[www.printmattershouston.org](http://www.printmattershouston.org)

