

# Side BY Side

Maloney and Katz have given us the perfect remedy for our hectic and troubling times. Here we see images of flowers, food, friends, interiors, and landscapes. Maloney uses color with freshness and exuberance in which the dance between control and freedom gives an undeniable aliveness. Katz' poetry, with brevity and a conversational tone, illuminates the prints in unpredictable ways.

The two collaborators give us the sensuality of life—the perfume of sweet peas, the palpable stillness of an empty room, the savory taste of a hamburger, the whir of lawn sprinklers, and the anticipation of freshly baked pie. They remind us to slow down and pay attention—that the simple moments count.

Peggy Murphy  
Visual Artist

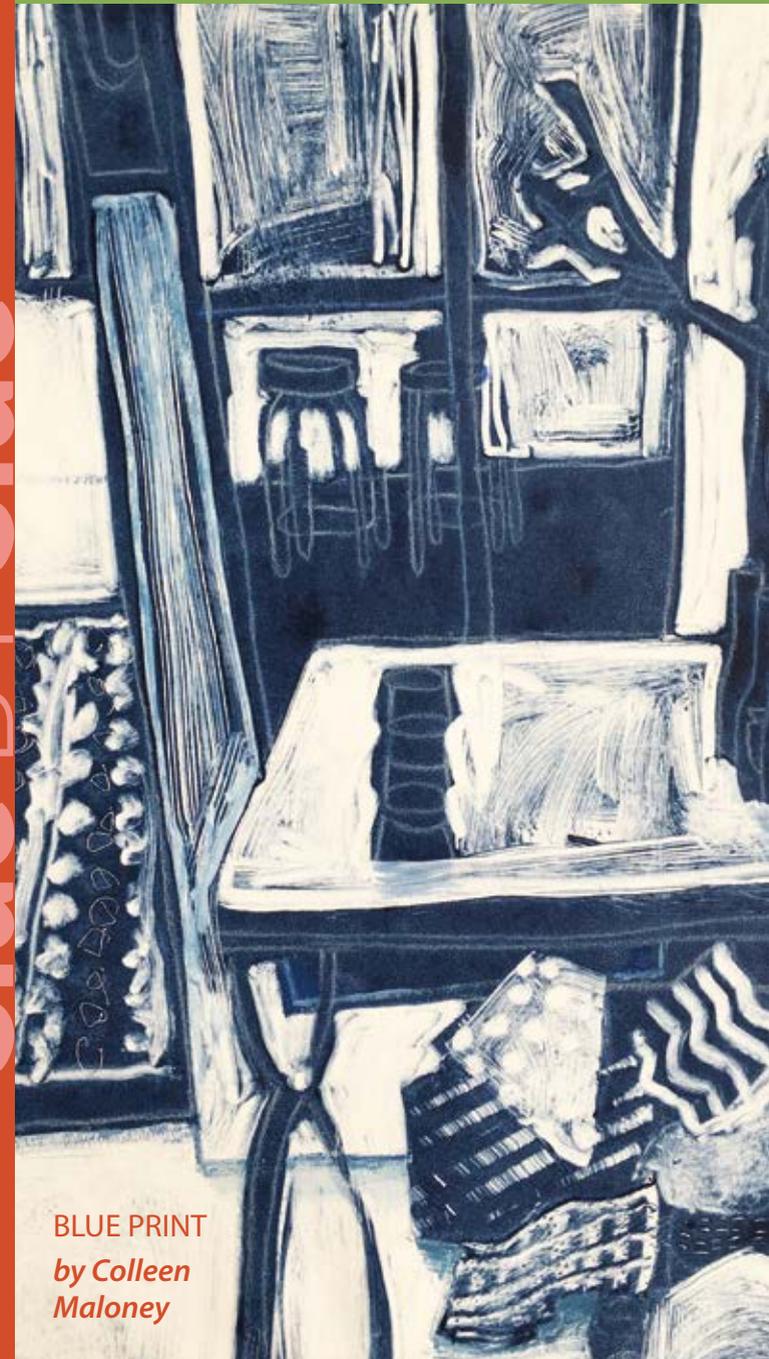
## BLUE PRINT

*by Linda Katz*

If we lost all our reds,  
our yellows and greens,  
we'd still have these blues,  
an inkwell's insides,  
a dream world of color  
all squiggles and stripes,  
an indigo mystery,  
a blue denim room.

# Side BY Side

BLUE PRINT  
*by Colleen  
Maloney*



# Foreword

## Side BY Side

### *Visual Verse—Poetic Prints*

As I write this foreword I am thinking about our art exhibit of prints and poems at Shift Gallery in Seattle, Washington, 2019. The plans for this show, *Finding Comfort*, took a fortuitous turn when Linda Katz, a poet and friend, offered to write verse in response to my art. The magic of collaboration ensued. My artistic goal was always to look for subjects that made me happy and could make the viewer smile. I made monoprints which were colorful and energetic, but had ambiguity and ample room for interpretation. As I was completing my printmaking activities, I'd share photos with Linda so she could start writing. And then the magic happened! When I first opened her emails and read the poems she had written, I was thrilled. Her verses pleased the senses, creating scenarios that could be felt, smelled, heard and tasted. You'll notice that sometimes the titles don't match, evidence that interpreting art is up to each one of us. Because this collaboration "spoke" to people, and enhanced the gallery experience, we had a steady stream of visitors who stayed longer, and talked more. Oh, we saw lots of smiles, too.

"Side BY Side" brings the gallery experience to you. May it put a smile on your face and thoughts of how you'd make art of the poems or write poems about the art.

— Colleen Maloney  
Printmaker

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Book design by Colleen Maloney

Also by Linda Katz

*Sing Me Awake: A Memoir Of Friendship*

*Rise Up! Life and Literacy In An Urban First Grade*

ISBN: 978-0-578-67747-7

## **YELLOW**

*Linda Katz*

"Come see our show!"  
shout the yellow flowers,  
(always such extroverts)  
claiming their stage,  
drawing all eyes.  
When I win the Pulitzer,  
send me flowers,  
make them yellow!  
Big, flashy lemony heads,  
(you can't help but smile);  
messy supporting cast  
all dangling orange tendrils,  
spiky green fronds,  
a chorus that can't sing alone,  
posed to prop the talent  
downstage center,  
divas of sunlight.



## **Yellow Flowers**

*Colleen Maloney*  
Monoprint  
13 1/2 x 9 1/2 in.

**FRIENDS**

*Linda Katz*

Sometimes a sweet harmony  
swells all at once.  
Everyone's handsome,  
no one is sad,  
everyone lets you be who you are.  
Gladness floats in  
like an afternoon sunbreak.  
We all want to be here, together at last,  
to take a seat at his table, smiles all around,  
voices mingling, braiding, as old buddies do.  
"Your kitchen smells luscious!"  
"We have all day if we want."  
Pass the warm bread, the salad, the grapes  
and guess what?  
He says there will even be pie.



**Friends**

*Colleen Maloney*  
Monotype  
25 x 16 1/2 in., each panel

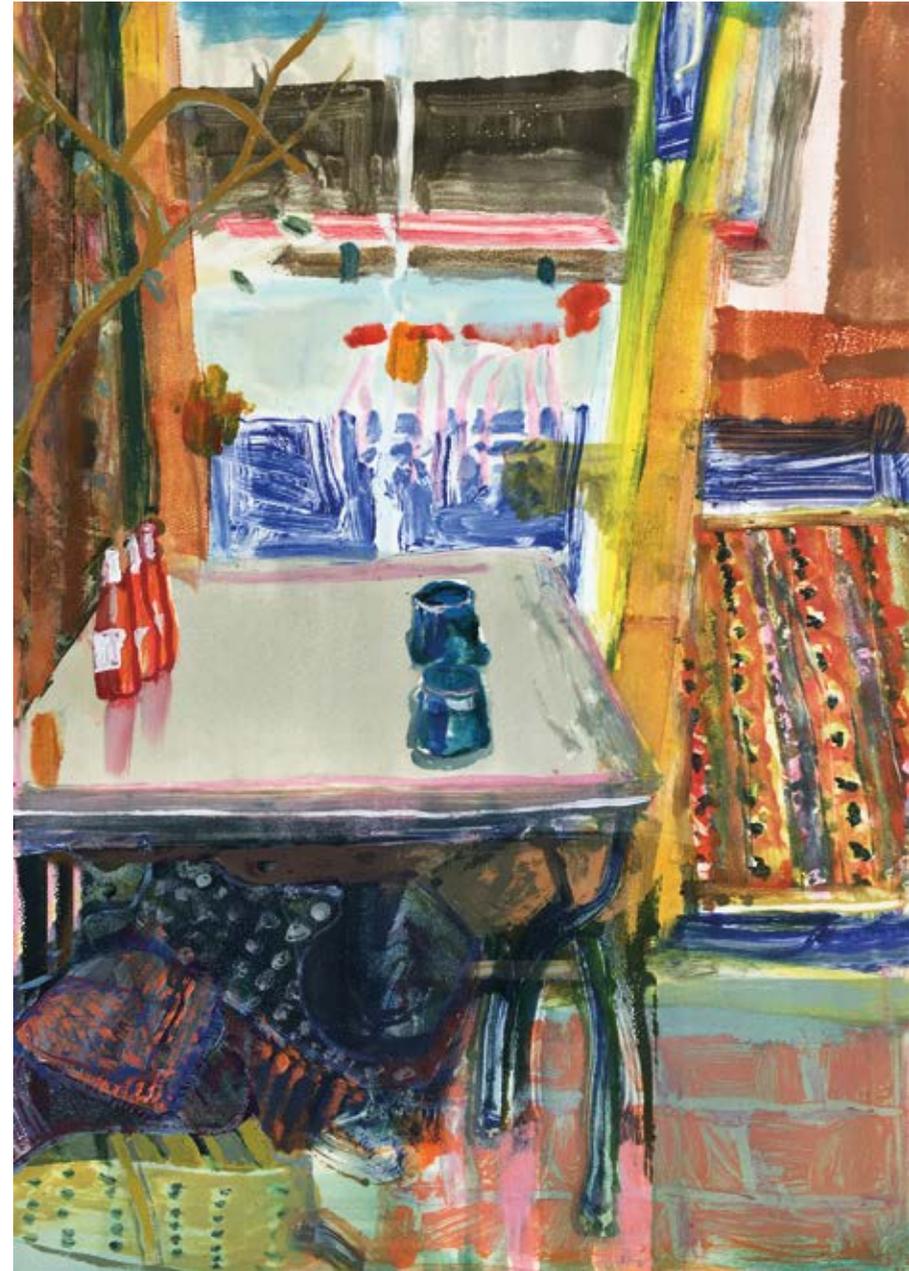
**HARRY'S FINE FOODS**

*Linda Katz*

Sitting in the diner,  
    fingers stroking  
back and forth  
    the table's cold rim,  
I read the paper,  
    get a refill,  
chair legs scraping the tile.

Gifts from a corner spot:  
    solitude in a public place,  
milk-white light of windows  
    onto the street,  
plate full of scramble and toast.

I could write here.  
    Let the room's bustling patterns  
seep into me,  
    convert loud hues into quiet words.



**Harry's Fine Foods**

*Colleen Maloney*

Monotype

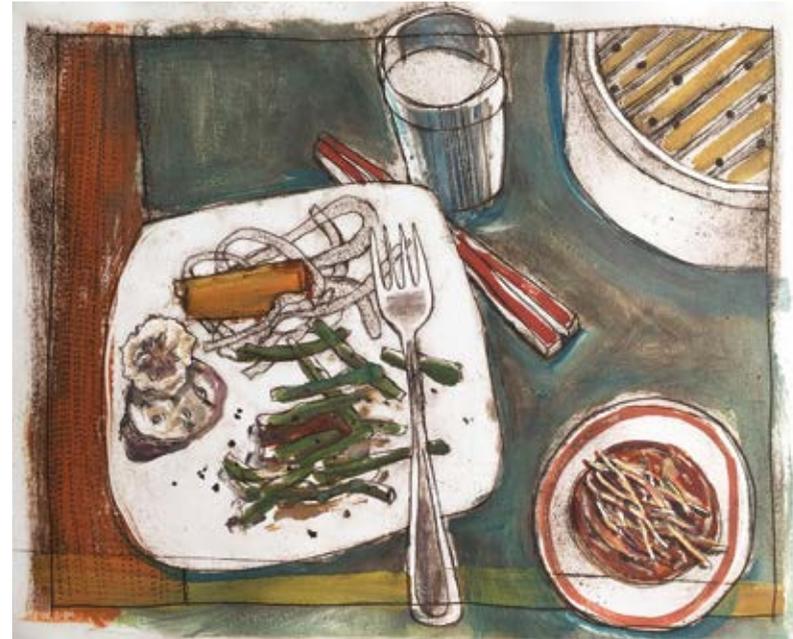
19 x 12 in.

**LONG BEANS**

*Linda Katz*

Bite of salty beans  
steamed so quick, then wok sizzled,  
green crunch snapping now  
busying these happy teeth  
Here--I'll share with you, try one!

*(Tanka: a Japanese poetic form of 31  
syllables in this order—5-7-5-7-7)*



**Long Beans, Dark**

*Colleen Maloney*  
Monoprint  
14 3/4 x 18 in.



**Long Beans, Light**

*Colleen Maloney*  
Monoprint  
15 1/2 x 18 1/2 in.

**CARNIVAL**

*Linda Katz*

Imagine  
balloons blown of glittering glass  
bobbing  
like dahlias in tumblers,  
clinking and dancing,  
tilting together,  
shades of cotton candy  
and caramel apples.

Imagine  
a carousel whirling behind,  
calliope pulsing,  
painted ponies prancing,  
children calling  
“Look at me! Look at me!”  
Close your eyes.  
See it? Hear it?  
Be ten years old  
for a joyful minute,  
be there.



**Bouquet**

*Colleen Maloney*  
Monoprint  
18 x 18 in.

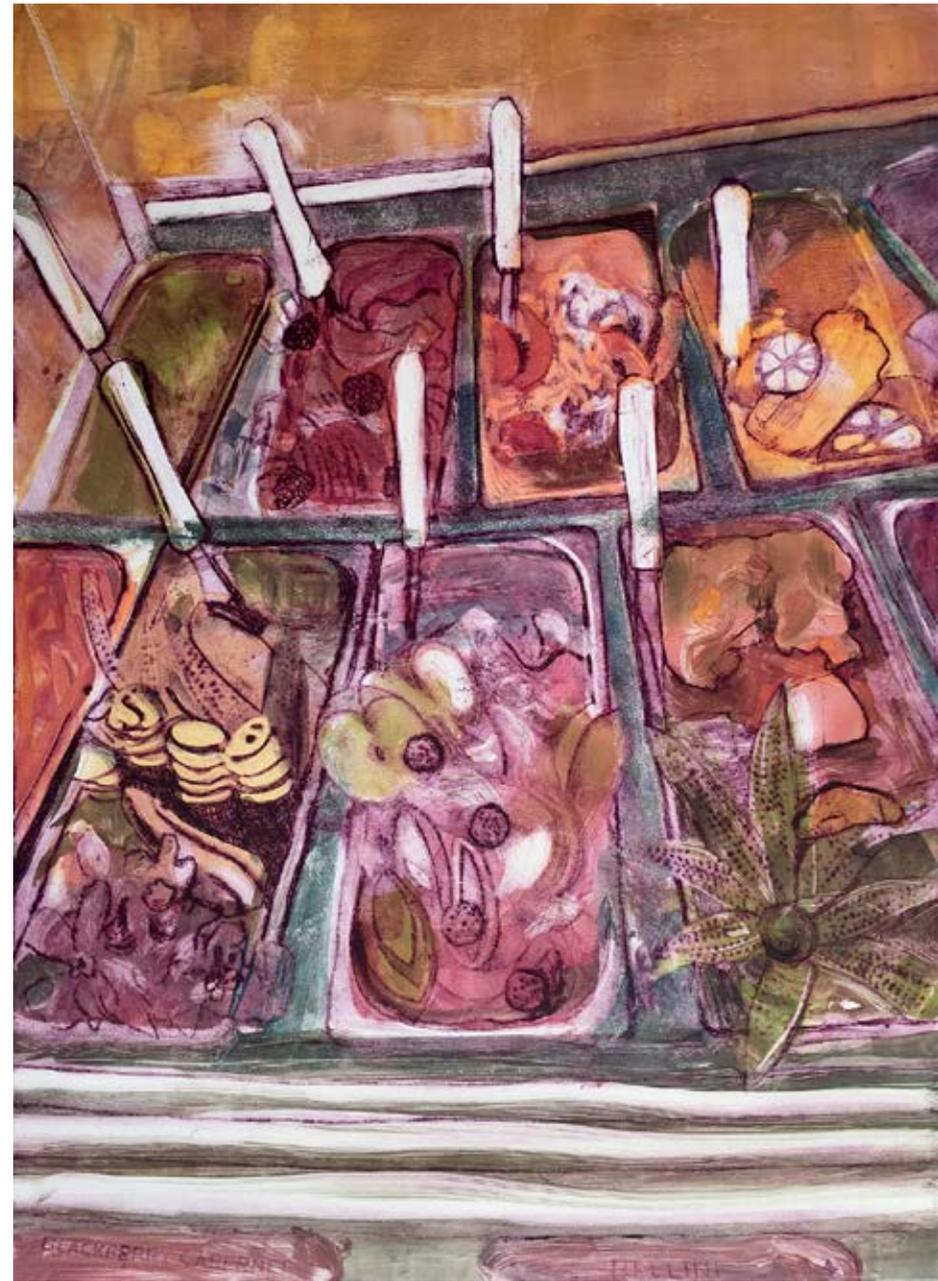
**GELATO EMPORIUM**

*Linda Katz*

Frosty trays display a tropical sunset,  
color wheel so seductive;  
ruby to rose, amber to amethyst.

Blackberry greets mango,  
peach kisses lemon,  
mocha marries coconut.

I really need to treat myself:  
mouthfuls of hope, benevolent smiles,  
savoring sublime comfort  
on a wee plastic spoon.



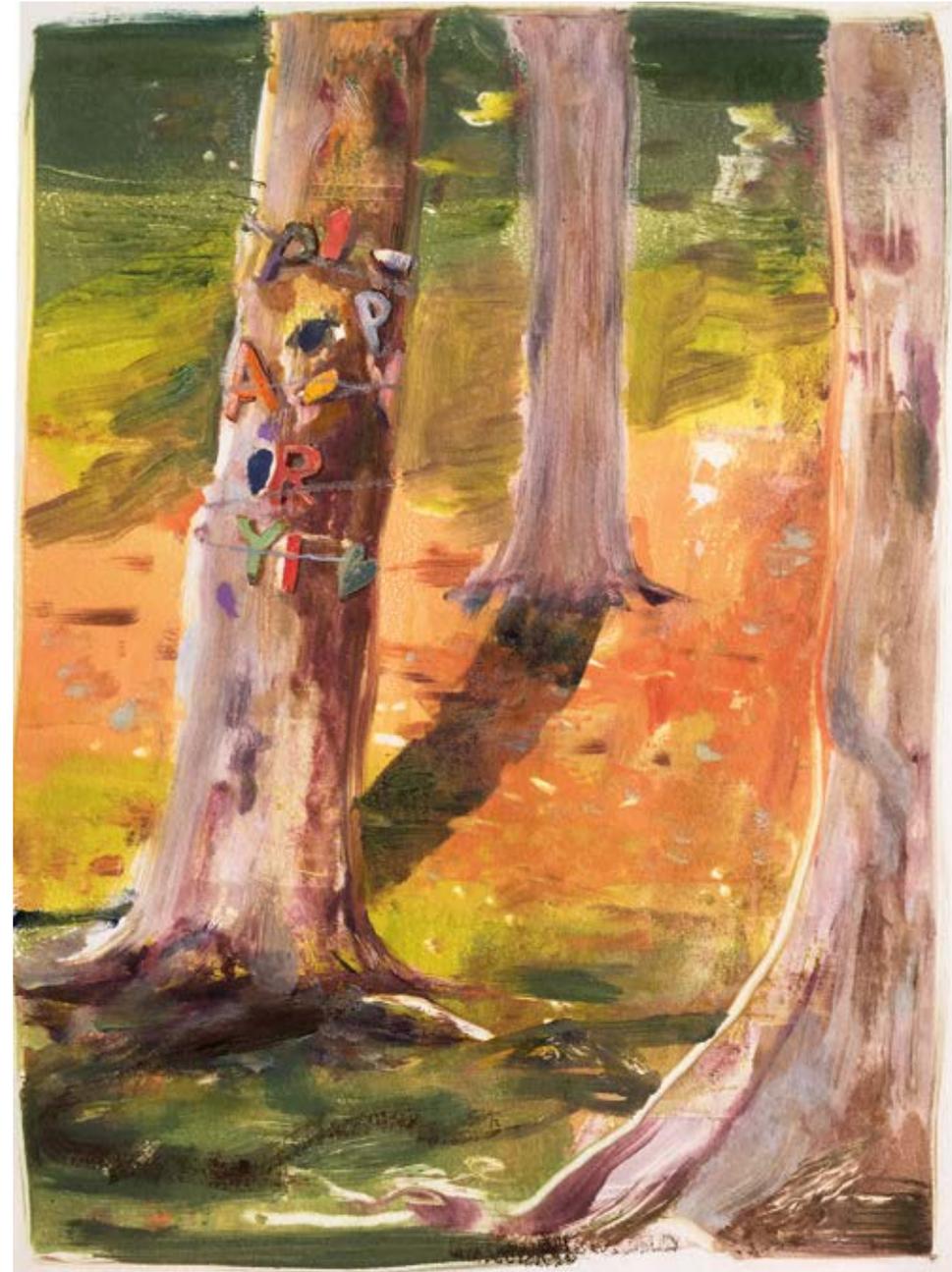
**Gelato**

*Colleen Maloney*  
Monoprint  
23 1/2 x 17 3/4 in.

**THREE QUESTIONS**

*Linda Katz*

Birthday Tree,  
who chose you, I wonder,  
entwining your ghostly bark  
with human words  
in this sherbet colored grove?  
Artist, did you impose  
that swipe of sooty darkness down below,  
a stark contrast, a swath,  
to smudge the pastoral?  
Or is it the Unseen Hand  
linking these pale trees,  
inking them together once each day,  
His, the deft brushful of shadow?



**Three Questions**

*Colleen Maloney*  
Monotype  
10 1/2 x 8 in.

**SUMMER FUN**

*Linda Katz*

Wet bangs and baggy trunks,  
scratchy lawn chair on a sun warmed  
back,  
licks of vanilla shivering our tongues.  
Beat up old sprinkler  
spurting cold spray,  
a watery metronome  
punching a rhythm  
from a far distant past.  
Each swipe rinsing the air  
plumes a smell of drenched grass,  
a whiff of hot kids,  
exuberant chatter joining today  
the clickety/clickety/clickety/spray,  
clickety/clickety/clickety/spray



**Summer Fun**

*Colleen Maloney*  
Monotype  
13 x 10 1/2 in.

**DEADHEADS**

*Linda Katz*

Retiring petals

pinks and yellows fading now

clipped: new blooms soon dance

*(Haiku: A Japanese poetic form of 17  
syllables in this order—5-7-5)*



**Deadheads**

*Colleen Maloney*

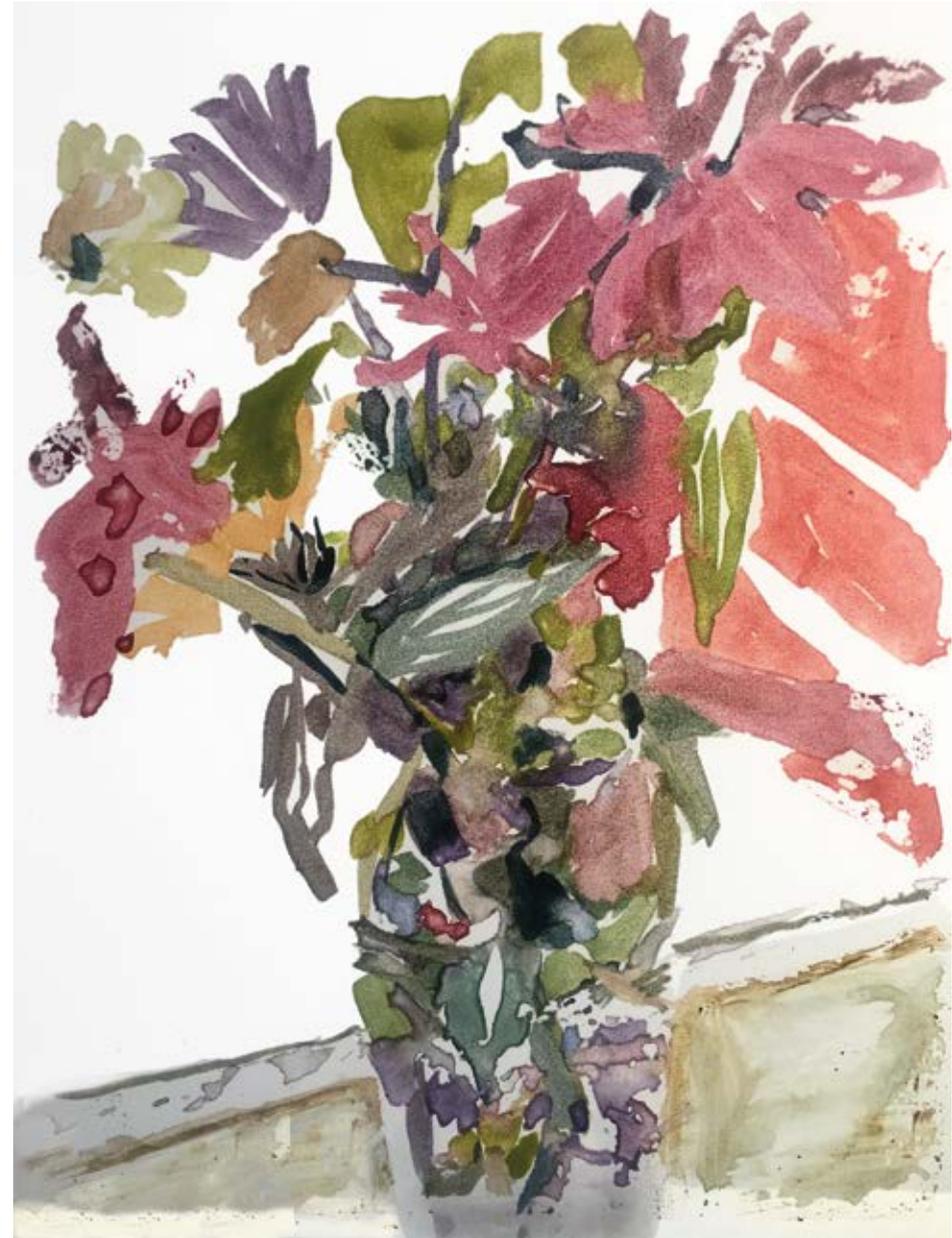
Monotype

13 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x 13 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> in

**BOUQUET**

*Linda Katz*

It's enough for me  
today,  
buoyant burst of purple,  
domesticity unbound,  
tangled greens  
escaping captivity,  
petals of glory  
rejoicing  
and cheering,  
irresistible bunch.



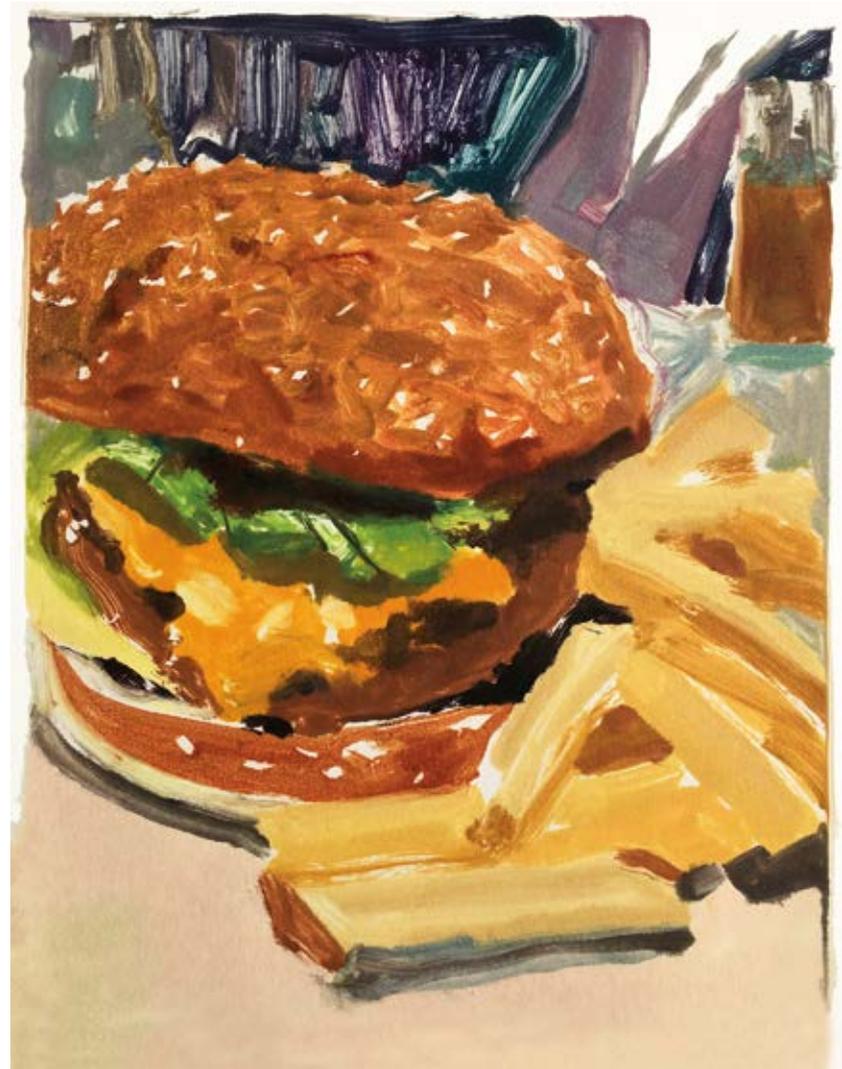
**Garden Variety**

*Colleen Maloney*  
Watercolor  
Monotype  
11 x 9 in

## **DELICIOUS**

*Linda Katz*

Today, let's order  
what we really crave,  
not arugula, not soy!  
Today, let's be carnivores,  
out on the prowl,  
hungry for prey.  
Let's dive into  
the great American feast,  
two fisted and fragrant,  
oozing hot grease.  
Let's open our jaws  
for its warm, soft release.



## **Delicious**

*Colleen Maloney*

Monotype

9 3/4 x 8 1/4 in.

**REACHING**

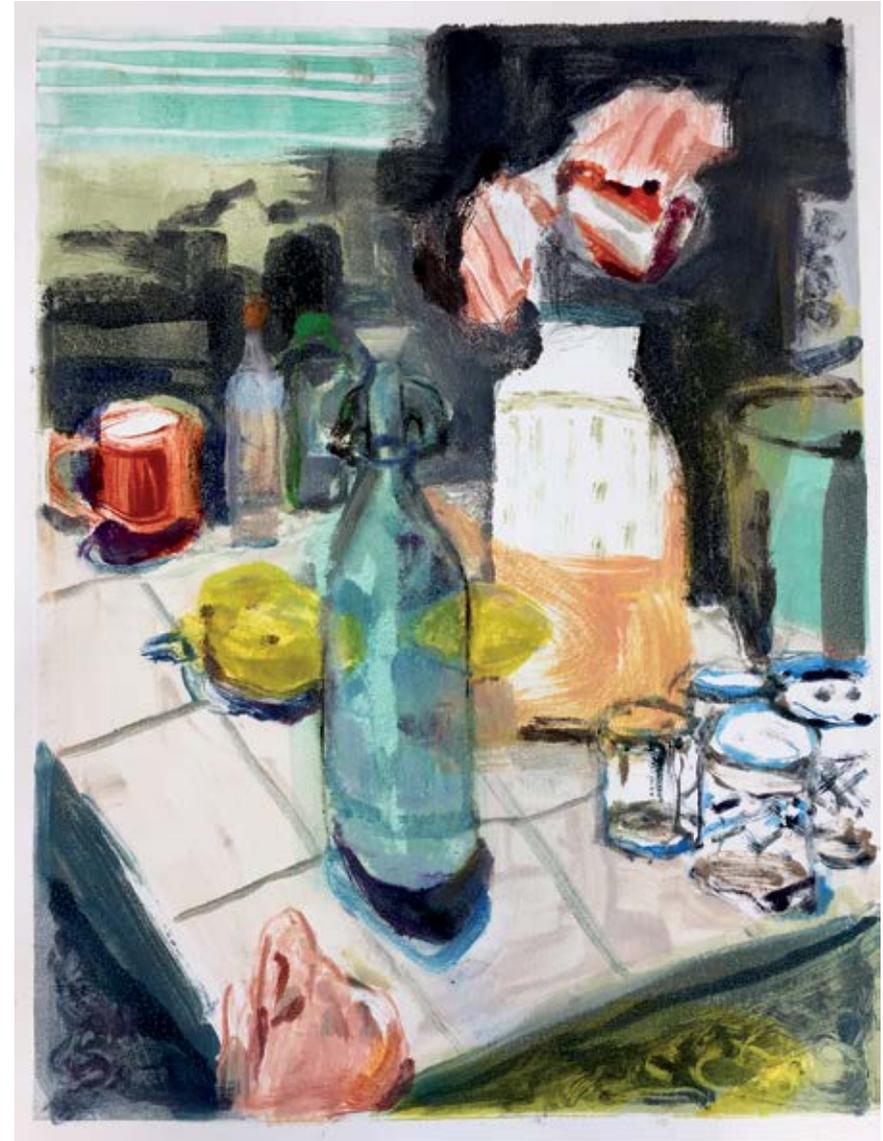
*Linda Katz*

The joie de vivre of bright lemons on our table,  
soft spring afternoon, Cafe St. Germaine.

We breathe in Paris en plein air,  
clinks and murmurs, passersby,  
and the joy of escape from home.

Reach for l'eau de minerale in its sea-blue bottle,  
flip the swing wire stopper.

Baldwin, Hemmingway  
left their brilliance for us to find,  
that golden life we're reaching for.



**Patrick's Bar**

*Colleen Maloney*  
Monoprint  
13 x 9 <sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> in.

**EVENING MEAL**

*Linda Katz*

Eggplant and peppers  
Noisy skillet yields a whoosh  
Quickly, bring my plate!

*(Haiku: a Japanese poetic form of three lines,  
syllables 5-7-5.)*



**Scarlet Bell**

*Colleen Maloney*  
Monoprint  
13 x 11 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> in.

**SWEETPEAS**

*Linda Katz*

Nothing to write about, really.  
A day made for pleasure,  
a day perfect without trying.  
The neighbor's house  
through a scrim of sweetpeas  
a study in shapes.  
The bold shouldered vase  
partnered with pomegranates.  
A snap poem, that's all.



**Sweet Peas**

*Colleen Maloney*

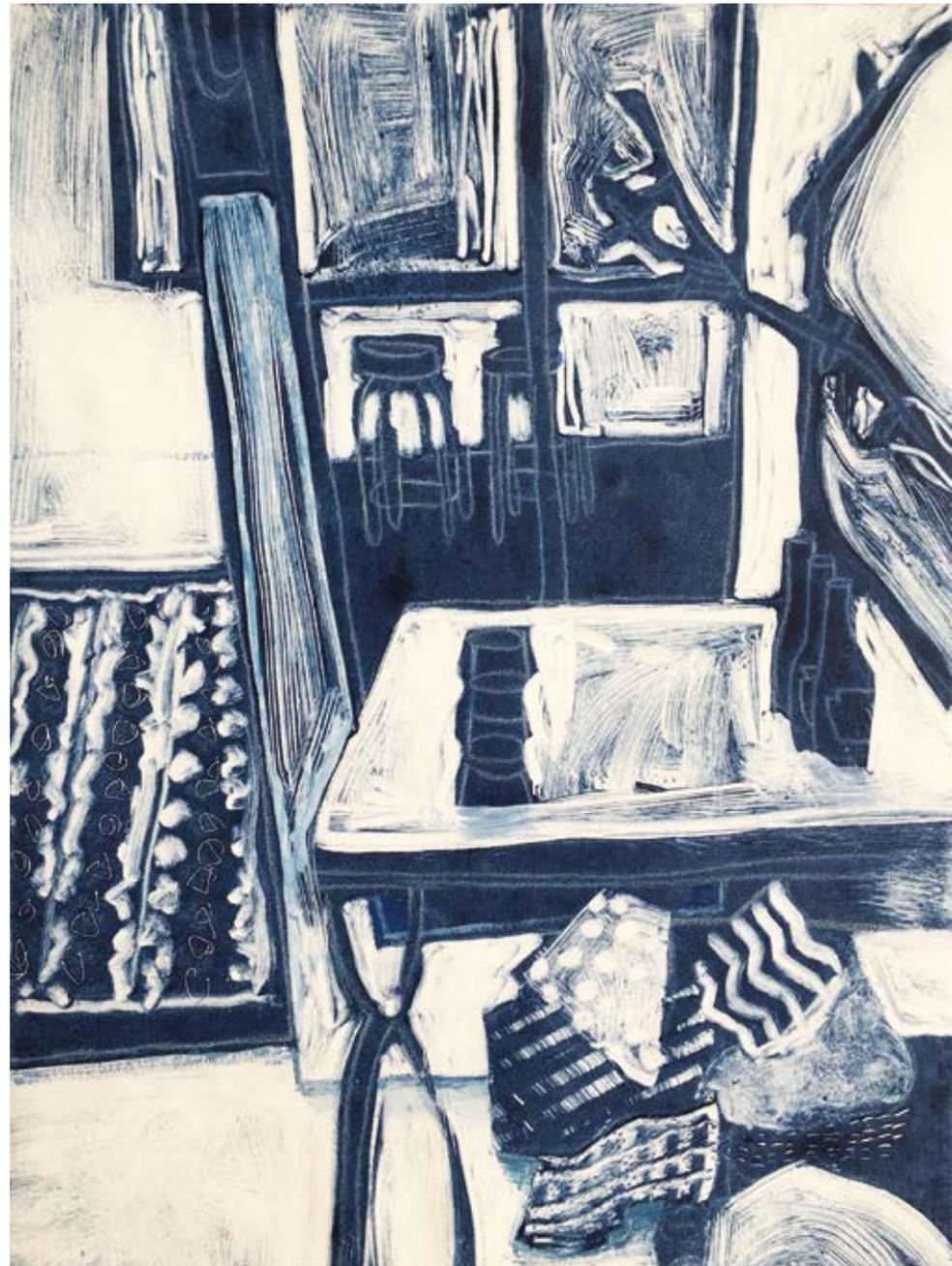
Monoprint

17 x 16 1/4 in.

**BLUE PRINT**

*Linda Katz*

If we lost all our reds,  
our yellows and greens,  
we'd still have these blues,  
an inkwell's insides,  
a dream world of color  
all squiggles and stripes,  
an indigo mystery,  
a blue denim room.



**Blue Print**

*Colleen Maloney*  
Monotype  
11 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x 8 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> in.

I retired after 40 years as a child welfare social worker and administrator, ready to write for pleasure. In addition to writing, I now devote myself to tutoring lively young first and second grade minds, creating and nurturing a beautiful garden, admiring and collecting art, and compiling a bi-weekly political email bulletin to help us all keep our citizenship muscles toned. I live in South Seattle with my husband and cat.



*Linda Katz*

In September 2016, I fell in love with a monoprint by Colleen Maloney at Shift Gallery in Seattle. I bought it, hung it in my living room and, inspired, wrote a poem for Colleen about what I saw in it. She loved it! Two years later I bought another Maloney print, this one for my kitchen. Knowing she was preparing work for another show in 2019 I suggested a partnership in which I would write a poem for each piece of art she created. I didn't try to "explain" the art (as though it had a defined meaning). I studied it, put my free associations into poetry and hoped my words would deepen the viewer's delight. Luckily, Colleen was willing to indulge my fantasies.

My other books, memoir and creative non-fiction, are available from your independent bookstore or from Amazon and at the Seattle Public Library.

For more information:  
[lindakatzbooks.com](http://lindakatzbooks.com)  
[katzlind@gmail.com](mailto:katzlind@gmail.com)

I began my career at 21, when I took a job as a graphic designer. 40 years later I retired from that fulfilling profession and launched a new one as a printmaker. With that, I had crossed the boundary from commercial art to fine art. A few years later joining Shift Gallery made it official. But old habits die hard. Sketching out my ideas and picking a color palette remain crucial to my planning process. However, once I start applying strokes of ink to plexiglass and transferring the ink to paper through a press, I abandon almost all control over what happens. These one-of-a-kind prints have as many as eight layers that build up a richness and luminosity difficult to achieve in other media.

Making art has always brought me a contentment no other activity does. When I focus on the things I love as subjects, I get a double whammy of that elixir. In "Finding Comfort", my 2019 show at Shift, food, flowers, friends and family were the reigning subjects. My goal was to elicit feelings of happiness and peace from our gallery visitors.

I live with my husband and cat outside of Seattle. I'm a frequent flier on the freeway, traveling to Seattle's Pratt print studio, where I'm constantly trying new things. Follow me at Shift Gallery to find out what those new things might be.

Information about purchasing artwork available on request: [c.m.maloney@comcast.net](mailto:c.m.maloney@comcast.net)



*Colleen Maloney*