



## RORER, ABIGAIL

b. Norristown, Pennsylvania, United States

RESIDENCE: USA

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### EDUCATION

B.F.A., Printmaking, Rhode Island School of Design,  
Providence, R.I., 1967–1971

### CAREER

Art teacher, private schools, 1971–1976

Freelance illustrator, 1976–

Freelance wood engraver, 1976–

Proprietor, The Lone Oak Press, Petersham, Mass., 1989–

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Society of Wood Engravers

Wood Engraver's Network

### ARTWORK MEDIA

Wood engraving, graphite pencil, pen-and-ink, watercolor

### ONE-PERSON EXHIBITION(S)

Cambridge Gallery, Cambridge, Mass., 1989

B. Beamesderfer Gallery, Highland Park, N.J., 1993

*Drawing from Nature: Abigail Rorer*, Southwest State University,  
Marshall, Minn., 1999

*Works on Paper: Abigail Rorer*, University of Massachusetts  
Medical Center, Worcester, Mass., 1999

*Works of Nature: Abigail Rorer*, US Fish & Wildlife Service,  
Amherst, Mass., 2001

*Abigail Rorer*, Petersham Craft Center, Petersham, Mass., 2002

*Abigail Rorer, Wood Engraver*, B. Beamesderfer Gallery, Highland  
Park, N.J., 2003

*Works of Nature*, Tsongas Gallery at Walden Pond, Concord,  
Mass., 2005

*Mimpish Squinnies*, Bright Hill Literary Center, Treadwell,  
N.Y., 2010

### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITION(S)

Bradley Print Show, Peoria, Ill., 1977

*Beyond the Figure*, Boston Symphony Hall, Boston, Mass., 1978

*Four Valley Artists*, Museum of Fine Arts, Springfield, Mass.,  
1979

*Selected Prints*, Mary Ryan Gallery, New York, N.Y., 1983

*Contemporary American Printmakers*, The Print Club,  
Philadelphia, Pa., 1984

*Wood Engraving: Art & Industry*, South St. Seaport Museum,  
New York, N.Y., 1988

*Miniature Print Biennial*, John Szoke Gallery, New York, N.Y.,  
1989

*33rd and 41st North American Print Exhibition*, Boston  
Printmakers, Boston, Mass., 1981, 1989

*Guild of Book Workers 10th Anniversary Exhibit*, New England  
Chapter, Museum of Our National Heritage, Van  
Gordon-Williams Library, Lexington, Mass.; Round  
Top Center for the Arts, Damariscotta, Maine, 1992  
[Exhibition catalogue]

*Annual Exhibition of the Society of Wood Engravers* (traveling  
exhibition), Society of Wood Engravers, England, 1993–  
*Illustrators Show*, R. Michelson Gallery, Northampton, Mass.,  
1994, 1995

*Three New England Artists*, B. Beamesderfer Gallery, Highland  
Park, N.J. 2000

*500 Cats*, Society of Wood Engravers, England, 2002–2003  
*Biennial Exhibit*, Thorne-Sagendorph Gallery, Keene, N.H.,  
2007

*International Miniature Print Exhibition*, Center for  
Contemporary Printmaking, Norwalk, Conn., 2007,  
2009

*Endgrained: Evidence of Contemporary Wood Engraving*, Minnesota  
Center for Book Arts, Minneapolis, Minn., 2010

*Fine & Dirty: Contemporary Letterpress Art* (traveling exhibition),  
Minnesota Center for Book Arts, Minneapolis, Minn.,  
2011; Center for Book Arts, New York, N.Y. 2011–2013

### HONOR(S)/AWARD(S)

Outstanding Print From Overseas Award, *Annual Exhibition of  
the Society of Wood Engravers*, 2004

Second Prize, *Biennial Exhibit*, Thorne-Sagendorph Gallery,  
Keene, N.H., 2007

Gregynog Prize for best letterpress printed book (*Mimpish  
Squinnies* by Reginald Farrer, The Lone Oak Press 2009),  
Oxford, England Fine Press Book Fair, 2009

Keynote Speaker, Ladies of Letterpress Conference, Asheville,  
N.C., 2012

### COLLECTIONS

Numerous art museum collections, including: Georgetown  
University Art Collection; Glenbow Museum;  
Metropolitan Museum of Art; Smith College Art  
Museum; University of Wales School of Art & Museum;  
Worcester Art Museum

Numerous rare book libraries and special collections,  
including: Brown University; Houghton Library, Harvard  
University; Huntington Library; The Library of Congress;  
New York Public Library; Smith College; Stanford  
University; Swarthmore College; University of California;  
University of Delaware; University of Washington;  
University of Iowa

Numerous private collections

WORK REPRODUCED IN

- Berry, W. 2008. *The Mad Farmer Poems*. Carrollton, Ohio: The Press on Scroll Road and Berkeley, Calif.: Counterpoint Press.
- De Graaf, R. and D. Rudis. 1983. *Reptiles & Amphibians of New England*. Amherst, Mass.: University of Massachusetts Press.
- Dethier, V. 1980. *The World of the Tentmakers*. Amherst, Mass.: University of Massachusetts Press.
- Dethier, V. 1984. *The Ecology of a Summer House*. Amherst, Mass.: University of Massachusetts Press.
- Dethier, V. 1992. *Crickets & Katydid: Concerts & Solos*. Boston: Harvard University Press. [Winner of the John Burroughs Award for Best Nature Book of 1992.]
- Farrer, R. 2008. *Mimpish Squinnies*. Petersham, Mass.: The Lone Oak Press.
- Farrer, R. 2012. *King of the Alps*. Petersham, Mass.: The Lone Oak Press.
- Frost, R. 2010. *Christmas Trees*. Petersham, Mass.: The Lone Oak Press.
- Hammer, S. A. 2013. *Mesembs: The Titanopsis Group*. Oakland, Calif.: Little Sphaeroid Press. [Cover.]
- Leopold, A. 1999. *For the Health of the Land*. Washington, D.C.: Island Press.
- London, J. 2011. *The Call of the Wild*. London: The Folio Society.
- Magee, D. 1981. *Freshwater Wetlands Plants*. Amherst, Mass.: University of Massachusetts Press.
- Magee, D. 1999. *A Manual of the Vascular Flora of New England & Adjacent New York*. Amherst, Mass.: University of Massachusetts Press.
- McDaniel, C. and J. Gowdy. 1999. *Paradise for Sale (Nauru's Shadow)*. Berkeley, Calif.: University of California Press.
- McGowan, C. 1997. *The Raptor & the Lamb*. New York: Henry Holt & Co.
- Stoker, B. 2008. *Dracula*. London: The Folio Society.
- Swain, R. 1991. *Saving Graces: Sojourns of a Backyard Biologist*. Boston: Little, Brown & Co.
- Swain, R. 1994. *Groundwork: A Gardener's Ecology*. Boston: Houghton-Mifflin Co.
- Thoreau, H. D. 1993. *Faith in a Seed*. Washington, D.C.: Island Press/Shearwater Books. [Winner of the American Publishers Association Benjamin Franklin Award for best nature book of 1993.]
- Thoreau, H. D. 1999. *Thoreau's Country*. Boston: Harvard University Press.
- Thoreau, H. D. 2000. *Wild Fruits*. New York: W.W. Norton.
- Thoreau, H. D. 2005. *Of Woodland Pools, Spring-holes & Ditches*. Petersham, Mass.: The Lone Oak Press. (Reprinted 2010, Berkeley, Calif., Counterpoint Press.)
- Tiner, R. 1988. *Field Guide to Nontidal Wetland Plant Identification*. US Department of the Interior.
- Whitman, W. 2009. *Leaves of Grass*. London: The Folio Society.
- Whitman, W. 2011. *Three Poems*. Carrollton, Ohio: The Press on Scroll Road.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Rorer, A. 2006. Notes on a book in progress & how I engrave. Parenthesis: The Fine Press Book Association Pp. 7–9.
- Rorer, A. 2008. Printing *Mimpish Squinnies*. Matrix 27: 19–23.
- Rorer, A. 2009. *The Matriarch of the Forest*. Petersham, Mass.: The Lone Oak Press.

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Skunk Cabbage [*Symplocarpus foetidus* (Linnaeus) W. Salisbury, Araceae] 2005  
Relief engraving 20 × 27 cm Edition: 23/65  
Hunt Institute collection, gift from the artist

PORTRAIT PHOTO CREDIT: Latrice Cooper