



Solisombra Woodcuts

Hand-made woodblock prints of landscapes and seascapes

I love spending time outdoors in the mountains and along the wild coast of Central California. I make woodcuts to share my sense of wonder about these places, and to give the viewer a sense of being there. In my prints I like to emphasize the excitement and challenges that humans and other living things experience in these wild places.

I live in the redwood-covered hills behind Santa Cruz, California and spend my free time hiking the mountains and surfing along the wild North Coast. That's where I get the inspiration for most of my woodblock prints. Every now and then I have the privilege to go backpacking in the high Sierra. These trips are always awe-inspiring, and provide another wonderful source of sketches from which to make prints.

My first woodcuts were simple designs for friends and relatives. But I soon fell in love with the magical process of carving a design into a block of wood, inking the block, and then seeing the design appear on a sheet of paper. Since then, I have learned mostly by experience, but I also have taken workshops from several California print makers who really inspire me, including Thomas Killion and Bridget Henry.

I carve my woodblocks by hand and make prints in small editions of 5 to 15 prints. Each print is signed, numbered, and dated. Because they are hand made, each print is unique. They are printed with permanent ink on acid-free paper using a home-made bottle-jack press. I mat my prints using conservation-quality matboard and archival techniques (no adhesive touches the print).

I hope you enjoy viewing these prints as much as I have enjoyed making them.

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