

Press Release
Date 14 June 2022

Curwen Print Study Centre asks the public to support its Crowdfunding Campaign to open access to its archive including material/prints by Henry Moore, Paula Rego and HRH Prince Charles.

Curwen, now based in Suffolk, an educational Arts Charity established by Stanley Jones MBE to promote and preserve traditional hand-crafted printmaking skills has launched a crowdfunding campaign through Art Happens with [Art Fund](#), trying to raise £26,350 to make its archive accessible to all.

The funds raised will go towards the cataloguing and curation of the Curwen Archive which until their recent move to new premises in Great Thurlow, Suffolk has not been accessible to view. The new premises have two print studios and a Gallery space in which the archive is housed. Additionally, they plan to catalogue the archive online making both prints and supporting documents truly accessible for everyone not just visitors to the Gallery.

The Curwen Press under Stanley Jones in the 1950's was the first studio in the UK to establish Artist Printmaking by enabling both the print technician and the artist to work together in collaboration. This was a unique way of working as presses had previously been operable only by union members.

The Archive holds material from artists and personalities from the 1960's to early 20th century. This comprises lithographic prints (both final prints and proofs), lithographic stones, letters from artists and supporting documents relating to the lithographic print process.

It provides an important insight to the finished print edition enabling an understanding of process, technical skills, and artistic aims. Donors will be instrumental in bringing the past, present and future of print together for all to see.

Members of the public can donate to the campaign by selecting from a range of exclusive rewards including Limited Edition Prints by Artist Printmakers John Bellamy RA, Nicholas C Williams, David Borrington RCA and Yoshishige Furukawa. Those making larger donations have the opportunity to meet Stanley Jones in the Studio or visit Sculptor John Mills at his home. Link TBC.

Lorraine Chitson – Centre Director

‘This wonderful Archive of prints and documents has never been accessible to view. We need your help to bring this Archive out of storage and put it on display for all to see. Your support will allow us to display the archive in bespoke plan chests and on Gallery walls with free access for visitors.’

Stanley Jones MBE

‘Future generations will thank you for your generosity.’

The fundraising campaign launches at midday on Tuesday 7th June and runs until midnight on Friday 1st July. Donations can be made via the Art Fund website: <https://www.artfund.org/donate/art-happens/reveal-the-curwen-archive-for-everyone>

Background

Curwen Print Study Centre is an educational charity which has been providing courses in fine art printmaking to artists and student printmakers of all abilities for over 20 years. We were established by Stanley Jones MBE to preserve & protect handcrafted printmaking skills for future generations. To secure that future, we have moved to amazing new premises. The new premises provides two studios offering increased space for teaching artists of all ages and abilities plus dedicated space for established artists to develop their own practice.

Importantly, it will also share the past with room to display and allow access to the Curwen Archive of prints and documents, a unique collection of prints, documentation and correspondence by leading 20th Century artists, documenting UK Fine Art printmaking history since the 1960s, which will be free for everyone to visit.

www.curwenprintstudy.co.uk

Art Fund is the national fundraising charity for art. It provides millions of pounds every year to help museums to acquire and share works of art across the UK, further the professional development of their curators, and inspire more people to visit and enjoy their public programmes. Art Fund is independently funded, supported by the 130,000 members who buy the National Art Pass, who enjoy free entry to over 240 museums, galleries and historic places, 50% off major exhibitions, and receive Art Quarterly magazine. Art Fund also supports museums through its annual prize, Art Fund Museum of the Year.

Art Happens with Art Fund is the UK's only crowdfunding platform for museums and galleries. Since launching in 2014, museums have raised over £1 million for art and cultural projects across the country, ranging from the conservation of works of art to new exhibitions and commissions by leading artists. Art Happens was recognised in 2016 with an Emcees Arts & Culture Award for Excellence in Fundraising for 'Best use of digital channels in a fundraising campaign'. Previous campaigns include projects by: Charleston in East Sussex; Museum of London; Norwich Museum and Art Gallery at The Bridewell; Turner Contemporary, Margate; MK Gallery in Milton Keynes; West Highlands museum and Royal Museums Greenwich.





Stanley Jones & Lorraine Chitson viewing archive looked down on by Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth & John Piper from wall.



Stanley Jones & Lorraine Chitson viewing archive in Studio.



Stanley Jones & Susan Aldworth Artist viewing archive in Gallery.