



NEWS RELEASE

**The Print Center announces a new exhibition,
Michael Mazur: The Inferno of Dante
with programs presented in partnership with
Network for New Music and Curtis Institute of Music**

April 17 – July 11, 2015

PHILADELPHIA-(March 3, 2015)- The Print Center continues its Centennial year with *Michael Mazur: The Inferno of Dante*, which brings together over twenty etchings from the artist's masterful portfolio of prints. Mazur's work has been highlighted in over a dozen exhibitions at The Print Center, including a solo exhibition of his work in 1965.

Mazur (1935—2009) is recognized as one of America's most distinguished printmakers, and his practice was marked by invention and experimentation. He studied at Amherst College and the Yale School of Art and Architecture. His work has been widely exhibited internationally in over 150 solo and group exhibitions, including a traveling retrospective organized by the Boston Museum of Fine Arts in 2000. It is held in numerous public collections, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, NY, NY; Museum of Modern Art, NY, NY; Whitney Museum of American Art, NY, NY; Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Art, Philadelphia, PA; and the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, PA. Mazur received awards from the Tiffany Foundation, The National Institute of Arts and Letters, the Guggenheim Foundation and a Distinguished Career award from the Southern Graphics Council. A catalogue raisonné of his work was published in 2000.

In 1998-99, Mazur created a suite of 41 etchings accompanied by text by Robert Pinsky, which extended and deepened his lifelong exploration of Dante's poem. The poet and critic Lloyd Schwartz has called these works "one of the most graphic embodiments of tragic vision by any artist—Aristotelian pity and terror—a devastating visualization of Dante's words that is finally also (and must be) beyond words."

These powerful works have served as the source of inspiration for a new work by renowned American composer Michael Hersch commissioned by Network for New Music. The resulting work, *a breath upwards* will be presented as part of a concert on April 19, 2015 at Curtis Institute of Music followed by a panel discussion with the composers and The Print Center's curator. In addition, the collaboration has also inspired the creation of six new works by Curtis composition students created in response to artworks at The Print Center to be performed at Curtis on April 17, 2105.

Michael Mazur: The Inferno of Dante will be on view April 17 – July 11, 2015, from 11:00am-6:00pm, Tuesdays-Saturdays. An opening reception will be held Thursday, April 16, from 6:00-8:00pm, with a gallery talk by the Curator at 5:30pm. Admission is free and open to the public.

The Print Center celebrates a century of encouraging the growth and understanding of photography and printmaking as vital contemporary arts through exhibitions, publications and educational programs. Free and open to the public, it presents changing exhibitions which highlight established and emerging, local, national and international contemporary artists. The Print Center has an international voice and a strong sense of local purpose. It mounts one of the oldest art competitions in the country, now in its 89th year and the Gallery Store offers the largest selection of contemporary prints and photographs available for sale in Philadelphia.

For more information: www.printcenter.org or jevans@printcenter.org, 215.735.6090 x1