

WONDERLAND KIMONOS OR GOING DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE

Prints by Margot Bittenbender January 4 – 28, 2023



A Kimono for the White Rabbit Intaglio Print w/hand-color 18"x 24", 2016



A Rose Garden Kimono Intaglio Print w/hand-color 18"x 24", 2021



Talking Flowers Kimono Intaglio print w/hand color 18"x 24", 2022

Gallery hours: 11am - 6 pm, Tuesday through Saturday Opening Reception: Saturday, January 7, 3 – 5 pm

Artist Talk: Saturday, January 21 @ 4pm

Prince Street Gallery Artist Margot Bittenbender admits that whimsy is part of the charm of her work, but her bold prints reflect a deeper interest in the art and culture of Japan, where she lived for seven years. Imagine, as she did, that Alice had exited her rabbit hole into Japan, and not England. The idea of a Japanese Wonderland inspired the fantasy kimono images on exhibit.

Line, texture, and pattern are important to Bittenbender's images, as are symbols of the Japanese seasons and culture. "I tried to follow Alice on her surreal adventure in Japan, waiting to see what would happen next," she commented. Sixteen 18"x24" original prints are part of the Wonderland Series that form the focus of this collection.

According to Bittenbender, Alice is well-known and adored in Japan, third only to her popularity in the United Kingdom and the United States. She is even featured in *manga* and middle school English language textbooks. She continues to inspire both fine artists and illustrators in Japan.

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