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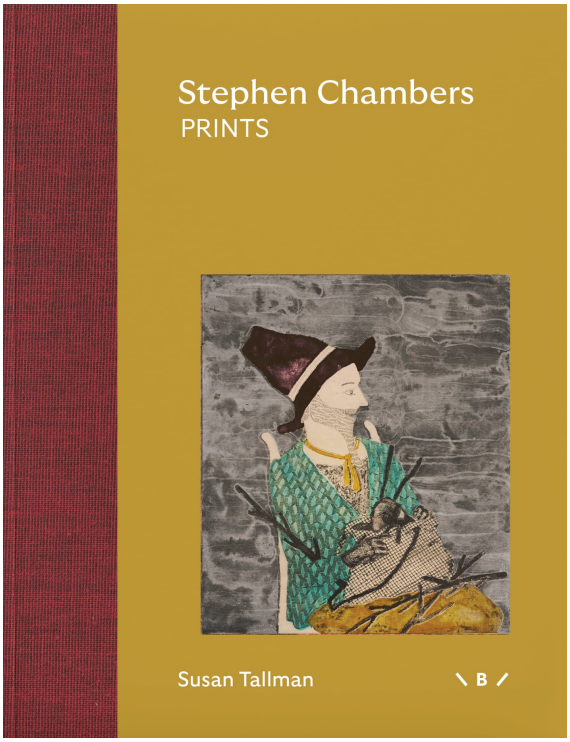

Stephen Chambers – Prints

Susan Tallman

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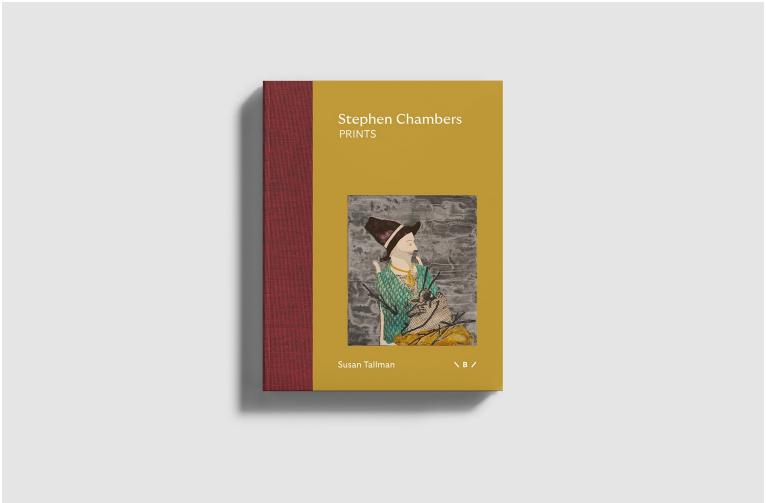
- The definitive monograph on one of Britain's foremost contemporary painters
- Stephen Chambers RA represented Britain at the Venice Biennale
- Reveals how literature, mythology, history, politics and everyday life combine within Chambers' richly imagined visual world
- Celebrates an artist renowned for his extraordinary command of color, poetic symbolism and narrative invention

For more than forty years, printmaking has been fundamental to Stephen Chambers RA's artistic practice. Working across etching, woodcut, lithography and other print processes, he has continually explored the medium as a space for invention, combining exceptional technical mastery with the distinctive figurative language, luminous color and poetic imagination that have established him as one of Britain's leading contemporary artists.

This beautifully illustrated volume is the first publication devoted exclusively to Chambers' prints. Spanning the breadth of his career, it reveals how recurring themes of storytelling, mythology, history, social observation and the human condition find a unique expression through printmaking. Drawing inspiration from sources as diverse as Renaissance painting, literature, politics and popular culture, Chambers creates richly layered worlds populated by enigmatic characters and symbolic narratives that balance wit with profound emotional resonance. Written by the acclaimed print historian Susan Tallman, ***Stephen Chambers: Prints*** is the first in-depth study of this vital aspect of the artist's oeuvre. It establishes Chambers as one of the foremost printmakers of his generation while demonstrating how printmaking lies at the heart of one of the most original and compelling careers in contemporary British art.

Stephen Chambers RA (b. 1960) is a British artist and Royal Academician whose painted and printed works are celebrated for their seductive use of colour, pattern and existence between the categories of abstract and figurative. Chambers studied at Winchester School of Art and trained at Central Saint Martins, before graduating with a masters degree from Chelsea School of Art in 1983. He has won many awards and scholarships including a Fellowship at Winchester School of Art, a Mark Rothko Memorial Trust Travelling Award and a Rome Scholarship. Stephen Chambers' minimal, decorative works have been exhibited widely with solo shows held at institutions including The Royal Academy of Arts, London; Kettles Yard, Cambridge; Bluecoat Gallery, Liverpool and Flowers Gallery, London. He was elected a Royal Academician in 2005 and received an Honorary Fellowship from Downing College in 2016.

Susan Tallman is a critic and art historian living in Massachusetts and Berlin. She has written extensively on contemporary art, authenticity, the history of prints, and other aspects of art and culture. A regular contributor to *New York Review of Books* and *The Atlantic* among other publications, she has authored many books, most recently *Kerry James Marshall: The Complete Prints* (Nov 2023). In 2011 she co-founded the journal *Art in Print*, and served as its Editor-in-Chief until its closure in 2020.



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