

## Biographies for Artists Featured in *Black on White* (MBM 12)

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### Fiske Boyd

Printmaker  
American

Born 1895 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Died 1975

Fiske Boyd was born, 1895, in Philadelphia. He studied at the Academie of Fine Arts and the Art Students' League in New York. Boyd was originally attracted to the etching technique but quickly traded the technique for woodcutting.

Boyd had an unconventional approach to woodcutting. He believed that painting and woodcutting were linked, that "one influenced and stimulated the other." The complexity he found in the medium left it open for exploration. In 1952, he said of woodcutting: "I have a strong liking for the woodcut. Even though it is relatively laborious and takes too long the way I do it, I come back to it time and again. In the past twenty years I have fought my way through a couple of hundred different woodcuts. The valuable thing about woodcut as a painting medium is that in it one secures a rich visible graphic effect of the medium as soon as the work on the block begins". The flexibility and immediate satisfaction that woodcutting provided fueled Boyd's work for over thirty years.

His prints have been exhibited, collected and awarded by several major museums and galleries in the U.S. The University of Maine Museum of Art has acquired a small collection of Boyd's woodcuts over years of correspondence. A few pieces have been added to Museums by Mail exhibits, providing excellent examples of the woodcut technique.

### Hanne Nielson Greaver

Painter/Woodcutter  
Danish American

Born 1933 Copenhagen, Denmark

Hanne Greaver was born and raised in Copenhagen where she attended Denmark's School of Arts and Crafts. She also studied in France for a year on a French government scholarship. She has specialized in graphics and paintings. In 1955 she moved to the U.S. and married fellow artist Harry Greaver. The artist currently lives in Cannon Beach, Oregon where she runs the Greaver Gallery with her husband Harry.

### Richard C. Hasenfus

Painter/Printmaker  
American

Born 1932 Bath, Maine

Richard Hasenfus was born in Bath, Maine and studied at the Massachusetts College of Art, the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, and the Academy of Fine Arts in Florence, Italy. He has had single-artist exhibitions at the Farnsworth Museum in Rockland, Maine, the Copley Society in Boston, and others, and has also exhibited at the MFA in Boston, Rockefeller Center in New York, and the Maine Art Gallery.

# Edmund G. Schildknecht

Painter  
American

Born: 1899 Chicago, Illinois  
Died: 1985 Eastport, Maine

Edmund Schildknecht moved a few years after his birth with his family from Chicago to Milwaukee. There he began painting at age four when an aunt, an art teacher, gave him a box of paints. She encouraged him and so did a grandfather and uncle who also painted. He repaid this encouragement later by teaching art for thirty-two years at the Arsenal Technical Schools in Indianapolis, beginning 1924. His life and art were a matter of lessons learned and lessons taught.

Edmund Schildknecht's early goal was to be a portrait painter. After attending the Wisconsin School of Art in Milwaukee from 1917 to 1920, he spent the next year at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts receiving academic training in precise and self-effacing representation. There as he later reported, "I was using ochres and blacks... and one instructor ordered, "Fade these colors out." In 1923-24 he went to Paris with the family of one of his instructors, and there he saw the art that was to stimulate his later development, the art introduced to the United States by the Armory Show. He began painting in watercolors, as well as oils, and studied briefly at the Academe Julian and the Academie de la Grande Chaumiere. As he later recollected, "I worked a great deal on my own. Paris then was the city of Degas and Cézanne... of Picasso."

By 1929 he was teaching art in Indianapolis, showing successfully in the mid-West, and demonstrating in his oils and in an increasing number of watercolor landscapes the lessons he had learned abroad. He first summered in Eastport, Maine, in 1934, and settled there after retiring from teaching in 1957, where he remained until his death in 1985. The painting was acquired by the Art Collection in 1985, bequeathed by the artist along with twenty-three other paintings, and hundreds of prints and drawings. These follow a gift by Edmund Schildknecht of over one hundred of his paintings and almost four hundred of his watercolors.