



### Mythic Folk

Given the strong interest in folk art, decorative art, and Surrealism by younger artists these days, we were not surprised to find a large number of prints with these qualities. Here is a small sampling. These works are idiosyncratic, mythic, figurative, and, at least partly, narrative.

San Francisco-based Shaun O'Dell embraces the mythology of the American frontier, rendering pilgrims, frigates, whales, and oceans in glyphlike forms to create fragmented, cryptic narratives. Similarly rigid and stylized but far less puritanical in its associations is the work of Tony Fitzpatrick, a former tattoo artist from Chicago. Appropriately, Fitzpatrick works in etching, which, like tattoo, requires the use of a needle to make an image. Wilson Shieh, who was born in Hong Kong and was trained in traditional fine-line brush painting, created delicately patterned prints, several of which depict humans in harmony with their cosmic surroundings. Texas-born Trenton Doyle Hancock has made a cartoonish and macabre series of prints depicting the fictive prophet "Sesom" and his miracle machine, which runs on liquid meat and enlightens the dark corners of the world with blasts of pure color.

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