

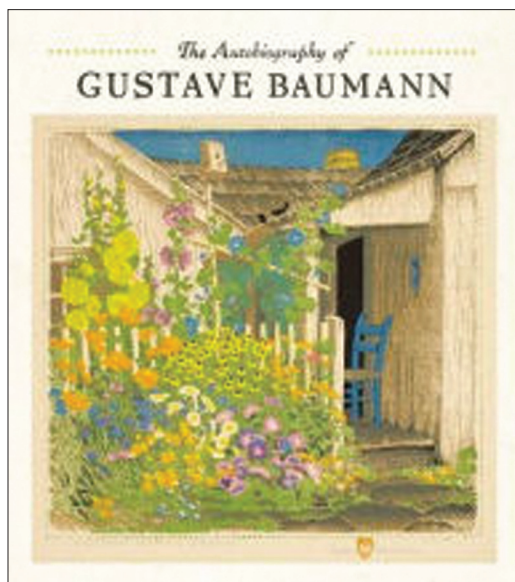
BOOKS

Book Reviews by
Jason Ronstadt

The Autobiography of Gustave Baumann

Travels with Gustave

The Indianapolis Museum of Art and Pomegranate have published a stunning collection of woodblock prints to adorn **The Autobiography of Gustave Baumann**. Thoughtfully edited by Martin Krause with help from Baumann's family and an array of dedicated scholars, this book's passages transport the reader through history as Baumann moves from Germany and Chicago, to the verdant farmland of Indiana's Brown County, before finally settling in Northern New Mexico, where he was no doubt inspired by the light and landscape of Taos and Santa Fe.



Baumann's instinct for capturing light, shadow, and movement in the natural world are on full display, and the prints are paired with his own photographs. His travels also take the reader to New York and Provincetown, where Baumann adapts a single block, "white-line" printing technique that will later allow him to capture sundrenched Fifth Avenue parades, and the shimmering landscapes of the American west.

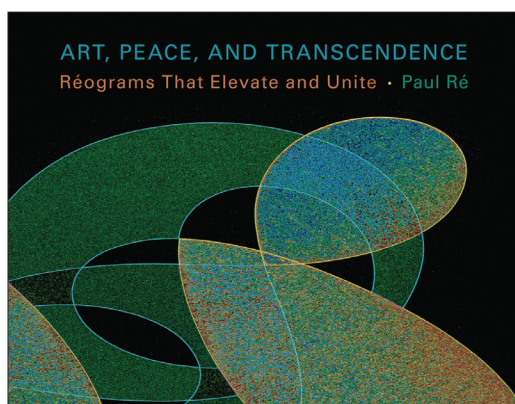
Baumann composed the original manuscript late in life, and the narrator that leads us on this retrospective odyssey is wise, humble, and mature. His daily vicissitudes are recalled alongside comments on artistic approach and matters of craft. There are also the occasional insights on art, and the serenity of the New Mexican lifestyle, which provided Baumann with a low cost of living and inspiring vistas. This book ends with a helpful chronology, which reminds the reader of the terrible wars that rocked the world during Baumann's lifetime. What a profound accomplishment to have somehow navigated this epoch, and to have traded its spectacular violence for the tranquility of a life in the arts.

The Autobiography of Gustave Baumann, Martin Krause, Pomegranate Press, Hardcover Smyth-sewn casebound book, with jacket. 160 pages with more than 80 full-color reproductions and 36 black-and-white photographs. Includes a Foreword by Dr. Charles L. Venable, Introduction, Epilogue, Chronology, and Index. Size: 8¾ x 10 in. www.pomegranate.com

In Art, Peace, and Transcendence: Réograms That Elevate and Unite

Paul Ré:
In Search of Peace

There are moments in life when the physical universe offers us a glimpse of its sublime beauty. We marvel at the elegant symmetry of gravitational waves, the dizzying profusion of expanding galaxies, or the trembling mystery of string theory. These insights and the shapely patterns they often suggest are at the heart of the work of Paul Ré, a Cal-Tech graduate, philosopher, and celebrated artist whose work is influenced by such luminaries as Man Ray, Paramahansa Yogananda, M.C. Escher, Georgia O'Keefe and Raymond Johnson.



In Art, Peace, and Transcendence: Réograms That Elevate and Unite, Ré offers the reader a collection of images that simultaneously consider the scientific, religious, and mathematical forces that produce our universe, our world, and our inner life. The book pairs each of his 58 prints with a corresponding message from the artist, and this alignment simulates the experience of a guided tour through the museum of Ré's mind. Fortunately, the mind in question is agile and powerful, and the tour leads us towards inner peace and transcendence.

Ré's work has inspired leaders at The University of New Mexico to establish a foundation that now awards the Paul Ré Peace Prize, and its Press has produced this beautiful edition of Réograms, which are created by an original process that combines hand-drawn illustrations with the most advanced printing technologies available. Readers will delight in these images, and the intellectual journey that moves through his abstract works, which call to mind what is essential, elemental, serene, and spiritual about life in an era so often marked by profound discovery and constant change.

In Art, Peace, and Transcendence: Reograms That Elevant and Unite, Paul Ré, University of New Mexico Press. 11 x 8.5 in. 184 pages 27 duotones, 31 color illustrations. www.unmpress.com/books.php?ID=2000000005844&Page=book

Garo Z. Antreasian: Reflections on Life and Art

New Book Reveals The Life and Art of Major American Artist, Garo Z. Antreasian



garo z. antreasian | reflections on life and art
introduction by William Peterson

Garo Z. Antreasian (b. 1922) belongs to the great generation of innovators in mid-twentieth-century American art. While influenced by a variety of European artists in his early years, it was his involvement with Tamarind Lithography Workshop starting in 1960 that transformed his work. As Tamarind's founding technical director, he revolutionized the medium of lithography. He discovered how to manipulate the spontaneous possibilities of lithography in the manner of the Abstract Expressionist painters. In addition to reflecting on his work, he writes movingly about his Armenian heritage and its importance in his art, his teaching, and his love affair with all sorts of artistic media. Illustrating his drawings, paintings, and prints, this book reveals Antreasian as a major American artist.

This book was made possible in part by generous contributions from the Frederick Hammersley Foundation and Gerald Peters Gallery. 368 pages, 9" x 10.5" 160 color plates, 92 color photos This book is available at bookstores or directly from the University of New Mexico Press, 800-249-7737 or visit

www.unmpress.com

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