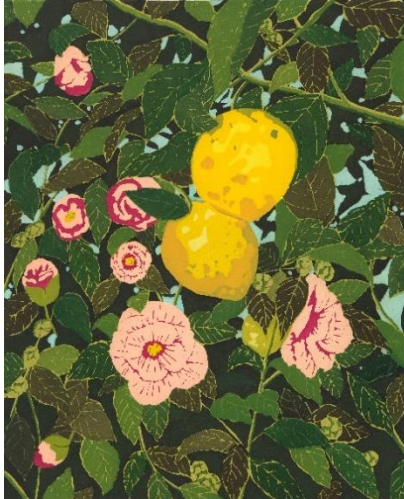


Crown Point Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Valerie Wade

Hilary Pecis: Lemons and Camellias

May 2025



Hilary Pecis, *Lemons and Camellias*, 2024

Crown Point Press announces a new print by Los Angeles-based artist Hilary Pecis. Pecis worked in intaglio for the first time when she came to the studio in February of 2025, creating the vibrant color aquatint *Lemons and Camellias*. Pecis states, “This etching is based off of a tangle of winter camellia blossoms and ripe lemon trees that are both in need of pruning. The trees grow together so densely, it’s hard to see where one begins and the other ends, integrating the two in a lovely mess. I loved the combinations of the colors: the dark and sour greens, the bright candy pinks, and the intense yellow, with the bits of sky peeking between.”

Pecis is known for creating joyful still-life and landscape paintings inspired by photos she takes of Los Angeles and domestic interiors. Her landscapes record scenes from her daily runs, whether from a Santa Monica mountain trail or of the many strip malls dotting Los Angeles. Her still-life paintings feature crowded tables littered with books, flower arrangements, or the remains of a meal. The paintings are like portraits, each component like a reflection of a person. Pecis never includes the entire human figure in her work. In an *Artnet* interview, Pecis said, “I feel the same way about photographs of myself that I do about painting a person... I just don’t think it sums up who I am. It’s just a flattening out of a person.”

Pecis uses her photographs to create a rough outline of the scene on the canvas, then she paints until there isn’t any negative space left. The vivid colors she uses reference Fauvism in their intensity. The gestural and textured mark-making she employs draws the viewer’s eyes on a path through the painting. She revisits each composition often, and moves between paintings when she feels stuck. In the Crown Point Press Studio, Pecis used color aquatint and sugar lift aquatint to create the exuberant print, *Lemons and Camellias*. The etching uses seven plates to create all the details of the leaves, lemons, and flowers. Pecis said to Crown Point’s director Valerie Wade that “in working with the master printer, we decided to... embrace much of the magic that the medium could provide us with.”

Hilary Pecis (b. 1979, Fullerton, California) received her BFA in 2006 and her MFA in 2009 from the California College of the Arts, San Francisco. Pecis has been the subject of solo and group exhibitions at TAG Art Museum, Qingdao, China; Gagosian, Athens; David Kordansky Gallery, Los Angeles; Rachel Uffner Gallery, New York; Rockefeller Center, New York; Timothy Taylor Gallery, London; Halsey McKay Gallery, East Hampton, New York; SPURS Gallery, Beijing; and Crisp-Ellert Art Museum, Flagler College, St Augustine, Florida. She received the 2008 San Francisco Arts Commission’s Murphy and Cadogan Fellowship.

Pecis’ work is held in the permanent collections of the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.; the Los Angeles County Museum of Art; the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; the Berezdivin Collection, Puerto Rico; the Aishti Foundation, Beirut; the Daegu Art Museum, South Korea; and the Yuz Museum, Shanghai, among others. She is represented by the David Kordansky Gallery, Los Angeles; the Halsey McKay Gallery, New York; the SPURS Gallery, Beijing; and the Timothy Taylor Gallery, London.

Lemons and Camellias is on view the month of May 2025. To learn more, visit crownpoint.com, or the gallery in person, Monday-Friday, 9AM – 5PM.