

Our print collecting journey began more than thirty years ago when we purchased Ten-Pound Hammer by Thomas Hart Benton in a small gallery in Lubbock, Texas. Not long after, a visit to a Chicago gallery specializing in old-master prints introduced us to the fascinating world of print states, as we studied the subtle differences in Rembrandt etchings. We began frequenting galleries and museums, learning the history, techniques, and craftsmanship behind the art form.

In 1984, we took the leap and purchased our first old-master print: Banderillas with Firecrackers by Goya. As our collecting became more focused, we chose to concentrate primarily on American prints from the late 1800s through around 1960—the early years leading into contemporary printmaking. We're especially interested in the intellectual and historical ties among artists and their work. Every print has a story to tell if one takes the time to discover it, and we never stop appreciating the skill, inventiveness, and technique behind each piece.

Prints America presents prints of the highest quality. From a technical standpoint, each work must be important and representative of the artist, a very fine or fine lifetime impression, and in excellent or very good condition. From an emotional standpoint, each print must speak to us—capturing the spirit of the artist and the time period. Because works of this nature are often rare, collecting requires patience and becomes something of a scavenger hunt.

Prints America has loaned prints from our collection to museums across America.