

**Prints and  
Ceramics  
from  
Little Egypt  
Enterprises  
and  
Related  
Studios**

Leslie and Brad Bucher Gallery  
Glassell School of Art  
The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston



## A COLLABORATIVE PRINT STUDIO IN HOUSTON

In the 1970s and 80s, the expertise and equipment supplied by master printer David Folkman and his colleagues at the Little Egypt Enterprises print shop provided a transformative opportunity for Houston's artists to explore the medium during a period of rediscovery and reinvention. Decades later, Little Egypt's collected output is deserving of greater recognition as one of the city's most significant, imaginative, and longstanding collaborative art projects. This exhibition presents lithographs, serigraphs, etchings, and ceramics produced by Little Egypt Enterprises (1972–1989) and its descendants, the Cerling Etching Studio (1990–2004) and Tembo/Cerling Collaborative Studio (1999–2002).

LEE was established in Murphysboro, Illinois in June 1972 by David E. Folkman (1938–1993), a master printer trained at the University of New Mexico and at the prestigious Tamarind Lithography Workshop in Los Angeles, where in 1967 and 68 he worked directly with visiting artists Louise Nevelson and John Altoon, among others. Founded in 1960, Tamarind had among its stated goals “to create a pool of master printers in the United States by training apprentices” and “to habituate each artist and artisan to intimate collaboration so that each becomes responsive and stimulating to the other in the work situation encouraging both to experiment widely and extend the expressive potential of the medium.”<sup>1</sup>

Named for Illinois' verdant southern river valley region, Little Egypt was founded for the purpose of printing an edition of