

# Art Speak

Let's Talk about this  
and learn about the artist.

*Susan Davidoff* lives in El Paso, Texas. She holds a BFA from the University of Texas at El Paso and an MFA from New Mexico State University.

The prints are the result of long walks in the West Texas desert. Along the way she collects plants and mosses to take back to her studio. She often uses the plants and materials she has collected as a source of texture and color, rubbing them into the surface of her drawings and prints. The result is a combination of stark silhouette on top of natural media and homemade paper to create a subtle and beautiful interpretation of nature. By using this combination of stark and subtle, the artist's work explores the intricate patterns of nature and the relationships of botanical shapes.

Davidoff's drawings, painting and prints have been exhibited widely throughout the United States and Mexico and are included in the permanent collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.



*This work is part on an ongoing exploration of structure in nature, and the overlay of systems humans have developed for observing, mapping and defining natural forms and phenomena. The use of the structural elements derived from natural forms reflects my interest in the concept of Li - the Chinese idea of organic pattern, and more broadly, the order and construction of nature. For me the concept of Li serves as a framework to examine our perceptions, preconceptions and relationship with the natural world. This merging/collision of nature and structure reflects our desire to measure, quantify, organize, map the world as a way to own, feel, conquer, understand, assert, reinvent our place in the natural world.*

*Artist Statement:  
Susan Davidoff*

Project Art welcomes viewer comments and questions. Please contact Marsha Howe at [marsha-howe@uiowa.edu](mailto:marsha-howe@uiowa.edu)