

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
February 2, 2012

**Washington Printmakers Gallery Presents**



**ART\*SPARKS**  
**Rekindling the Gifts**  
**Solo Exhibition by Marian Osher**

February 29-March 25, 2012

**Opening Reception:** Saturday, March 3, 1-4 pm

**Artist Talk:** Saturday, March 3, 1:30 pm

**Silver Spring, MD** – Just ten months before ART\*SPARKS, her solo exhibition at Washington Printmakers Gallery, was set to open, Marian Osher suffered from a case of the dreaded creative block. Thankfully, help finally came from a Yoga “aha” realization. “When I overload my creativity, it’s like hyperventilating--not enough comes in to allow the energy to flow out,” Osher says. “My Yoga instructor taught me to focus on the breath, breathing slowly and deeply, in and out. Creativity also has to be natural, and it can’t be forced or rushed.” Making this connection removed the pressure and anxiety. Osher was able to relax and restart the flow. Using rediscovered gifts from friends, family and nature, she began rekindling her creative process.

Osher’s success in breaking through her block resulted in the creation of fifty-eight new works for the exhibition. In ART\*SPARKS, she pushes her oft-used monotype media past the flat plane of the paper, reworking the prints into multi-dimensional mixed-media artwork on canvas. Flowers expand and evolve as layers of petals continue to open. Shells are found nested inside other shells, broken or not, and mixed with layers of sand. In addition there are six free-form relief prints on sculpted canvas. All the work in this exhibition is shown without the barriers of framing or glass, making it unique for a printmaking exhibition.

Marian Osher is a painter, printmaker, and teacher. She has exhibited extensively in both New York City and the Washington, DC area, as well as abroad. ART\*SPARKS will be her eighth solo exhibition at WPG. Her work is included in the permanent collections of the Library of Congress, National Museum of Women in the Arts, and the Museum of Modern Art (Buenos Aires, Argentina), among others. She is represented by Washington Printmakers Gallery in Washington, DC and Ceres Gallery in New York, NY.

**About Washington Printmakers Gallery**

Washington Printmakers Gallery is a cooperative print gallery which relocated to Pyramid Atlantic Art Center in Silver Spring, MD in February 2010. Current membership stands at 38 regional and national artists. Founded in 1985, the Gallery is the DC area’s primary source for contemporary, artist-pulled fine art prints.

Current Gallery hours are: Wednesday and Thursday, Noon - 6 pm, Friday, Noon - 7 pm, Saturday, 10 -5 pm, and Sunday, Noon - 5 pm.

*Image Credit: “Here Comes Sunshine” by Marian Osher, Mixed Media Monotype on Canvas, 11x14 in, 2011.*

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