



## About **Grafik i Väst** (InPrintWest)

Grafik i Väst is celebrating its 20th anniversary 2011-2012. The aim is to celebrate from August 2011- August 2012 since it was felt difficult to pinpoint the precise date the association became active! Minor and not so minor steps were taken during its first active year.

The celebratory plans are set to mirror this initial development pattern and include the production of a series of external exhibition venues, master printmaking sessions, publishing a new printmaking catalogue and of course festivities. So watch this space for a co-creative, flexible program in the making!

Grafik i Väst is a not-for-profit association for printmakers. It was established in 1991 in Gothenburg, Sweden as a result of the growing need for a centre, complementing the institutional infrastructure of the fine arts for local fine art printmakers from the late eighties and onwards.

Supported by the local jobcentre, which financed the employment of one administrator and funded by membership shares the original group of 50 has expanded progressively to 240 members to date, based locally, nationally and within Scandinavia. Grafik i Väst receives its key funding from Region

Västra Götaland in the form of a culture strategy mission; an active contribution to both the preservation and development of cultural heritage within Västra Götaland. It houses an impressive bank of limited edition prints.

## Aims



Exhibition with new members 2011

Grafik i Väst aims to connect artists through its coordination of exhibition production for members, guest printmakers, national and international printmaking organizations with a global public.

## Means

Organizing both internal and external exhibition opportunities, artist presentations, collaborative workshops, lectures, publishing regular membership catalogues and portfolios as well as an annual print scholarship for student printmakers Grafik i Väst facilitates culture exchange between individuals and communities.

## Values

Grafik i Väst values contemporary approaches to printmaking and the generative image making processes in all its forms of expression, retrospective craft practice, respect for the environment, support for visual intelligence, personal growth through culture experience, ethnic diversity, gender perspectives, culture inclusion and partnership.

## History

In 1991 a group of regional artist-run print associations including Borås, Skövde, Studio Kanten, Bolaget Vardagsbilder HB, Studio Bildverkstan and KKV Göteborg started Grafik i Väst, a not-for-profit association. A centre

for local printmakers was established in rather small impractical premises on the outskirts of the city centre in Gothenburg. A window was created for the sole purpose of showing limited edition prints and a bank for easy and immediate access to member print caches.

In 1995 Grafik i Väst, in collaboration with DASK (a now dissolved artist association), initiated Ramverk ([www.ramverk.se](http://www.ramverk.se)) as a portal to the Internet. Since 1995 many local artist-run associations have and are able to present themselves and their members via Ramverket's host website.



Anna Larsson (our employee) at the Bank

In 1997 Grafik i Väst moved to its present more central and larger premises in Gothenburg.

1999 was the first year Grafik i Väst was granted economic support from Region Västra Götaland in the form of a culturally motivated political mission. This mission was awarded for the following ten years. Grafik i Väst holds a cultural strategy mission for years 2010-2012, playing a defining role in social and economic sustenance within the arts, in the local community.

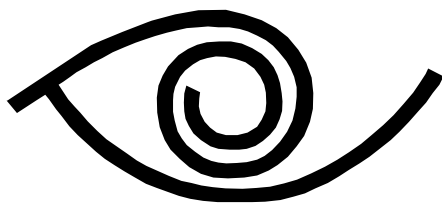
## Bank

The in-house printmaking bank in our premises on Storgatan 20 in Gothenburg consists of A1 size plan chests. Each and every member is provided with adequate drawer space for their

print cache. At present Grafik i Väst represents 240 active printmakers within Scandinavia along with a small collection of donated works from past members.

Grafik i Väst is not only a contemporary treasure trove for print enthusiasts but also is in the formative years of creating a visual archive of the history of printmaking – some of our members are over ninety years of age and our youngest are 28.





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At the annual meeting 2011