

*Lincoln* **Mauricio Lasansky** Intaglio, 1985 Gift of Mr. & Mrs. Harold E. Rayburn

## Lincoln



## Mauricio Lasansky (1914-2012)

Born in Argentina, Mauricio Lasansky is recognized as one of the "Fathers of 20th Century American Printmaking." In 1943, Lasansky was offered the prestigious Guggenheim Fellowship, making it possible for him to come to the United States where he studied the print collection at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. In 1945, he was appointed lecturer in printmaking at the University of Iowa, where he established the first Master of Fine Arts in printmaking program in the country. With Lasansky leading the department, *Time* magazine called the University of Iowa the "printmaking capital of the United States." As a printmaker, he was known for the grand scale of his images, his vivid color and the complex layering of multiple print techniques, including engraving, etching, lithography, drypoint, electric stippling and aquatint, in a single work. Lasansky trained generations of American printmakers with his own descendants also pursing careers in the fine arts.

## **Collection Connection**

The Lasansky family is well represented in the collection of the Muscatine Art Center. As of 2018, 42 works by Mauricio Lasansky, as well as 17 prints and sculptures by his sons, have

been added to the permanent collection. Of note is the *Kaddish Series* of eight prints by Mauricio Lasansky completed in the 1970s. The series focused on the aftermath of the Holocaust. One part of the Kaddish prayer is a request for peace. Each of the eight Kaddish prints includes a number from 6,102,301 to 6,102,308, representing the number of Jewish victims of the Nazis. Each image also includes a dove, the universal symbol of peace.



Mauricio Lasansky Kaddish Series: No. 1 Intaglio: etching, engraving, soft ground, aquatint, electric stippler, scraping and burnishing, 1976