

All Of Carvel's Art

BY ROSA LEFF

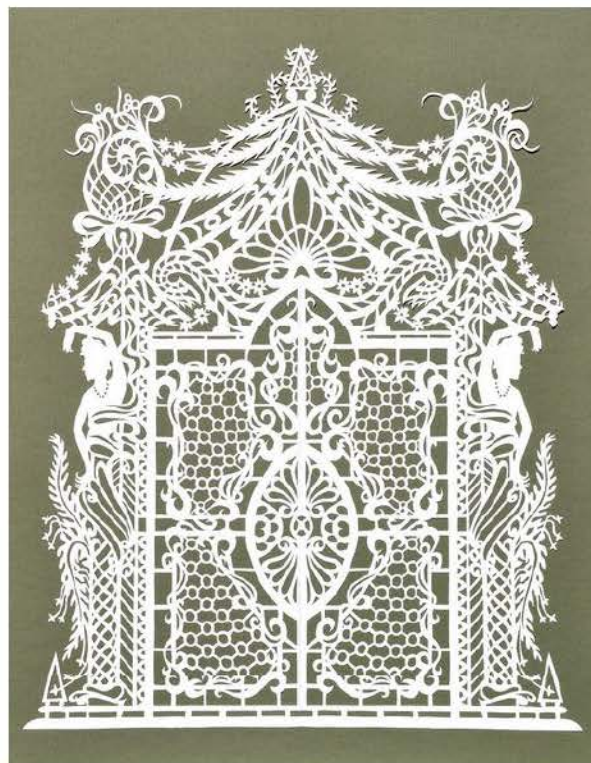
The goals of the members of The Guild of American Papercutters are as diverse as the regions from which we hail. We are made up of fans, hobbyists, full-time professionals, and everything in between. Be it a matter of ingenuity or out of pure passion, some members have branched out and explored many mediums.

One of those members is Carvel Markley. Carvel's website opens not to an image of cut paper, but to a series of photos of interlocked or carefully placed leaves. Initially, I was unsure if I had made it to the right page, but the similarities between his papercuts and his photographs became clear upon closer inspection.

The photograph, "Calico Maple," calls to mind the folded paper snowflakes we are all familiar with. Carvel uses the sharp sawtooth edges of the maple in such a way that we are reminded of scissor cuts. The same effect is achieved in "Smoke Leaves," but through very different means. Here it is the stems of the images that form a pattern like that of a paper snowflake. Instead of a sawtooth edge, the visual of the round leaves is enhanced by the fact that they are placed in a wreath like circle. Still others, like "Ginko," use high contrast and strong linear form to create a silhouette.

In the papercut "Black Ark of the Covenant" we see that same emphasis on shape and line. The precision of the overlapping circles that frame the piece would stand in sharp contrast to the prickly vines that run throughout them but for the way he is able to present those same angles as soft angels wings.

Yet another thread between all of Carvel's work is the spirituality and tranquility that they... sim-



Baroque Portal, *papercut*



Ginko, *photograph*

First Cut

All Of Carvel's Art

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...almost impose on you. You can feel "Magnolia," a single white bloom on a black background enveloping you in its simplicity. Whereas most of the pieces depict a single item or scene like "Paradise" and "The Nativity," "Le Monde" shows the full spectrum of life on and off of earth. Trees seemingly blend with clouds to unify heaven, hell, and all that lies between. There is comfort in the familiar and the way that the sections are unified helps to give us a way of interpreting them.

Le Monde, Papercut



Smoke Leaves, Photograph

If you enjoyed seeing Carvel's work you can see more on his website <http://carvelart.zenfolio.com/>. Want to see more articles like this? --Contribute!



Basil, Papercut

Closing The GAP Gap

BY DAVE REICHARD

Membership dues cover only about 80% of GAP's annual expenses.

The largest expense category in GAP's budget is the cost of printing and copying. Postage is another major expense. Most of these expenses relate to the production and mailing of GAP publications, which consisted in 2017 principally of GAP's annual calendar.

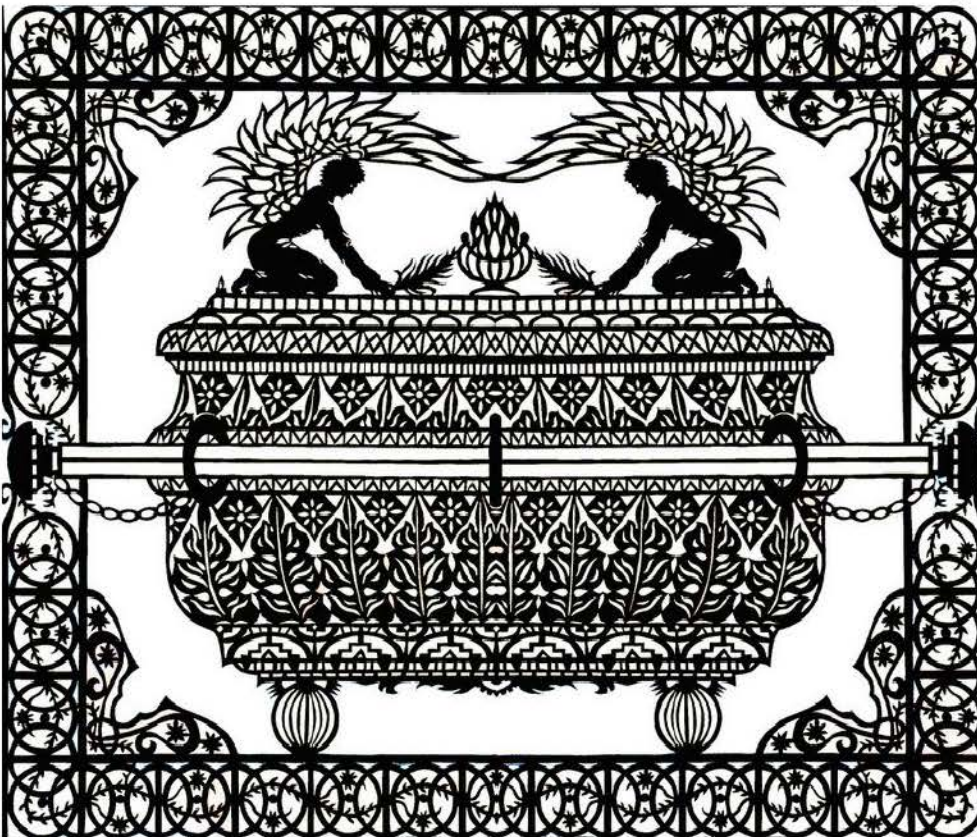
The GAP calendar is sent to all members each year free of charge. It is considered a desirable member benefit and one that GAP hopes to continue at the same high quality level as in recent years.

Other important GAP expenses are insurance premiums and payroll payments for bookkeeping services.

So how does GAP bridge the "gap" between member dues and

organizational expenses? The sale of artwork at the GAP museum, including commissions from selling the art of members, is one source of income. Sales of additional calendars (still available for \$8 each) also provide a small benefit.

Then there are donations from GAP members and others who wish to help support the Guild and promote the art of papercutting. Historically, this has not been a major source of income, but donations help close that GAP gap. In 2017, GAP managed to produce a small positive excess of income over expenses. Donations were 74% of that positive balance. (A negative result occurred the prior year.)



The Ark of the Covenant, Papercut

First Cut

Closing the GAP Gap

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...GAP is currently financially stable, but expenses like postage, insurance, and office supplies routinely increase. GAP would also like to fund new initiatives and is exploring the possibility of grants and additional sources of income.

But we hope donations can also play a bigger role. GAP rarely solicits donations, but this article is an exception. If you would like to support GAP through a donation, you can do so on the GAP website (www.papercutters.org) by clicking on the word "Donate" at the top of the homepage. Alternatively, donations may be made by check payable to GAP and mailed to:

Guild of American Papercutters
P.O. Box 384
214 S. Harrison Avenue
Somerset, PA 15501

All donations will be very much appreciated!



Green and White Temple, *Papercut*



Paradise, *papercut*