

# ALTERED LANDSCAPES 2018

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## IMAGINING UTOPIA: BLUEPRINTS FOR INTENT AND DISSENT

Organizer: Susanna Crum

### Participants:

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### Abstract

In Margaret Atwood's novel, "A Handmaid's Tale", a leader in the book's dystopian society says, "Better never means better for everyone. It always means worse for some." Whereas historical and contemporary concepts of "utopia" often include guided tours through imagined societies and ideal communities, print-based artists have a long history of creating visual statements that expose stories and perspectives that counter the status quo. In the 501 years since Thomas More published "Utopia", printmaking has stood at the intersection of life and art – mobilized by artists and activists as tools to enact social change, broaden worldviews, and make stories of lesser-represented people visible to the largest possible audience.