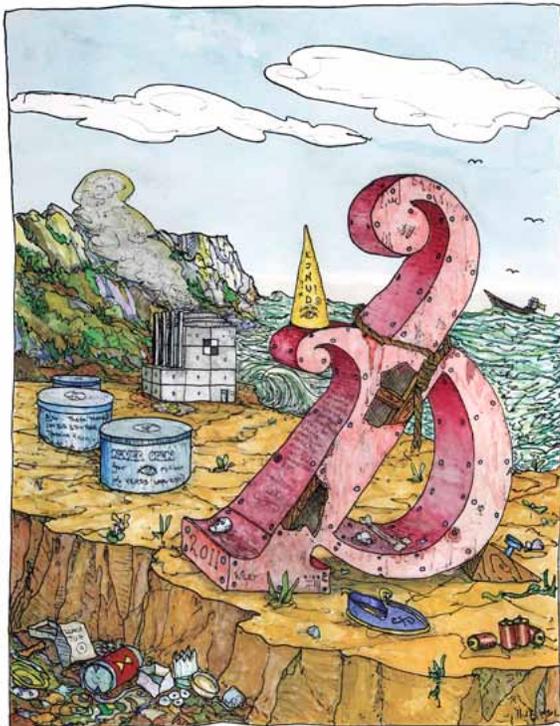


William Wiley

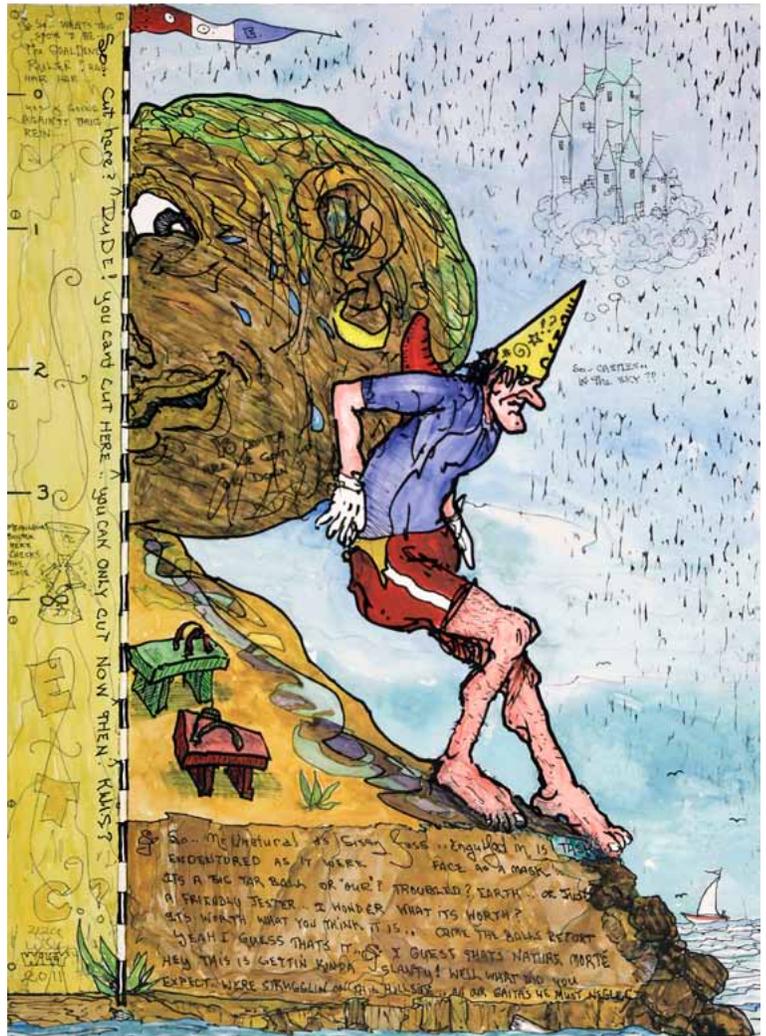
The Myth of Sissy Fuss

William Wiley's *The Myth of Sissy Fuss* finds his parodic alter-ego Mr. Unnatural, first seen during Wiley's time teaching at UC Davis in the 1970s, cast as Sisyphus, a king condemned in Greek mythology to endlessly roll a boulder uphill. In this spirit of updating the classics, this edition combines traditional and (literally) cutting-edge technology: a laser augmented by hours of precise hand carving transformed Wiley's inimitable line drawings into a woodblock, while a UV-cured acrylic printer faithfully captured the artist's hand-painted watercolor hues.

Working from a black-and-white drawing of the Mr. Unnatural character printed as a multiple at Magnolia, Wiley created a highly varied suite of watercolored Sissy Fuss images, adding different hand-painted color washes and pun-saturated commentaries to each one; he and Magnolia's Donald Farnsworth then worked together to combine their favorite pieces of each image digitally. The final edition is a composite,



Ampersand, 2011, woodcut with acrylic, 30 x 22 in. Edition of 30
Published by Oxbow School, Napa, CA



The Myth of Sissy Fuss, 2011, woodcut with acrylic, 31.5 x 23 in. Edition of 20

representing hours of work by Wiley and tying in nicely with the tongue-in-cheek theme of the artist as a perseverant, Sisyphean hero.

Ampersand

Composed in the wake of the 2011 nuclear crisis in Japan, *Ampersand's* colorful landscape includes storage ("Stow Rage") vats of nuclear waste and an ominous gray factory; symbols such as a dunce cap and a wooden clog ("sabot" in French, the source of the word "sabotage") suggest a meditation on the limits of human wisdom when it comes to technology and the environment. This limited edition woodcut with archival acrylic color will be sold as a fundraiser by the Oxbow School in Napa, which offers semester-long art programs for high school juniors and seniors; for more information, please visit www.oxbowschool.org. ■