**Danguole Rita Kuolas**

**Printmaker**

Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Printmaking, Mundelein College, Chicago IL. Further study at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and SUNY in Purchase NY. Works in her printmaking studio, Lafayette CA and exhibits at the Moraga Art Gallery in Moraga, CA.

Creates etchings, woodblock and linoleum prints, handmade artist’s books and paper.

Participates in juried and curated art exhibits both in the US and internationally.

Leads printmaking workshops.

Member of the California Society of Printmakers, the Los Angeles Society of Printmakers and the Boston Printmakers.

Former Artist in Residence at the South Shore Art Center, Cohasset MA and the Kala Art Institute, Berkeley CA

 **Artist Statement**

**Lithuania, the country of my heritage, has a strong tradition of printmaking. From an early age I have been fascinated by the art that was created there. I carved my first linoleum block at the age of 12 and have never stopped.**

 **Sketching and exploring the drawn line naturally led me into etching and further exploration of woodblock and linoleum carving.**

 **Changes to the world in which I live altered my mindset and subconsciously entered my creative process. Awareness grew and my imagery began to speak to current environmental issues such as the shocking impact of war on the world’s natural beauty and the destruction of the environment due to climate change. Far from despairing, I see glimmers of hope and renewal finding their way into this body of work.**

**I strive to have a green environment in my studio, printing with water soluble inks and not using solvents and acids.**