

Joyce Kozloff: Social Studies

During the spring of 2011 exploring Paris for three weeks, Joyce Kozloff found a cache of vintage 1950s French scholastic maps at the Clignancourt flea market in a school supplies booth. They had hung in French classrooms for much of the post war twentieth century, teaching tools for countless geography and history classes. Their past is reflected in mid-century typography and design, as well as now archaic names and borders of places, reflecting Europe's colonial past. These graphic charts represent countries, continents, and regions from the Middle East, to the Americas, Asia and Africa. Some depict landforms, others display agricultural products and farm animals: they are both charming and didactic.

After living with these maps in her studio for a year, Kozloff began to collage onto them - that which is NOT taught in school. Given a 2012 residency at her alma mater, Carnegie Mellon University, she worked with printer/technician Fran Flaherty in their new Digital Arts Studio, an opportunity to explore a contemporary technology and language. She would troll the Internet for the most precise and condemning content to splice, traverse and overlay the originals, deflating national mythologies and revealing their childish cruelties. The Social Studies prints are in limited editions of 4. Returning to her own studio, Kozloff reintroduced her hand and voice, utilizing scissors, glue and paint to create more visceral, handmade surfaces, thereby producing an additional series of unique pieces.

The last three, Indo-Chine Francaise, Palestine and Italie, were produced in the artist's studio with Morgan Levy, her assistant, and printed at the Advanced Media Studio, New York University. Region Mediterranee de la France and La Seine et Ses Affluents are collaborations with Fran Flaherty.