



**The German Woodcut: Christiane Baumgartner**  
**September 30, 2017–May 28, 2018**  
**Frances Vrachos Gallery**

This exhibition celebrates the recent acquisition of *Transall* (2002), a monumental woodcut by German printmaker by Christiane Baumgartner (born 1967). In her contemporary depictions of motion and speed, Baumgartner combines the newest and fastest means of reproduction (photography and video) with the oldest and slowest (woodcut), fusing the precision of digital technology to the traditional and the handmade. At fourteen feet in length, *Transall* is among her most ambitious works and a milestone of 21st-century printmaking. The enormous image of military cargo planes on a tarmac is based on a found photograph that Baumgartner transferred to her woodblock and carved by hand over a period of ten months. In addition to *Transall*, the exhibition presents four other woodcuts by Baumgartner, including a four-part series capturing cars on the Autobahn as they approach an overpass (*Schkeuditz I–IV*, 2005), and a depiction of Allied bombers over Germany, based on a video still from a World War II documentary (*Trails I–II*, 2008). Of special note is the portfolio *1 Sekunde* (2004), a set of 25 woodcuts that together represent a single second of video that Baumgartner shot of a nondescript wooded landscape as it sped past the open window of her car.

Above: Christiane Baumgartner, German (born in 1967), *Transall*, 2002, woodcut on handmade Kozo paper, Lee M. Friedman Fund, 2017.84