

ARTISTS DRAW Artists Space

By VALENTIN TATRANSKY

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Donald Sultan organized a good drawing show. He chose the finest premise he could for selecting works of art—those works that have affected him personally. This is not to say that this method always succeeds. On the contrary, it's often better to organize shows on the basis of formal or epistemological similarities. But in this case it succeeded because he chose artists who really have strong tempera-

ments—Tom Martin, Auste Peciura, Alan Saret, Patti Smith, and Nancy Spero. Each one of these artists uses drawing as a free expression of their drawing personality; one feels that taste has been genuinely exercised here.

The best drawings in this show convey the idea of drawing as sexual marking. Patti Smith's and Nancy Spero's drawings are particularly noteworthy for their sexual imagery. Spero's gouache and ink drawings (the Bomb series from 1966-68) demonstrate a very fine handling of the medium. Tom Martin's drawing of two men in a café, *Victorio's* (1978), has a strong brooding quality with its dark chiaroscuro and monumental forms. Auste Peciura's drawings have beautiful frames which set off the dark pencil lines very well. Sultan said that these drawings contain a sense of freedom that is very important to him; I also think that this sense of freedom is important, especially if it is felt, as it is in these drawings, on an erotic level. (Artists Space, *January 6-February 10*)