Alan Sarat

Earth Tree 2/2 (Tree and Tree Communications)
_pencil and gouache, 20 × 14"_

Ensoiment of the Circles' Fabritrax, 1970
_colored pencil, 20 × 14"_

Inner Falls Ensoiment (gang drawing), 1970
_colored pencil, 24 × 38"_

Moss Faun's Ensoiment (gang drawing), 1970
_colored pencil, 24 × 38"_

"Rising Force Falls" Ensoiment (gang drawing), 1970
_colored pencil, 24 × 38"_

Trees of the After Landscape (Tree and Tree Communications), 1970
_ink and gouache, 20 × 14"_

Speeding Color Ensoiment (gang drawing), 1970
_colored pencil, 24 × 38"_

Introduction:

The recent demand and proliferation of exhibits of "works on paper" has significantly altered the meaning of drawing for both the viewer and the artist. What was essentially a study medium has become a medium to be studied. It is virtually impossible for artists' drawings to ever again regain the freedom that anonymity affords. Without this sense of anonymity competition extends into even the most private art endeavor.

With this in mind I must admit that I was reluctant at first to curate a drawing exhibition. Artists Space, however, has always held a special meaning for me. It is a place set aside primarily for artists and it is unique in this city. I decided to accept and to choose the drawings of these five artists whose work have stayed with me over the years because of the force of their singularity and clarity of thought. These drawings contain a sense of freedom that is especially important to me.

Each of these artists' drawings are statements that are personal only in that they courageously grasp the fundamental immediacy that welds idea to form. The styles are very individualistic if the materials are not. It is doubtful that the artists in this show are very familiar with each others work, but the similarities are explicit. I hope that the viewer gets as much from these works as they have given me.

D.S.
Auste Peciura
Mock Crucifixion of Mermaid, 1972–73
watercolor and pencil, 42 × 28"
Thorn Dress for Therianthorpe, 1973
crystal and acrylic paint, 42 × 28"
Constance's Glove is Falling, 1974
crystal, 36 × 24"
Constance Swallows Her Confidant, 1974
crystal, acrylic paint and colored pencil, 42 × 36"
Flames of Genius, 1974
crystal, 42 × 28"
Examining the Gavotte, 1977
crystal, colored pencil and tempera, 36 × 24"

Patti Smith
A Goat Talks to God, 1969
crystal and ink, 12 3/4" × 19 1/4"
The Sun Never Sets, 1969
crystal and ink, 12 × 10"
Lover's Ass, 1977
graphite and colored pencil, 12 × 18"
Glimmer Twins, 1978
graphite and colored pencil, 30 × 22"
Robert with Lily, 1978
graphite and colored pencil, 20 × 15"
Stoned Head, 1978
crystal and ink, 30 × 20"
Symbolism, 1978
graphite and colored pencil, 30 × 22"

Nancy Spero
Bomb and Victims, 1966
gouache and ink, 27 1/2 × 34"
Female Bomb, 1966
gouache and ink, 35 3/4 × 24"
Female Bomb and Victims, 1967
gouache and ink, 23 3/4 × 35 1/2"
Helicopter and Victims, 1967
gouache and ink, 23 3/4 × 35 1/2"
The Bomb—(rape), 1968
gouache and ink, 35 3/4 × 24"
Acknowledgements:

This exhibition reflects two primary intentions of Artists Space. First, that current work be presented in a context that contributes to its accessibility and second, that artists participate in the selection. Donald Sultan has considered at some length how best to approach the organization of a drawing show and what he felt should be included. He avoided a pre-determined structure or theme, and decided to explore his personal view of how and when drawings function most successfully. This non-traditional curatorial procedure might reveal more complex aspects of how artists are using and perceiving drawing than would a more contrived attempt at identifying superficial similarities.

I would like to thank Donald Sultan for undertaking this project and for giving it such careful attention. Our appreciation is extended to Tom Martin, Auste Peclura, Alan Saret, Patti Smith and Nancy Spero for their participation in the exhibition.

Helene Winer
Director

HW

Tom Martin

Untitled, 1976
pencil, 22 ¼ × 30”

Untitled, 1977
pencil, 41 ½ × 29 ¼”

B, 1978
pencil, 29 ¾ × 41 ½”

Jerome, 1978
pencil, 22 ¼ × 30”

Untitled, 1978
pencil, 24 ¾ × 41 ¾”

Victorio’s, 1978
pencil, 29 ¾ × 41 ¾”
Artists Space

Artists Draw

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Tom Martin
Auste Peciura
Alan Saret
Patti Smith
Nancy Spero

Artists Space
January 6–February 10
Organized by Donald Sultan

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105 Hudson Street NYC 10013

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