

Carolyn Martin Works on Paper

September 30 - October 18, 1997

The life-size gestural and abstract charcoal, crayon and pastel drawings of Carolyn Martin are on exhibit at the A.I.R. Gallery in Soho from September 30 through October 18.

Martin's drawings are powerful gestures that address not only abstraction but the central problem of how abstraction speaks and embodies value. A figural image emerges from the process and is in turmoil with the gesture as a statement with formal and sociological implications. There is a powerful narrative amidst abstraction here. Contained as a single unit, each stroke is independent but interdependent of its community. Gesture and figure float free of the edges in the rootlessness of modernism, but are united in the formal and experiential processes that bring the existence of art and life together.

Martin has exhibited solo in New York City since 1989. She has also exhibited at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago, the J.B. Speed Art Museum in Louisville, Kentucky, the Houston Hall Art Gallery at the University of Pennsylvania, and the Charles A. Wustum Museum of Fine Arts in Racine, Wisconsin, among others, and has work currently on view at the African American Museum in Dallas, TX.

Martin holds a B.F.A. from the University of Wisconsin, attended the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and earned an M.F.A. from Pratt Institute in New York. She has taught at the University of Pennsylvania and City College in New York City.

The opening reception is Saturday, October 4, from 4 to 6 pm. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 11 am to 6 pm.