Tel. (212)741-8849 Fax. (212)741-8163

Hollis Sigler

February 18 - March 19 22 Cortlandt Alley

Andrew Kreps Gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition of the work of Hollis Sigler at 22 Cortlandt Alley. Including works made between 1981 and 2000, the exhibition is the first of the artist's work in New York since the 1980s and is organized in collaboration with Steven Scott Gallery, Baltimore.

In the late 1970s, Sigler abandoned photorealism in favor of a naive style, influenced by the unrestrained drawing of her youth, and driven by a desire to shift how narrative was communicated in art. Centered on the experiences of women, Sigler's works from the early 1980s portrayed domestic scenes set within skewed, nearly theatrical spaces. Figures were often depicted in shadow or absent entirely from Sigler's compositions, and in their place, opened dressers, strewn items of clothing, and traces of activity would suggest the aftermath of an event. This was often reinforced by the works' titles and additional text, which adorned the works and their intricate, handmade frames. Sigler viewed the removal of the figure as a way to generate visual tension and further explore more fleeting emotional states, such as passion, romance, desire, as well as anxiety, and fear.

Sigler's work would undergo another shift in 1985 after she was diagnosed with breast cancer, a disease that had also afflicted her mother and grandmother. While Sigler initially kept her diagnosis private, her works became increasingly charged with frenetic brushstrokes and agitated colors. Sigler connected her own fears of impermanence with the natural world, and impending ecological crisis. Tidal waves, earthquakes, and fires created scenes of disequilibrium and imbalance, a world that appeared to be in free fall.

After her cancer recurred in 1992, the subject of illness became an urgent fixture within Sigler's work, as she stated that she "had to incorporate the 'cause' because as an artist I have an obligation to say something, to be responsible for my community." Sigler started her series *Breast Cancer Journal: Walking with the Ghosts of My Grandmothers* that same year, an intensely vulnerable series of works documenting her experience with the illness. Sigler's emotional cycles were laid bare in the works' titles, the tones of which ranged from those filled with despair, like *I'd Make A Deal With The Devil*, 1996 to triumphant, such as *I'm Holding Out For Victory, Winning Is My Greatest Desire*, 1998. Despite her waning health,

Sigler remained resolute, positioning her work not only as a personal catharsis but also as a way to demystify the disease, as she scrawled excerpts from medical journals, news stories, as well as Audre Lorde's *The Cancer Journals*, on the works surfaces and frames. In her final works, Sigler seemed to grapple with her own imminent death, and defying her physical challenges, adopted a monumental scale. In And Peace on Earth, Goodwill Towards Men, 2000, curtains in the upper corners open to reveal a scene depicting cars driving through a snowy, nocturnal storm with lit houses in the background. Hovering above the street is a triumphant trophy, glowing in the night, suggesting Sigler achieved the victory she sought.

Hollis Sigler (b. 1948, Gary, IN, d. 2001, Prairie View, IL) was an artist and educator who lived and worked in Chicago. Sigler earned her Master of Fine Arts from the School of The Art Institute of Chicago in 1973 and co-founded Artemesia Gallery, a female cooperative gallery in Chicago that same year, and rose to prominence as part of Chicago's vibrant art scene in the years following. In 1985, Sigler was diagnosed with breast cancer, which after a period of remission, recured in 1992. Sigler's experience with the illness had a profound impact on her artistic work, leading her to publish her seminal book Breast Cancer Journal in 1999. In 2009, the Rockford Art Museum, Illinois mounted the first posthumous retrospective of Sigler's work, titled Expect the Unexpected, which traveled to the Chicago Cultural Center in 2010. Other exhibitions of Sigler's work include Breast Cancer Journal, Rockford College Art Gallery, 1993, traveled to National Museum of Women in the Arts, 1993, and MCA Chicago, 1994. Sigler's work was included in the 1981 Whitney Biennial, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, and the 39th Corcoran Biennial, Contemporary Art Center, Cincinnati, 1985. Additionally, Sigler exhibited with Gladstone Gallery, New York (1986 and 1981), Carl Hammer Gallery, Chicago (1998 and 1995), and Steven Scott Gallery, Baltimore (1998, 1996, 1995, 1993, and 1990). Hollis Sigler's works are held in the permanent collections of the Art Institute of Chicago, the Baltimore Museum of Art, the Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, Ohio, the High Museum of Art, Atlanta, Georgia, the Honolulu Museum of Art, the Indianapolis Museum of Art, the National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, DC the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, the Seattle Art Museum, among others.

Andrew Kreps Gallery

ENTRANCE

22 Cortlandt Alley, New York, NY 10013 Tue-Sat, 10 am-6 pm andrewkreps.com

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MAIN GALLERY



HOLLIS SIGLER The Lady Desires The Divine For Herself, 1990

Oil on board with painted frame 16 1/2 x 19 1/2 inches (41.9 x 49.5 cm.) (HOS21-006)



HOLLIS SIGLER She Kept Devising Means To Escape, 1981

Oil pastel on paper with painted frame 28 1/4 x 34 inches (71.8 x 86.4 cm.) (HOS21-023)



HOLLIS SIGLER She Could Always Hide Behind Anger, 1981

Oil pastel on paper with painted frame 28 1/4 x 34 inches (71.8 x 86.4 cm.) (HOS21-022)



HOLLIS SIGLER Desire Released, 1983

Oil on canvas with painted frame 62 x 62 inches (157.5 x 157.5 cm.) (HOS21-005)



HOLLIS SIGLER Her Fantasy Of Love Was Larger Than Life, 1984

Oil pastel on paper, painted frame 29 1/2 x 34 1/2 inches (74.9 x 87.6 cm.) (HOS21-016)





HOLLIS SIGLER A Longed For Dream Of Fulfillment and The Beginning Of The End, 1996

Oil on canvas with painted frame Diptych: 32 x 36 inches (81.3 x 91.4 cm.) each (HOS21-014)



HOLLIS SIGLER I'd Make A Deal With The Devil, 1996

Oil on canvas with painted frame 66 x 66 inches (167.6 x 167.6 cm.) (HOS21-003)



HOLLIS SIGLER She Believes In Herself, 1988

Oil pastel on paper with painted frame 25 x 30 1/2 inches (63.5 x 77.5 cm.) (HOS21-004)



HOLLIS SIGLER It Is More Than The Loss Of My Breast, 1993

Oil on canvas with painted frame 54 x 66 inches (137.2 x 167.6 cm.) (HOS21-018)



HOLLIS SIGLER Saving Her Self Esteem, 1994

Oil pastel on paper, hand painted frame 29 1/2 x 34 1/2 inches (74.9 x 87.6 cm.) (HOS21-002)



HOLLIS SIGLER Hope Is Out There...Waiting For Us To Find Her, 1996

Oil pastel on paper with painted frame 29 x 34 inches (73.7 x 86.4 cm.) (HOS21-001)



HOLLIS SIGLER I'm Holding Out For Victory, Winning Is My Greatest Desire, 1998

Oil on canvas with painted frame 67 1/2 x 67 1/2 inches (171.4 x 171.4 cm.) (HOS21-017)

DOUBLE HEIGHT SPACE



HOLLIS SIGLER You Never Know When She Will Arrive, But She's Never Invited, 1998

Oil pastel on paper with painted frame 29 x 34 inches (73.7 x 86.4 cm.) (HOS21-007)



HOLLIS SIGLER And Peace on Earth, Goodwill Towards Men, 2000

Oil on canvas 78 x 102 inches (198.12 x 259.08 cm.) (HOS21-025)

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Hollis Sigler

BORN 1948, GARY, IN DIED 2001, PRAIRIE VIEW, IL

EDUCATION

| 1966-70 | Moore College of Art, Philadelphia, BFA |
|---------|---|
| 1968-69 | Junior Year Abroad: Florence, Italy |
| 1971-73 | School of the Art Institute of Chicago, MFA |

ACADEMIC POSTION

1978-2000 Faculty, Columbia College, Chicago

GRANTS

| 1987 | National Endowment for the Arts Visual Fellowship Grant |
|------|---|
| 1986 | Illinois Arts Council, Individual Artist's Grant |
| | Illinois Arts Council, Chairman's Grant |
| 1973 | Ann Louis Raymond Traveling Fellowship, School of the Art |
| | Institute of Chicago |

AWARDS

| Distinguished Artist Award for Lifetime Achievement, College Art |
|---|
| Association |
| Sidney R. Yates Advocacy Award, Association of Performing Arts |
| Presenters |
| Honorary Doctorate from Moore College of Art, Philadelphia |
| Childe Hassam Purchase Award, American Academy and |
| Institute of Arts and Letters, New York |
| Awards in the Visal Arts 6, traveling exhibition and \$15,000 award |
| |

| Andrew Kreps | 22 Cortlandt Alley, | Tue-Sat, 10 am-6 pm | Tel. (212)741-8849 |
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| Gallery | New York, NY 10013 | andrewkreps.com | Fax. (212)741-8163 |

sponsoredby the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art, Winston-Salem, NC

1984 Mr. and Mrs. Frank G. Logan prize for Painting, *Chicago and*

Vicinity Show, The Art Institute of Chicago

1980 Emilie L. Wild Prize for Painting, Chicago and Vicinity Show, The

Art Institute of Chicago

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

| 2022 | Andrew Kreps Gallery, New York |
|------|--|
| 2009 | Expect the Unexpected, Rockford Art Museum, Rockford, Ill.; |
| | Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago |
| 1998 | Dancing on Death's Door, Carl Hammer Gallery, Chicago |
| | Being on the Edge of Hope, New Mexico State University, Las |
| | Cruces, N.Mex. Hollis Sigler/New Work, Steven Scott Gallery, |
| | Baltimore |
| 1997 | Hollis Sigler/Prints, Elvehjem Museum of Art, University of |
| | Wisconsin-Madison |
| 1996 | Making a Deal With The Devil, Susan Cummins Gallery, Mill Valley, Calif. |
| | Early Drawings, Steven Scott Gallery, Baltimore, |
| | Etiquette For Dying, Printworks Gallery, Chicago |
| | To Deal With the Devil: A Breast Cancer Journal, Arkansas Art |
| | Center, Little Rock |
| 1995 | In the Palace of Passion, Steven Scott Gallery, Baltimore |
| | Tending the Garden, Carl Hammer Gallery, Chicago |
| | Dancing on the Edge, Moore College of Art and Design, |
| | Philadelphia Working Towards Paradise, Fort Wayne Museum of |
| | Art, Ind. |
| 1994 | Words Against the Shifting Seasons, Columbia College Art Gallery, |
| | Chicago (accompanied by artist book Words Against the Shifting |
| | Seasons: Women Speak of Breast Cancer, collected writings edited |
| | by Whitney Scott, illustrated by H. Sigler) |
| | Not Many Rest Stops, Susan Cummins Gallery, Mill Valley, Calif. |
| | The Breast Cancer Journal, Museum of Contemporary Art, |
| | Chicago, catalogue essay by Staci Boris* |
| | I Can't Even Get the Pictures to Hang Straight, complete room |
| 1000 | installation at Art Chicago, Printworks Gallery |
| 1993 | New Drawings, Printworks Gallery, Chicago |
| | Breast Cancer Journal: Walking with the Ghosts of My |
| | Grandmothers, Rockford College Art Gallery, Rockford, Ill. Traveled to the National Museum of Women in the Arts, |
| | • |
| | Washington, D.C., catalogue essay by Debora Duez Donato New Work, Steven Scott Gallery, Baltimore |
| 1992 | Breast Cancer Journal: Walking with the Ghosts of My |
| 1774 | Grandmothers, Susan Cummins Gallery, Mill Vallery, CA |
| | Grammoniers, Susan Cummins Ganery, with vallery, CA |

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| | Meditations on Maia and Other Works, Dart Gallery, Chicago |
|------|---|
| 1991 | New Drawings, Printworks Gallery, Chicago |
| 1990 | Dart Gallery, Chicago, IL (also in 1988, 1985, 1983) |
| | New Drawings and Important Works of the Eighties, Steven Scott |
| | Gallery, Baltimore |
| 1989 | New Monotypes, Printworks Gallery, Chicago |
| 1988 | Paintings, Drawings and Prints: 1976-1986, Chicago Public Library |
| | Cultural Center, Chicago |
| 1986 | Barbara Gladstone Gallery, New York |
| 1985 | Akron Art Museum, Ohio, catalogue essay by Barbara |
| | Tannenbaum |
| 1982 | A Journey to Somewhere from Nowhere, Barbara Gladstone Gallery, |
| | New York; University of South Florida at Tampa, brochure essay |
| | by Allan Schwartzman |
| 1981 | Poisoned, Barbara Gladstone Gallery, New York; Okun-Thomas |
| | Gallery, St. Louis |
| | Incantations, Nancy Lurie Gallery, Chicago |
| 1980 | Nancy Lurie Gallery, Chicago |
| | |

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

| GROOT EXHIBITIONS | |
|-------------------|--|
| 2021 | Closer to Life: Drawings and Works on Paper in the Marieluise Hessel |
| | Collection, CCS Bard, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY |
| 1997 | A Game of Chance, Printworks Gallery, Chicago, IL; Susan |
| | Cummins Gallery, Mill |
| | Envisioning the Contemporary: Selections from the Permanent |
| | Collection, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago |
| | Not So Still Life, Steven Scott Gallery, Baltimore |
| | The Clothes Show: Objects for and About Clothes, Center Galleries, |
| | Center for Creative Studies, Detroit |
| | Preserving the Past, Securing the Future: Donations of Art 1987- |
| | 1997, National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C. |
| | In Bloom, Steven Scott Gallery, Baltimore |
| | Portfolio 97, Carl Hammer Gallery, Chicago |
| | Small Works: Part I, Printworks Gallery, Chicago |
| | In the Image of Women, Carl Hammer Gallery, Chicago |
| 1996 | Women of the Chicago Imagist Movement, Rockford Art Museum, |
| | Rockford, III, Illinois Art Gallery, Chicago |
| | Art in Chicago, 1945-1995, Museum of Contemporary Art, |
| | Chicago |
| | Self-Portraits 1996, Printworks Gallery, Chicago |
| | Fire and Light, Susan Cummins Gallery, Mill Valley, Calif. |
| | Contemporary Printmaking in America: Collaborative Prints |
| | and Presses, National Museum of American Art, Smithsonian |
| | Institution, Washington, D.C. |
| 1995 | Contemporary Art by Indiana Artists, Indianapolis Museum of |
| | |

Art-Columbus Gallery, Columbus, Ind.

A Distant Grace: Before, After and During Breast Cancer, Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art, Colo.; The Firehouse Gallery, Nassaau Comminity College, Garden City, N.Y.; Dana Bleff Gallery, New York

Love Flight of A Pink Candy Heart: A Compliment to Florine Stettheimer, Holly Soloman Gallery, New York Regarding Women, Steven Scott Gallery, Baltimore Chicago Imagism: A 25 Year Survey, Davenport Museum of Art, Iowa

Art About Life: Contemporary American Culture, Indiana University, Bloomington

1994 *Contemporary Works on Paper from the Collection*, National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C.

The Printer's Art: Works from the Shark's Ink. Print Workshop, The

Contemporary Museum, Honolulu

Nocturnes, Steven Scott Gallery, Baltimore

One In Eight: Women and Breast Cancer, Santa Monica College Art Gallery, Santa Monica, CA

1993 Summer Skies, Steven Scott Gallery, Baltimore

The Print and Drawing Society 25th Anniversary Exhibition,

Baltimore Museum of Art

WOMAN: To the Third Power, Carl Hammer Gallery, Chicago The Return of the Cadavre Exquis, The Drawing Center, New York Art About Art, Steven Scott Gallery, Baltimore

1992 Face To Face: Self Portraits by Chicago Artists, Chicago Cultural Center

Jenter

Environmental Terror, Fine Arts Gallery, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Catonsville

Frostburg State University, Main Street Gallery, Richmond, VA *Presswork: The Art of Women Printmakers*, Lang Communications Corporate Collection; The National Museum of Women in the

Arts, Washington, D.C.; exhibition traveled to: Madison, Atlanta, Youngstown, Kansas City, Wichita, Portsmouth, and Joplin through 1994, essays by Trudy Victoria Hansen and Eleanor

Hartney

1991

Into the Forest, Steven Scott Gallery, Baltimore

1990 In the Garden, Steven Scott Gallery, Baltimore

1989 Iconic Image, Susan Cummins Gallery, Mill Valley, CA

At the Table, Taft Museum, Cincinnati, brochure essay by Abby

Schwartz

Land/Sea/Air: Recent Atmospheric Vistas, Steven Scott Gallery, Baltimore Views from Within, Lockport Gallery, Illinois State Museum, Lockport; Art Gallery of the Illinois State, Springfield Not So Naive!: Six Women Artists, Steven Scott Gallery, Baltimore

1988 Nocturn: Portraying the Night, Kemper Gallery, Kansas City Art

Institute

1987 Surfaces: Two Decades of Painting in Chicago, Terra Museum of

1984

1983

American Art, Chicago, catalogue essay by Judith Russi Kirshner Awards in the Visual Arts 6 exhibition, Grey Art Gallery and Study Center, New York University; Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati; Newport Harbor Art Museum, Newport Beach, CA, catalogue essay by Barry Schwabsky

Urgent Messages, The Chicago Public Library Cultural Center, catalogue essay by Russell Bowman'"

Word and Image: Selections from the Permanent Collection, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago

Thirty-eighth Annual Purchase Exhibition, American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters, New York

The Contemporary Arts Center Biennial, Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati; Cleveland Institute of Art; Herron Gallery, Indianapolis Center for Contemporary Art; Cranbrook Academy of Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan Symbolic Expressions: Five Women Artists, Summit Art Center, NJ,

catalogue essay written by Nancy Cohen

1985 Recent Acquisitions, National Museum of American Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

The 39th Biennial Exhibition of Contemporary American Painting, Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

The Chicago and Vicinity Show: Drawing, The Art Institute of Chicago

States of War, Seattle Art Msueum, catalogue essay by Bruce Geunther

The Chicago and Vicinity Show, The Art Institute of Chicago Selections/Art Since 1945, The Museum of Modern Art, New York

Art and Urban Resources, P.S. 1, Long Island City, New York Visions of Childhood: A Contemporary Iconography, Whitney

Museum of American Art, New York

A Few Fears, Tyler School of Art, Philadelphia

The American Artist as Printmaker, The Brooklyn Museum, New York

Alternative Spaces: A History in Chicago, Museum of Contemporary

Art, Chicago, catalogue essay written by Lynne Warren

Chicago: Some Other Traditions, Madison Art Center, Wisc.;

Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, University of Nebraska, Lincolm;

Noemal Mackensie Art Gallery, University of Houston; Lock

Haven Art Center, Orlando, FL; Anchorage Historical and Fine Arts Museum, Alaska; Arkansas Art Center, Little Rock, catalogue essay by Dennis Adrian

Clothes, The Museum of Modern Art, Art Lending Services,

General Electric, Bridgeport, CT

Illumination, The Museum of Modern Art, Art Lending Services,

Freeport-McMoran, Inc., New York

Back to the U.S.A., Kunstmuseum, Luzern, Switzerland;

Rheinisches Landesmuseum, Bonn; Wurttembergischer,

Kunstverein, Stuttgart, Germany

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| 1982 | Eight Artists: The Anxious Edge, The Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, catalogue essay by Lisa Lyons Inside Spaces, The Museum of Modern Art, Art Lending Service, Dancer Fitzgerald Sample, New York New Drawing in America: Part I, The Drawing Center, New York; Sutton Place Heritage Trust, London Painting and Sculpture Today 1982, Indianapolis Museum of Art |
|------|---|
| 1981 | Biennial Exhibition, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York Seven Artists, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, catalogue essay by Lynne Warren 50 Works of Art That Shouldn't Leave Madison, Madison Art Center, WI |
| 1980 | The Chicago and Vicinity Show, The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago Interiors, Barbara Gladstone Gallery, New York Touch Me, N.A.M.E Gallery, Chicago, catalogue essay by Joanna Frueh |
| 1979 | Portraits, Aspen Center for the Visual Arts, CO |
| 1977 | Works on Paper, 77th Exhibition, Chicago and Vicinity Show, The Art Institute of Chicago Chicago: Self-Portraits, Nancy Lurie Gallery, Chicago Lineup, The Drawing Center, New York Strong Works, Artemisia Gallery, Chicago |
| 1976 | Painting and Sculpture Today, Indianapolis Museum of Art |
| 1975 | Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, III. |
| 1974 | Walter Kelly Gallery, Chicago |
| 1973 | Fellowship Show, The Art Institute of Chicago Chicago and Vicinity Show, The Art Institute of Chicago |

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Sigler, Hollis. 1999. *Hollis Sigler's Breast Cancer Journal*. New York: Hudson Hills Press. Essays by Susan M. Love and James Yood. Enstice, Wayne, and Melody Meters. 1996. *Drawing: Space, Form, and Expression*. 2nd ed. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice Hall. Scott, Whitney, ed. 1995. *Words Against the Shifting Deasons: Women Speak of Breast Cancer*. Chicago: Calhoun Press. Illustrated by Hollis Sigler.

Broude, Norma, and Mary D. Garrard, eds. 1994. The Power of Feminist Art: The American Movement of the 1970s, History and Impact. New York: H.N. Abrams.

Carrol, Patty, and James Yood. 1991. *Spirited Visions: Portraits of Chicago Artists*. 1st ed. Urbana: University of Illinois Press. Essay by Debora Duez Donato.

Brown, Betty Ann, and Arlene Rave. 1989. *Exposures: Women and Thier Art.* 1st ed. Pasadena, Calif.: NewSage Press.

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SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Akron Art Museum, Ohio

American Academy of Arts and Letters, New York

The Art Institute of Chicago

Baltimore Museum of Art

City of Chicago, Public Art Collection

Columbus Museum of Art, GA

Fort Wayne Museum of Art, IN

Harold Washington Library Center, Chicago

High Musuem of Art, Atlanta

Indianapolis Musuem of Art

Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, WI

Milwaukee Art Museum

Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago

National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C.

Rockford Art Museum, II

Seattle Art Museum

The David and Alfred Smart Museum of Art, The University of Chicago

Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, D.C.

Whitney Museum of American Art, New York

Jane Voorhees Zimmerli Art Museum, Rutgers, The State University of New

Jersey, New Brunswick