

Since 1973, a gallery promoting the work of women artists and serving the community through public events

For Immediate Release:

Sara Schneckloth & Erin Wiersma

New Drawings

February 26 – March 23, 2013

Opening Reception:

Thursday, February 28, 6 - 8 pm

Gallery Talk:

Saturday, March 23, 4:00 pm



Soho20 Chelsea Gallery presents *New Drawings* from Sara Schneckloth and Erin Wiersma, on view from February 26 through March 23. This two-person exhibition features recent works by the artists including large works on paper.

There is an unmistakably physical component at the center of Schneckloth and Wiersma's drawings that contrast their examinations of incorporeal form. Each artists' work is reaching for a way to describe an experience ranging from scientific to spiritual, and the resulting imagery attempts to resolve these two seemingly antithetic elements.

Schneckloth uses the discipline of drawing to demonstrate how it creates and embodies human experience, and the ways in which this embodied experience sheds light on the visual cultures of science. In *Deep Sequencing*, graphite drawings navigate a visual passage between the laboratory's mapping of the human genome and a recollected subterranean landscape. The *Batir* drawings layer and weave graphite, ink, colored pencil, charcoal and wax into the forms of primitive hand-built walls and shelters, while alluding to the body's cellular integrity and organic architecture.

Wiersma's work explores the intangible aspects of human presence and notions of ordinary time. Through her large-scale paintings and drawings she seeks to discover a confluence of the spiritual and material. Utilizing a language of marks across the surface of the paper, residues of movement and energy as lyrical passages, the emerging layers become entwined, intimating dimensions outside of time and space. Each drip, smudge, or drag, and the intervals and spaces in between, become vital components of each work and are able to be encountered again in the present.

Sara Schneckloth is a graduate of Northwestern University and the University of Wisconsin - Madison, and has lived and worked in Iowa, Chicago, Seattle, San Francisco, and Cape Town, South Africa. She is currently based in Columbia, SC where she is an Assistant Professor of Art at the University of South Carolina, heading the Drawing Area. Her mixed media, interactive, and projected drawings have been shown in over fifty exhibitions throughout the US, South Africa, and France, including the Wisconsin Triennial, the Columbus Biennial, *Drawing Beyond* at the Princeton Arts Council, the Florida Experimental Film Festival, and in dozens of university galleries including the University of Cape Town's Michaelis School of Art and the Herron School of Art and Design. She has been a research fellow at Draw International in Caylus, France and at the Hambidge Center for the Creative Arts in Georgia, and was awarded the Pleasant T Rowland Fellowship at the Vermont Studio Center. Her scholarly essays on drawing and embodiment have appeared in the *Journal of Visual Culture*, *Visual Communications Quarterly*, and the *Manifest International Drawing Annual*, and she has presented at conferences hosted by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the College Art Association. As the recipient of the 2013 USC Provost Grant for the Creative Arts, she is expanding her research on the intersections of biology and architecture as imagined through drawing. Images of her work are at www.saraschneckloth.com.

Erin Wiersma received a Master of Fine Arts in Painting from the University of Connecticut and a Bachelor of Art degree from Messiah College. She has studied internationally at Instituto Lodovico in Orvieto, Italy. Wiersma is currently residing in Manhattan Kansas where she is an Assistant Professor of Art at Kansas State University. Wiersma's work explores the intangible aspects of the human presence using her own being as a point of reference. Through her large-scale paintings and drawings she seeks to discover the confluence of the spiritual and material. Wiersma has exhibited her works across the United States and international exhibitions and been included in national collections. Wiersma has been a national member of A.I.R. Gallery, Brooklyn NYC since 2011. At Kansas State University, Wiersma has been awarded several grants including competitive Faculty Research Grants and University Small Research Grants. Images of her work are at www.erinwiersma.com.

For further information, please contact the gallery at info@soho20gallery.com

SOHO20
C H E L S E A

547 W. 27TH STREET, SUITE 301 NEW YORK, NY 10001

212.367.8994 FAX 212.367.8984

TUES. – SAT. 12 – 6PM

info@soho20gallery.com www.soho20gallery.com