JAMES DRAKE: PAGES
New Drawings

Reception for the artist:  WEDNESDAY, July 16, 2014, 5:00-7:00 PM *

* Please note special WEDNESDAY opening *

Exhibition Dates:  July 16 – August 27, 2014

Contact:  James Kelly  jim@jameskelly.com

James Drake, Spider & Glove, drawing #1256 & 1257, 2013, Graphite, ink & book page on paper, Diptych, 19 x 48 inches unframed.

Santa Fe, NM -- James Kelly Contemporary is pleased to present a solo exhibition of new drawings by James Drake. This will be the gallery’s first exhibition with Drake and will consist of all new works.
The gallery’s exhibition will include approximately fifteen drawings made as a continuation of his epic two-year project to make one drawing each day, which resulted in the amazing group of 1,249 individual drawings that will be presented in his Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego exhibition opening the week prior to the James Kelly Contemporary show. The San Diego show opens on July 10, and continues through September 21, 2014, after which the show travels to the Blanton Museum of Art, then to The University of Texas at Austin where it will be on view from October 19, 2014 through January 4, 2015.

James Drake: Pages, New Drawings, being presented by James Kelly, takes a slight departure from the group of drawings to be shown at the San Diego Museum in that these drawings have been arranged in groupings as diptychs and triptychs. Master Drawings From the Collection of the Budapest Museum of Fine Arts, the first book on drawings acquired by the artist, serves as inspiration and as a point of departure for this new series of works. Drake literally uses pages removed from the book as paper for his own drawings; he even uses the book covers mounted to paper in several of the triptychs.

Drake has been known and well regarded as a master draftsman himself, and these new works are an excellent illustration of that fact. These works are beautifully nuanced, assured and at the same time hesitant. Many are drawn with bold inks, the softest of graphite or pale liquid watercolor. He even creates surreal compositions when he pulls from the book reproductions of Old Master drawings and then draws over them, or references the style of these earlier drawings. Speaking of these new works, Drake explained that these are a continuation of his interest in combining classical drawing with contemporary thought.

With this new group of works, Drake continues develop as an artist and to demonstrate his amazing facility with draftsmanship. These works will surprise many viewers by their collage-like compositions and classical references, but the sheer talent on display here will not be a surprise to anyone.

James Drake has had many museum exhibitions over his forty year career, including but not limited to the New Mexico Museum of Art, El

Drake has works in the following collections:
Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York
Blanton Museum of Art, University of Texas Austin, Texas
Brooklyn Museum of Art, Brooklyn, New York
Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington D.C.
Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, Texas
El Paso Museum of Art, El Paso, Texas
Lannan Foundation, Santa Fe, New Mexico
Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Museum of Fine Arts Houston, Texas
National Museum of American Art Smithsonian Institution Washington
New Mexico Museum of Art, Santa Fe, New Mexico
New Orleans Museum of Art, New Orleans, Louisiana
New York Public Library, New York, New York

Drake has been honored with these awards:
John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship
Nancy Graves Award for Visual Arts
National Endowment for the Arts Grant
National Endowment for the Arts Travel Fellowship, France

Drake is also the subject of many books and catalogues too numerous to list here.

For more information and visuals, please contact James Kelly, James Kelly Contemporary, 1611 Paseo de Peralta, Santa Fe, NM 87501 USA

www.jameskelly.com

email: jim@jameskelly.com

HIGH RESOLUTION IMAGES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

Tel: 505-989-1601; fax 505-989-5005

Gallery hours: Tuesday – Saturday 10 AM – 5 PM