Wes Mills & Susan York
Graphite on Paper

Opening Reception: Friday, November 6th, 2009, 5:00-7:00 pm
Exhibition Dates: November 6 – December 12, 2009
Contact: James Jernigan: jernigan@jameskelly.com

Susan York. Asymmetrical Form 11.16.08 (right side), 2008, Graphite on Arches 88 paper, 30 x 22-1/2 inches (on the left). Wes Mills. Untitled, 2006, Graphite on paper, 3-3/4 x 3-7/8 inches (on the right)

James Kelly Contemporary is pleased to announce an exhibition of drawings by Susan York and Wes Mills; the exhibition will consist of graphite on paper works from recent years by both artists. This will be York’s first and Mills’ second exhibition with the gallery.

Both Mills’ and York’s work in the show are composed of the same materials and techniques, yet are noticeably different in their end results. Mills’ work is ethereal, delicate, and of intimate scale while York’s is dense, geometrically based, and larger scale. These are two artists working in a similar vein yet produce drawings that are drastically different in feeling.

York’s drawings are always based on the three dimensional sculptures she constructs out of the same material, the drawings are a way to view and relate the three dimensional objects in a two dimensional presentation. They are made by repeatedly applying graphite to the paper and rubbing the surface, the results of which create a hazy glow
around the edges of the forms that alludes to the dense nature of the image. As in the sculptural work there is also a sense of tension in many of the drawings that’s achieved by the placement of the image on the paper. In certain instances, multiple planes of the sculptures are transcribed, resulting in a tension between the two or three images. Other instances the image hovers just above the lower edge of the paper creating a sense of tension between the graphite and the edge of the paper.

Mills’ drawings are very different in their poetic abstract qualities. The show will feature works from several different series spanning a range of years. Throughout the drawings in the exhibition Mills is experimenting with the process of mark making. Delicate lines, biomorphic forms, and shadows created by cuts in the paper characterize several of the series that will be on display. Mills’ drawings are gesture heavy yet only show the essentials.

The opening for the exhibition will take place on Friday November 6th from 5-7 p.m. with both artists in attendance.

James Kelly Contemporary is located at 1601 Paseo de Peralta, Santa Fe, NM 87501. Gallery hours for the duration of this show are Tuesday through Friday from 10:00-5:00 p.m. - Saturday from 12:00-5:00 p.m. - Monday by appointment. Please call the gallery at 505.989.1601 - fax 505.989.5005 - email jernigan@jameskelly.com for more information.

- high-resolution images available upon request -