



SUSAN GROCE

LORD HALL GALLERY

SUSAN GROCE

Prints & Drawings

July 24 - September 22, 2017



Game. Mixed Media Drawing

LORD HALL GALLERY

University of Maine

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COVER ***Spiral***. Mixed Media Drawing

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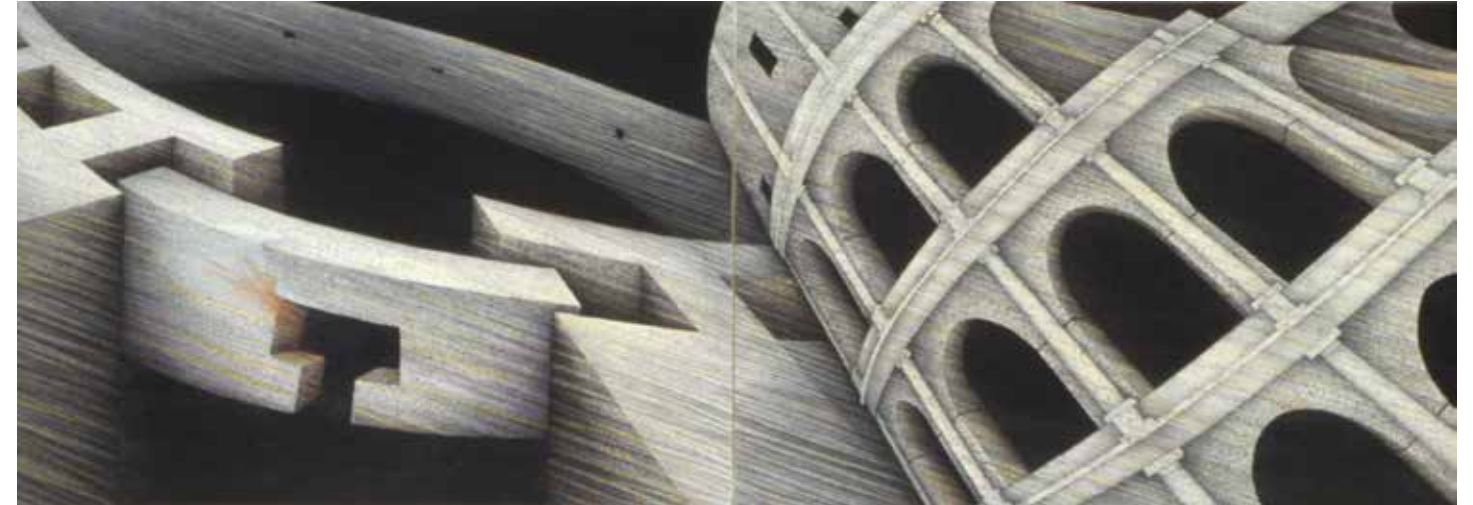
SUSAN GROCE

Prints & Drawings

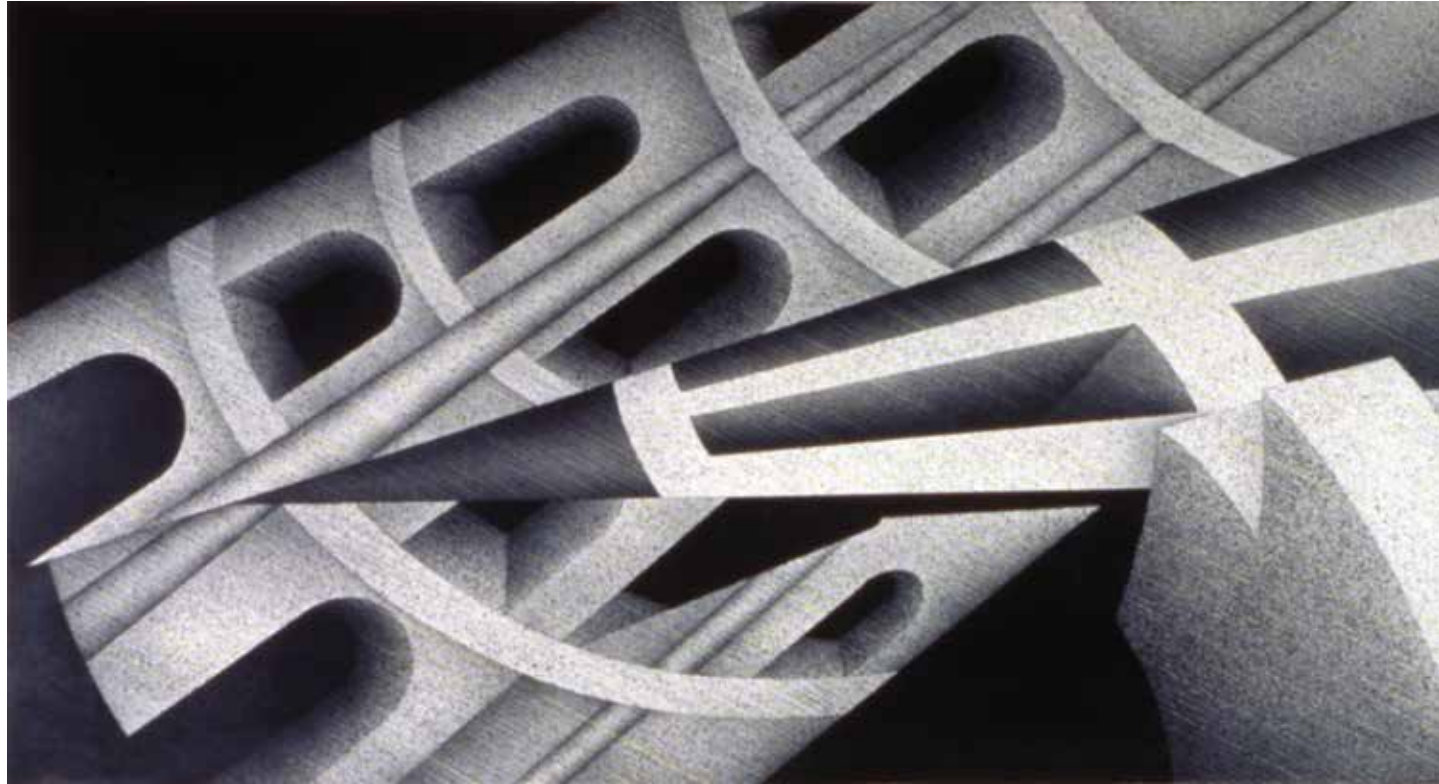
A walk into the exhibition *Susan Groce: Prints & Drawings* is like traveling into another world. Filled with large panoramic journeys into imagined and ethereal space, her work is a juxtaposition of sharp rectilinear images and rounded flowing, spiral forms; of actual and intangible configurations that challenge our sense of reality. Mazes, architectural elements and spirals collide creating complex and spectacular spatial moments that are boldly conveyed in meticulous detail.

Groce's work speaks to imagined and unexpected spatial possibilities. Sweeping curvilinear lines contrast against sharp edges and rigid shapes, creating a whimsical play of tension. The large scale of some of her pieces compliments the grand schemes, which are brought into sharp focus with the richness and tactile quality of her work. Through her mixed media drawings and prints, Groce encourages the viewer to imagine beyond simple realities, to question the basis of what we see and the transitory nature of experience.

Laurie E. Hicks
Professor of Art, Curator of Lord Hall Gallery



Historical Vortex. Mixed Media Drawing



Quake. Mixed Media Drawing

SUSAN GROCE

Artist Statement



I work to create fragile environments that are ephemeral and elusive, as though glimpsed on the very edge of visibility.

I think of the drawings as blueprints for contradictions, mapping the provisional nature of matter. Two-dimensional images of shifting scale become illusionary three-dimensional forms that do not obey natural laws. They are rendered as both solid and transitory, blurring the boundaries between fiction and fact, thereby creating a paradox intended to undermine the viewer's basic assumptions about perception and objective reality.

With the large-scale work, I try to confront common perceptions by creating forms that defy laws of gravity, contain nonsensical angles, exist in intangible spaces and move in unexpected trajectories. I make perspectives that are angled and aerial to help destabilize and unfix assumed viewpoints. Architectonic forms are appropriated



The artist in her studio.

and lifted out of context to undo what is time-bound, and place-specific. Three-dimensional forms rotate and shift in multiple perspectives, challenging notions of permanence, in a changing landscape.

My work is about moving beyond the realm of fact, finding the interface between the conceptual and the physical, confronting limitations—allowing new ideas to emerge, and inviting the viewer to reach for the ungraspable.



Botanical Maze 2.

Mixed Media Drawing

RIGHT

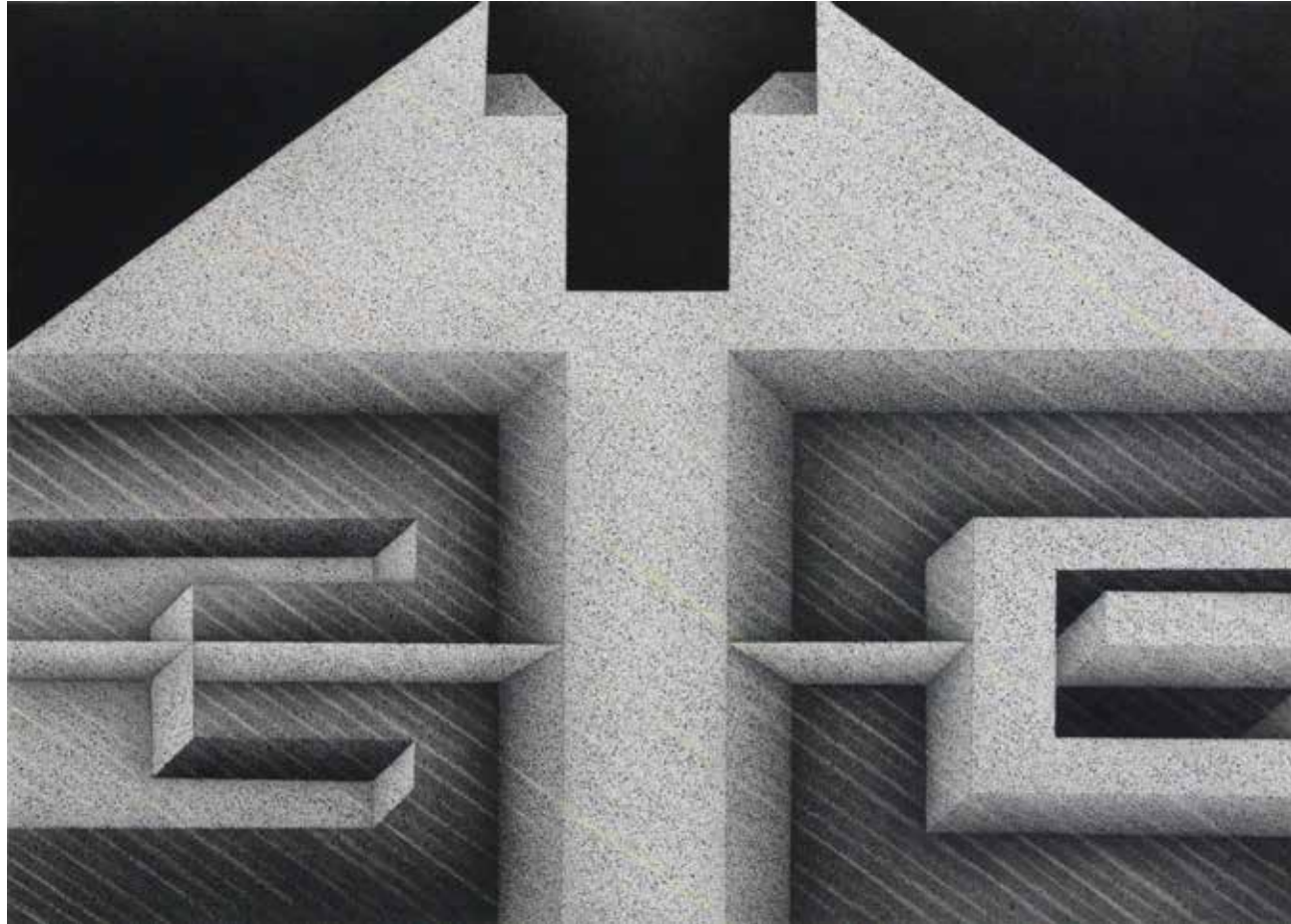
Botanical Maze 1.

Mixed Media Drawing

Botanical Maze 3.

Mixed Media Drawing



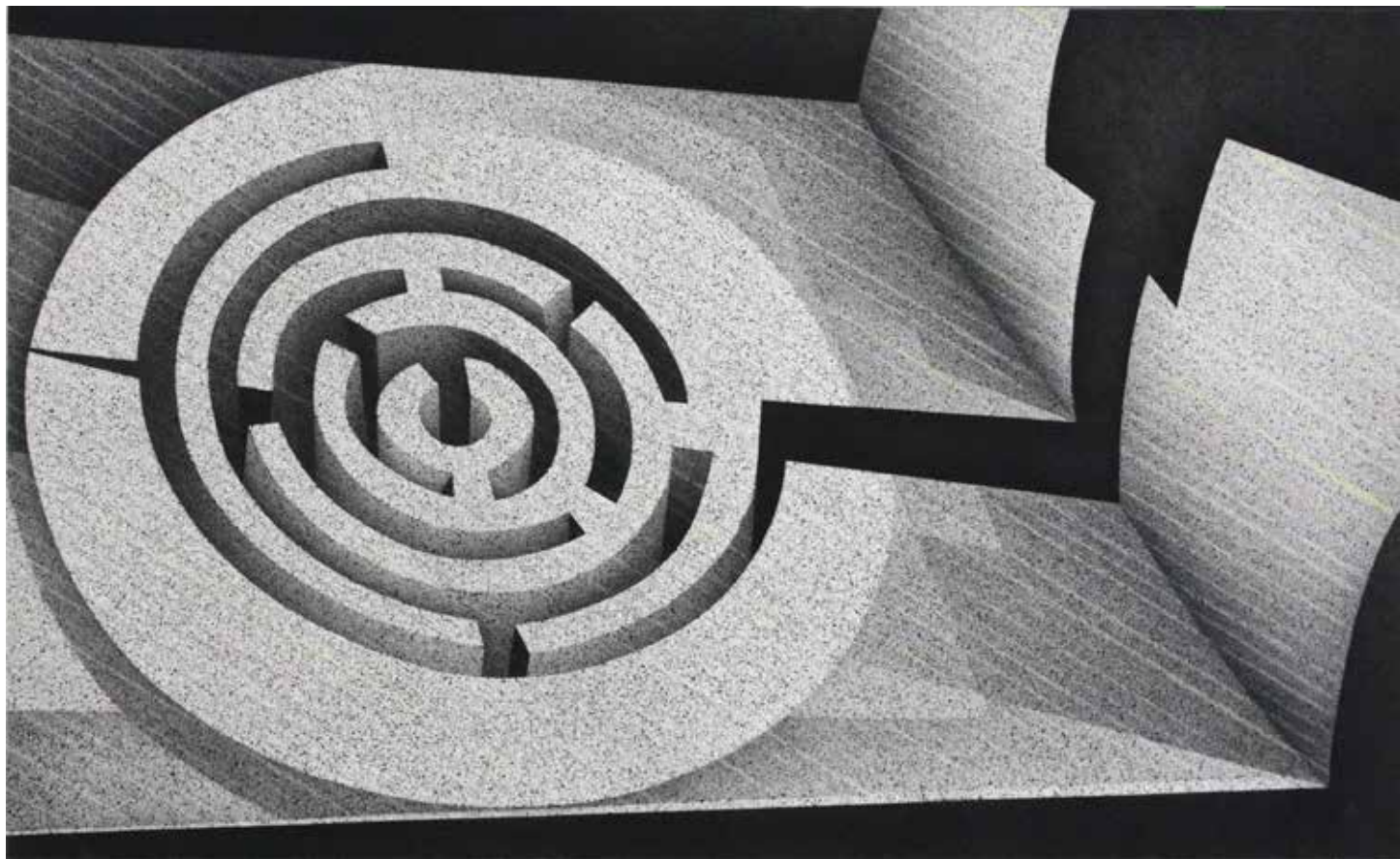


Polarity. Mixed Media Drawing

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Susan Groce received her MFA from the University of Michigan. She has worked at Atelier 17, Paris; the Edinburgh Printmakers, Scotland; Open Bite Print Workshop, Australia; and the MacDowell Colony, NH. She has been an Artist Mentor for the MFA program at Vermont College, and has been an Artist in Residence, Visiting Artist, Guest Lecturer, and Visiting Researcher (safer print practices) at over 40 art schools, programs, and universities in Australia, Ireland, Northern Ireland, England, Scotland, Canada, and the U.S.

Her prints and drawings have been in over 180 solo, invitational, and juried exhibitions and are included in private, public, and corporate collections in the U.S., Portugal, the UK, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and Singapore. Her research focus is on innovative and safer print materials and processes. Susan has worked with Friedhard Kiekeben in the development of the Orono Ground, and has received a variety of research grants and awards in the arts, including the University of Maine System Trustee Professorship.



Game V. Mixed Media Drawing



Game. Mixed Media Drawing



Amphiteatre. Mixed Media Drawing



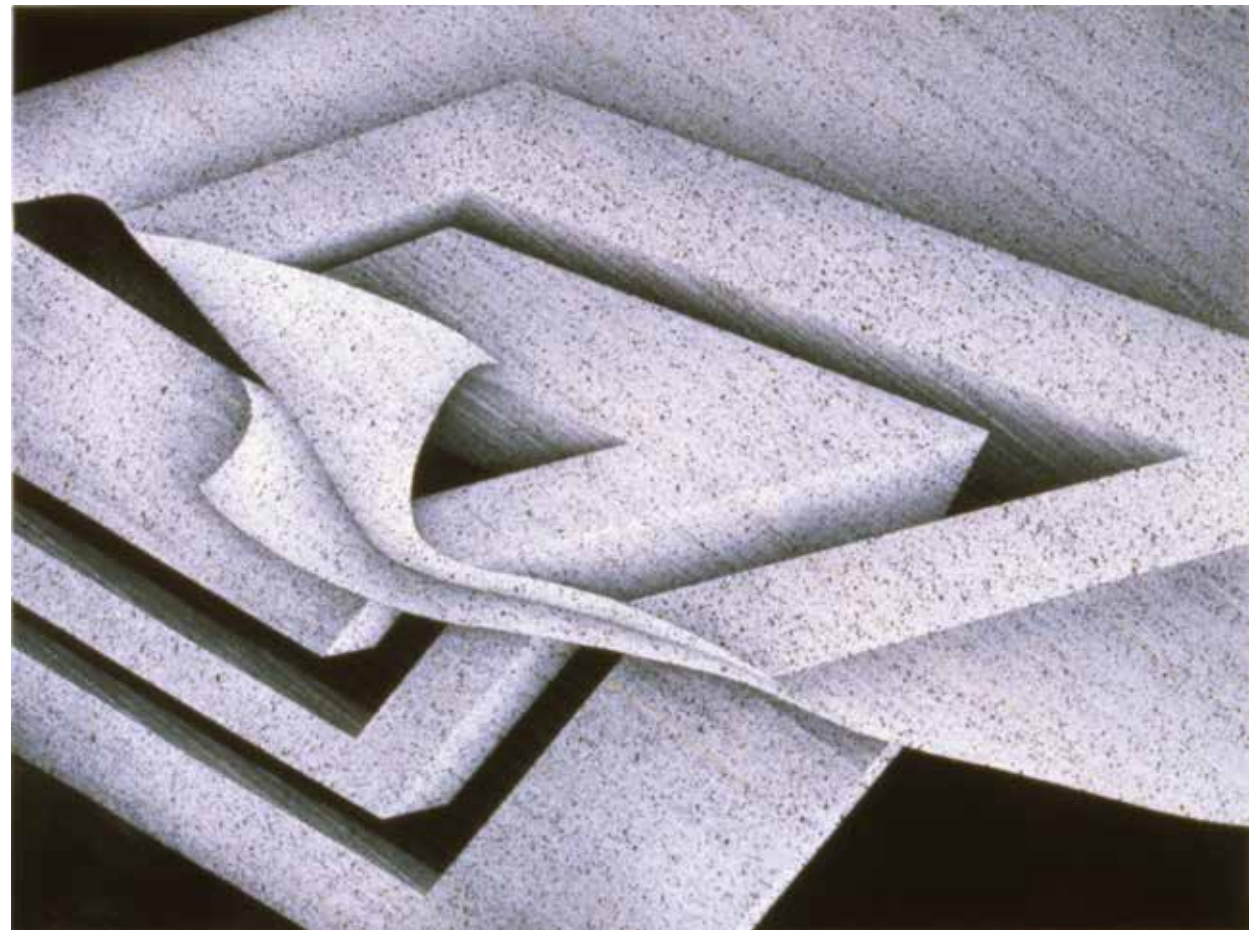
Maze.
Mixed Media Drawing



Spiral.
Mixed Media Drawing

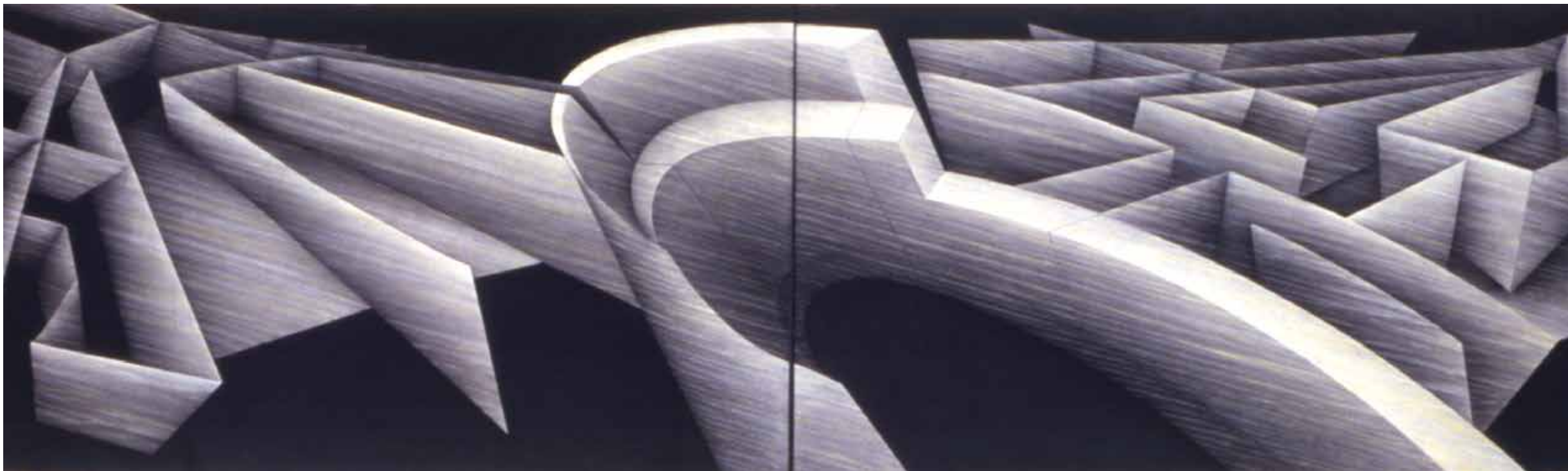


Emergence. Mixed Media Drawing



Folding. Mixed Media Drawing

Land Formations 3.
Mixed Media Drawing

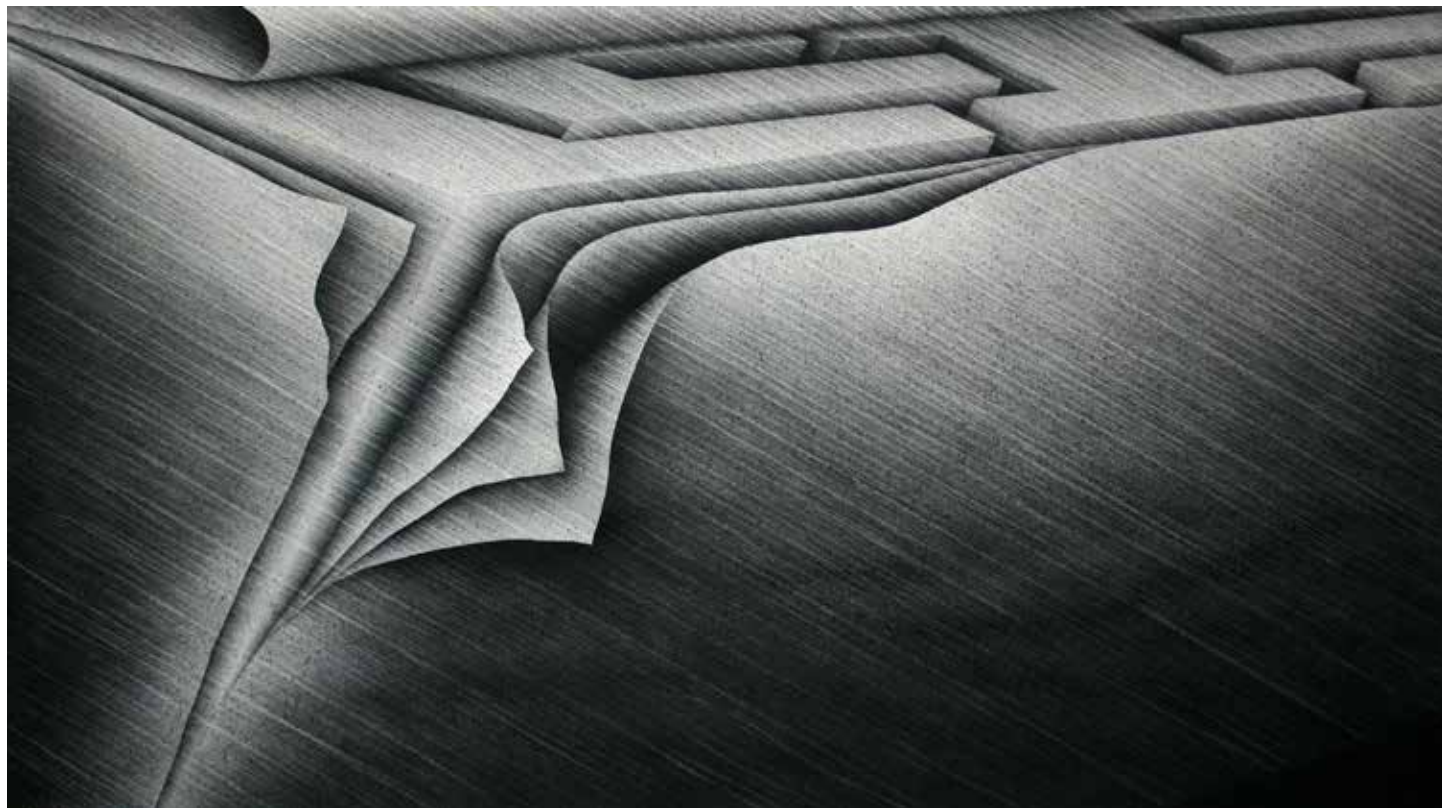




Invasive Species. Intaglio-type Photopolymer Prints



Invasive Species. (Detail) Intaglio-type Photopolymer Prints



Unfolding. Mixed Media Drawing

NOTES

COVER. *Spiral*. Mixed Media Drawing, 48 x 90 inches. Media: pastel, acrylic, colored pencil/on paper.

PAGE 2. *Game*. Mixed Media Drawing, 48 x 67 inches each—2 panels. Media: pastel, acrylic, colored pencil/on paper.

PAGE 7. *Historical Vortex*. Mixed Media Drawing, 48 x 67 inches each—2 panels. Media: pastel, acrylic, colored pencil/on paper.

PAGE 8. *Quake*. Mixed Media Drawing, 48 x 90 inches. Media: pastel, acrylic, colored pencil/on paper.

PAGE 11. *Small Botanicals: Botanical Maze 1, 2, 3*. Graphite Drawings, 18 x 24 inches each (3 images).

PAGE 12. *Polarity (UPS House)*. Mixed Media Drawing, 31x 41½ inches. Media: pastel, acrylic, colored pencil/on paper.

PAGE 14. *Game V*. Mixed Media Drawing, 29 x 47 inches. Media: pastel, acrylic, colored pencil/on paper.

PAGE 15. *Game*. Mixed Media Drawing, 48 x 67 inches each—2 panels. Media: pastel, acrylic, colored pencil/on paper.

PAGE 16. *Amphiteathre (UPS)*. Mixed Media Drawing, 20 x 46¼ inches. Media: pastel, acrylic, colored pencil on paper.

PAGE 17. *Maze*. Graphite Drawing, 30½ x 42¼ inches. Graphite Drawing Series.

PAGE 17. *Spiral*. Graphite Drawing, 30½ x 42¼ inches. Graphite Drawing Series.

PAGE 18. *Emergence (UPS Emerging Shapes)*. Mixed Media Drawing, 31 x 42 inches. Media: pastel, acrylic, colored pencil/on paper.

PAGE 19. *Folding (UPS Unfolding)*. Mixed Media Drawing, 31 x 42 inches. Media: pastel, acrylic, colored pencil/on paper.

PAGE 20, 21. *Land Formations 3*. Mixed Media Drawing, 48 x 84 inches each — 2 panels. Media: pastel, acrylic, colored pencil/on paper.

PAGE 22, 23. *Invasive Species*. Intaglio-type Photopolymer Prints, 40 x 112 inches each—3 large, vertical prints.

PAGE 24. *Unfolding*. Mixed Media Drawing, 48 x 90 inches. Media: pastel, acrylic, colored pencil/on paper.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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