

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Opening August 19 and running through September 13, 2004 The Drawing Room in East Hampton is pleased to present *Pat Pickett: Wind in the Canopy*, an exhibition of recent abstract ink drawings. Pickett, a longtime East End resident, began this series in her backyard several years ago while living in Bridgehampton. There, her search for a technique that would make visible the generally unseen forces of wind led her to attach a writing implement to the branch of a tree to allow the wind to make marks on a sheet of paper arranged on a tripod below. The resulting images provided a direct record of the lines Pickett had often imagined around branches of trees as they swayed in the wind.

After moving to Los Angeles in 2001, Pickett continued her exploration of the movement of wind through trees, often seeking out older species in the Southern California region where many of the works on view were created. Each drawing effectively captures an intersection of wind speed, time, geography – conditions that form the title for each piece.

In *Live Oak (“Winnie Stunt”)* – 2 hours – moderate breezes – *The Stunt Ranch – Santa Monica Mountains*, 2001, the wind led Pickett’s ink pen to swirl and cascade, while pausing at frequent intervals, leaving sinuous lines peppered by heavier dots where the pen remained until lifted again by the next breeze. By contrast the composition of *Monterey Cypress (Old Veteran)* – 1 hour – morning sea breeze – *Los Lobos, Monterey*, hovers in the center of the sheet, a minimal, dense cluster of lines remarkable for its concise impact.

Equipped with paper mounted to a drawing board, ink pens, a tripod and an extensive understanding of meteorology, Pickett sets out to explore places researched or spotted in her travels. Working in tandem with nature, Pickett elicits a unique drawing, distinct in the quality, direction, rhythm and thickness of the line, from each tree she selects. The results are expressive line drawings on pale blue paper that evoke associations with precedents as far reaching as André Breton’s automatism, Jackson Pollock and Cy Twombly.

A graduate of Scripps College with an MFA from Hunter College in New York, Pickett has had solo exhibitions in New York, Sag Harbor and East Hampton. Her work has been included in group exhibitions at The Parrish Art Museum, Guild Hall Museum and the Islip Art Museum.

For further information or reproductions, please contact Susan Papa at 631.324.5016 or info@drawingroom-gallery.com.