



Sharon Loudon: Simple Strokes
painting, sculpture, animation
April 6 – June 22, 2013

For Immediate Release: March 18, 2013 - Holly Johnson Gallery is pleased to announce the opening of Sharon Loudon: Simple Strokes, an exhibition of recent painting, sculpture and animation by the celebrated New York artist. An opening reception will be held on Saturday, April 6, from 6:00-8:00 pm. The exhibition continues through June 22.

For nearly twenty years, the common denominator and backbone of Sharon Loudon's visual vocabulary has been the line. Often using no more than a simple stroke of fingertip width, the line has diligently been explored by the artist through paintings, drawings, animations, sculpture and installations. These linear works sometimes evolve into simple rectangles – taking form with four simple strokes – never deviating far from their linear origins. Modest in scale and execution, her paintings and drawings prompted Benjamin Genocchio of the New York Times to describe them as "feeling airborne, as though Loudon blew them out of her hand."

The inherent energy and movement of Loudon's work has found a logical and amiable partnership with video, giving her the chance to continue exploring formal concerns; toying and teasing the narrative potential of her drawings and paintings. Her animations – sometimes two years in the making - continue to be screened and featured in many film festivals and museums all over the world. In 2011, *Carrier*, premiered at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC in a historical program of abstract animation since 1927. Loudon will premier yet another, new animation at the National Gallery of Art in September of this year entitled, "Community," which will travel to various museum venues. Three animations, *Carrier*, *The Bridge*, and *Hedge*, will be on view in the Dallas exhibition.

In 2011 Loudon was commissioned by the Weisman Art Museum in Minneapolis to create a large-site specific installation inspired by the Frank Gehry designed addition. The work entitled *Merge* was made out of more than 350,000 aluminum strips in varying sizes. Two wall sculptures both *Merge Compositions* will be included in the Dallas exhibition with this inspiration in mind.

Sharon Loudon attended the Atlanta College of Art (1982-85), The School of the Art Institute (B.F.A. 1988), and Yale University School of Art (M.F.A. 1991). Her work has been written about in numerous articles since 1985 in publications such as Art in America, Architectural Digest, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, Kansas City Star, NYArts Magazine, Boston Herald, San Francisco Chronicle, Sculpture Magazine, ARTnews, and The New York Times.

Loudon's work is in the permanent collections of the Arkansas Arts Center, AT&T, Birmingham Museum of Art, British Petroleum Amoco Corporation, Delaware Art Museum, Hallmark Cards Corporation, Microsoft Corporation, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, National Gallery of Art, National Museum of Women in the Arts, Neuberger Museum of Art, New Mexico Museum of Art, Panasonic USA, Pfizer, Inc., World Headquarters, Progressive Corporation, University of Alaska Museum of the North, Weatherspoon Art Museum, Weisman Art Museum, Whitney Museum of American Art, Yahoo! Corporate Headquarters, Yale University Art Gallery and the Werner H. Kramarsky Collection.

Holly Johnson Gallery is located at 1411 Dragon Street in Dallas. Gallery hours are 11 to 5, Tuesday through Saturday. The gallery is a founding member of CADD - Contemporary Art Dealers of Dallas. For information call 214-369-0169, email info@hollyjohnsongallery.com, or visit the gallery website at www.hollyjohnsongallery.com.