

reviews: new york

'Drawn/Taped/ Burned'

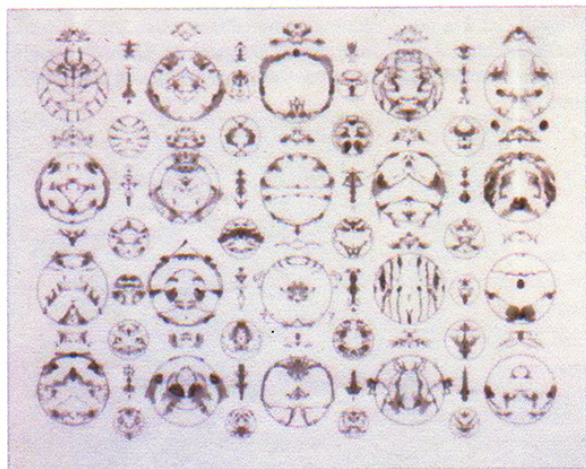
Katonah Museum of Art

Although its title, "Drawn/Taped/
Burned," might suggest three forms of
torture, this show is an exercise in pure
pleasure. This selection from Sally and
Wynn Kramarsky's important works-on-
paper collection represents a sizeable
chunk of a different side of art history
from the 1950s to the present. The 74
mostly abstract works, by 66 artists, re-
mind us how spellbinding and how close
to immediate inspiration drawing can be.

There is an emphasis here on diverse,
at times unexpected, materials, including
ash, wax, tea, tar, and walnut juice, and
on ingenious techniques, as in John
Cage's ethereal *River Rock and Smoke*,
4/13/90, #12 (1990), for which the artist
first burned the paper, then dipped it in

contributes an exquisite, taxonomic
Rorschach of filigreed inkblots from 1991
and Jene Highstein provides a constel-
lated ink-splash drawing that joins spon-
taneity and
control.

Representing
the "taped" por-
tion of the show
is Christine
Hiebert's cun-
ning abstract
configuration of
blue carpenter
tape, spliced and
arranged so as to
suggest a critter.
And making an-
other case for
the "burned" is
Kristin Holder's
drawing—one
set of marks cre-
ated with a
match held next
to the paper



Bruce Conner, *Inkblot Drawing*, 1991, pen and ink on Strathmore paper, 23 1/4" x 29".

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water to extinguish the fire, and then
traced a river stone on it with a single
black stroke.

The works here—modernist, Minimal-
ist, Conceptualist, and process—are by
the famous (Smithson, Serra, Johns, Le-
Witt, Judd, Ryman, Weiner) as well as by
the more or less emerging (Tad Mike,
Nicole Phungrasamee Fern, Tristan
Perich). And there is, of course, a bracing
dose of draftsmanship of all kinds, as can
be found in Trisha Brown's foot-drawn
rendering of her feet and Mel Bochner's
charcoal-and-pastel spatial conundrum,
Split Infinity (1992-93). Bruce Conner

until it flamed out. This is a show of
small, constant revelations, its sum as
great as its parts.

—Lilly Wei