

Biography

Sam Still (1953, Philadelphia, United States) is best known for his large format burnished black ink drawings on paper. Some with emphatically flat silhouettes of organic shapes as well as rectangles that divide and or connect, others with exposed white shapes, that when engaged over a prolonged period, will oscillate between object and opening. His obsessions are contours, edges, and repetition. Reared in the sixties and the son of a tool and die maker, it is machined metal and the lines of automobiles, machines, hand tools and home appliances that fueled the contours of his works and the hours spent in his dad's machine shop fed the need for manipulation of materials and substrate. Being raised in South Carolina (his father's home state) included yearly visits to his mother's parents in Philadelphia where his grandfather was an artist. Opportunities to explore his grandfather's studio occurred during the yearly visits, though these visits did not influence his future practice, he did understand that the "art world" existed. Still eventually landed in San Francisco and then New Orleans and later New York City for close to 20 years. The major Triennial, Prospect New Orleans, included his work in the 2010 Edition. He now divides his time between NYC and upstate New York.