



JENE HIGHSTEIN (1942-2013)

Untitled Drawing

Signed lower right, "Highstein '92"

pigment on graphite on paper

63 x 59 3/4 in. (78 x 64 3/4 in.)

1992

3607

PROVENANCE:

Ace Gallery

Private Collection, Beverly Hills

Heather James Fine Art

Jene Highstein was born in Baltimore Maryland in 1942. He earned a BA in philosophy from the University of Maryland in 1963. He completed post-graduate work in philosophy

at the University of Chicago and went on to study drawing at the New York Studio School

before earning his Post Graduate Degree from the Royal Academy Schools, London in 1970. In the late 1960s he turned his attention to sculpture, in which he continues to work.

Highstein has received a number of awards, including four National Endowment for the Arts grants, a Guggenheim Award and a St. Gauden's Memorial Prize. He currently lives

and works in New York, where he has also taught at the New York School of Visual Arts

as well as NYU.

Highstein describes his work as thinking about "a sense of existence of a thing in the world which would bring along some of the mystery of our history, our human history... our common history. Often, Highstein begins with a drawing – dense black shapes which

activate large white fields of paper – which are frequently displayed with the finished sculptures. Over the course of his career, Highstein's sculpture has experienced an evident shift from a great dependency on negative space to a focus on dimension and fullness. His sculptures focus on the essential nature of form, without distractions such as color. He has stated, "the square is an ideal form...and I don't work with ideal forms..."

Thus in comparison to many of Highstein's minimalist contemporaries, his totemic work is uncharacteristically human and inviting, addressing the viewer's most basic

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