

KATHRYN
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KATHRYN MARKEL FINE ARTS PRESENTS DRAWINGS FROM A ROOM AN EXHIBITION
OF NEW DRAWINGS ON PAPER BY CHARLES RITCHIE

May 14 – June 20, 2026
Artist Reception: May 21, 6-8pm
179 10th Avenue | The Pocket Gallery

NEW YORK, NY – March 30, 2026 – Kathryn Markel Fine Arts is pleased to announce *Drawings from a Room*, an exhibition of new works on paper by Charles Ritchie. This will be his first solo exhibition with the gallery and a reception will be held on May 21st, 6-8pm.

Charles Ritchie's intimate watercolor and ink drawings are the result of sustained attention to his immediate surroundings: details of his neighbors' homes and yards, and vignettes of his lived-in rooms. For more than forty years, his suburban Maryland neighborhood has been his muse, though light remains his essential subject.

Many of these drawings take shape over the course of many years. Ritchie explains, "My inspirations come in a flash and I hope to convey that initial excitement. When I begin to work, I am often dependent on the ephemeral: a slant of light, a certain season, a subject in a temporary state. When the state passes, I often put the work aside until it reappears. However, by the time the drawing is finished, the site may be vastly different than when I started; trees have come down, houses have new additions, etc. The exhibited work is an abstracted accumulation of many different experiences and events."

Ritchie's drawings move beyond what a camera can offer. His respect for detail is patient and precise. The ordinariness of the everyday becomes suffused with tenderness. Vast amounts of information is contained in these small works, and their intimate scale invites the viewer to look closely, to explore the details of spaces familiar and transformed. It is Ritchie's careful attention, and then our own, that transforms the ordinary into something of wonder.

Charles Ritchie has exhibited his watercolor and ink drawings in public and private galleries throughout the United States and Asia. His works are in such prestigious collections as the Baltimore Museum of Art, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Boston Public Library, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the New York Public Library, and the Yale University Art Gallery. The work is in many private collections such as the Cartin Collection and the Louis-Dreyfus Collection. <https://vimeo.com/1004168821>



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IMAGE CAPTION

Charles Ritchie, *House I*, 2012-2013, watercolor and graphite on Fabriano paper, 4 x 4 inches

MEDIA CONTACT

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ABOUT KATHRYN MARKEL FINE ARTS

At Kathryn Markel Fine Arts, we believe that significant contemporary art can be beautiful as well as visually and intellectually rigorous and that acquiring it should be a source of pleasure and self-discovery. Founded in 1975, the gallery with two locations in Chelsea, NY, works with a carefully edited, multigenerational group of artists united by hard-won craft and the joy each finds in their studio practice. Their sustained engagement with formal concerns — the materiality of paint and a distinct visual language — results in work that is both visually compelling and conceptually sophisticated. <https://www.markelfinearts.com/>

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