



Constellation Series #11, with Orion, 1986
 Compressed charcoal and pastel on paper, 19" X 26"
 Collection: Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI

Frances Hynes: The Constellation Series: 1985 – 1986

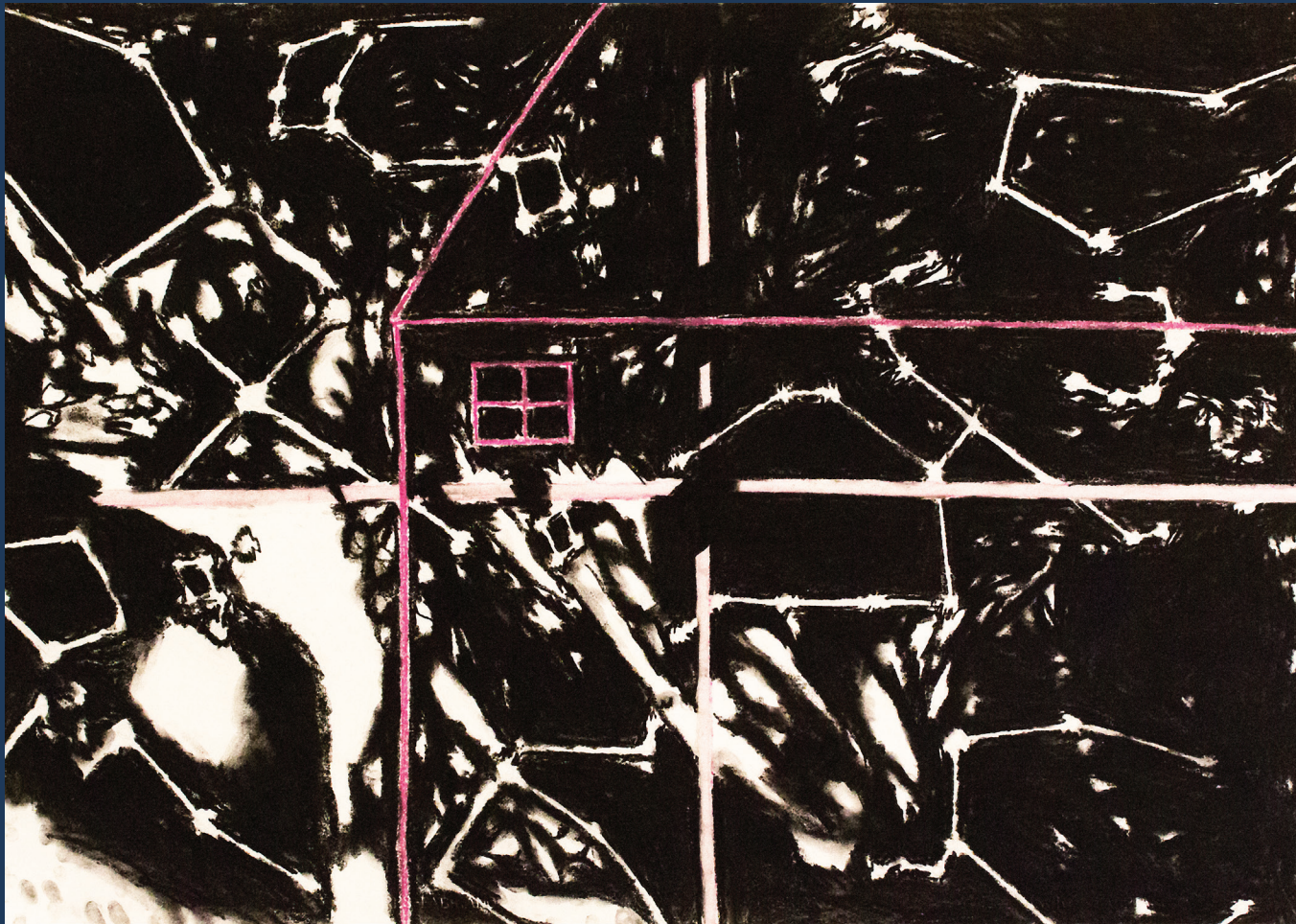
The Night Sky has always been a source of fascination. Around age nine or ten, I was given a book called Star Stories by Gertrude Chandler Warner from the Miller sisters, Veronica, Wanda and Angie, who were friends of my Mom’s. The patterns of the Big Dipper, Cassiopeia, Orion, Hercules and the Northern Cross became familiar.

In the summer of 1975, I took a mail boat, the Laura B from Port Clyde, Maine to Monhegan Island, twelve miles out to sea. There was no light pollution on Monhegan and for the first time I marveled at the Milky Way and the vast profusion of stars.

Another quiet get away during the 1970’s and 1980’s was a hamlet in Delaware County, NY. Here I watched the constellations cross the sky throughout the night. Lying on the ground, I used a flashlight to read the star maps and find the same stars above me. And in 1980 I spent a month at Millay Colony for the Arts in Austerlitz, NY, again seeing views of the Night Sky unspoiled by the lights of the city.

During these years, I was painting and photographing the rapidly disappearing barns and simple clapboard farmhouses seen throughout the country; as well as the Cape Cod style homes of my neighborhood. And then, a revelation: I began to see similar shapes in the imaginary lines connecting the stars and in the geometry of houses and barns. In this Constellation Series of 1985 and 1986, the geometry of architecture and the arrangement of stars converge, a fusion occurs. These drawings now seem like a link between the heavens and the earth. There were over twenty constellation drawings, many still exist, some are lost and some are included in museum and private collections.

Frances Hynes, December 2020



Frances Hynes

The Constellation Series 1985-1986

Frances Hynes: The Constellation Series: 1985 – 1986

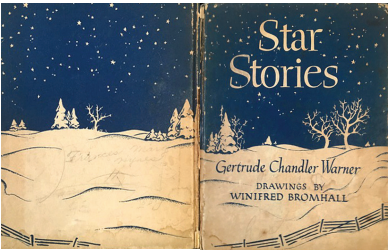
Exhibitions with Constellation works:
 Hudson River Museum, Yonkers, NY, Frances Hynes: Constellations, 2020-2021
 June Kelly Gallery, New York, NY, Celebrating 30 Years, 2017-2018
 Terry Dintenfass Gallery, New York, NY, Frances Hynes: Recent Work, 1987

YouTube Presentation:
 Conversations Around Constellations: Frances Hynes: Skyscapes, July 21, 2020,
 Hudson River Museum. Tour Frances Hynes: Constellations at the Hudson River Museum virtually with the artist Frances Hynes and Mark Taylor, HRM’S Manager of Planetarium and Science Programs.

Reviews:
 Lupo, Jackie, Abstract artist draws inspiration from constellations, The Rivertowns Enterprise, Vol. 44, #41, Jan. 24, 2020, p. #3.
 Lupo, Jackie, Abstract artist draws inspiration from the stars, The Scarsdale Inquirer, Vol. 99, #9, Feb. 28, 2020

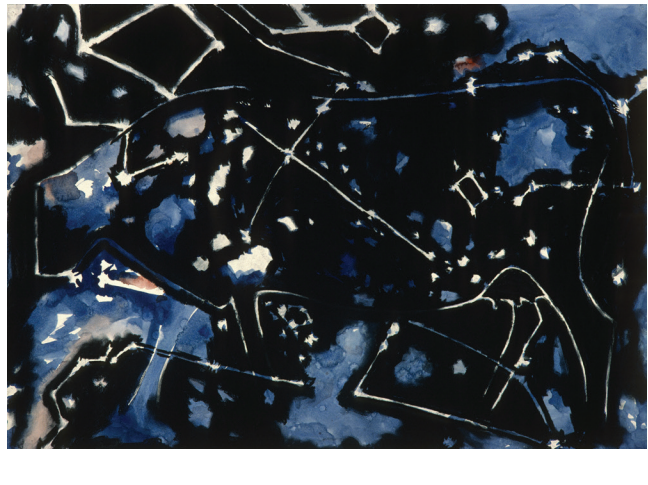
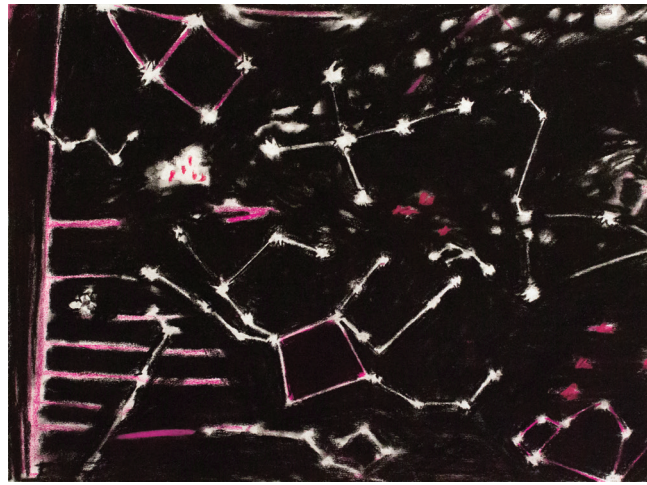
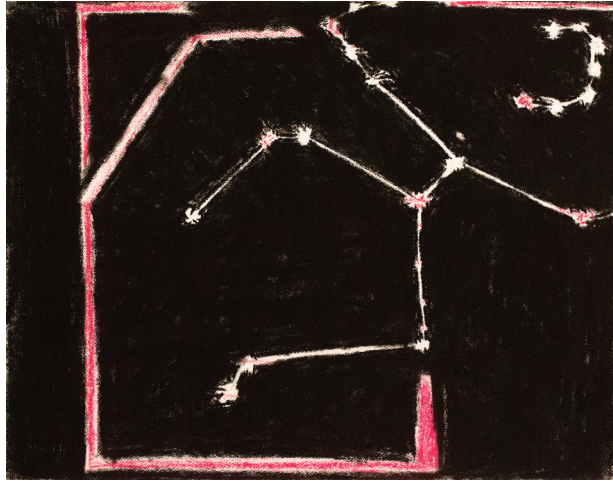
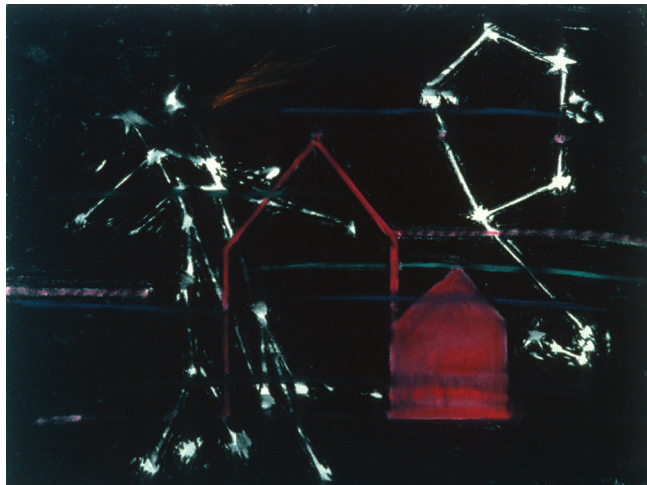
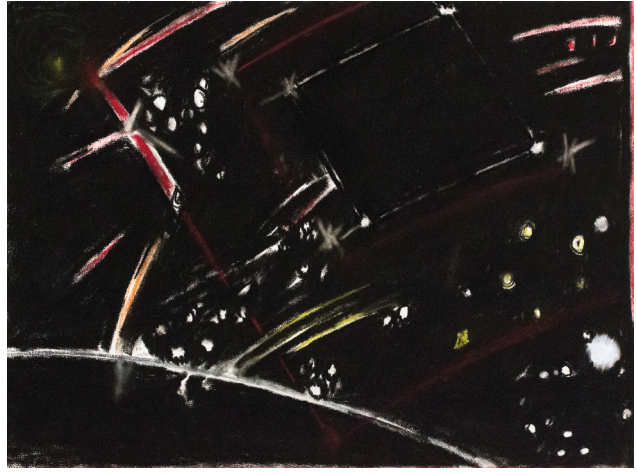
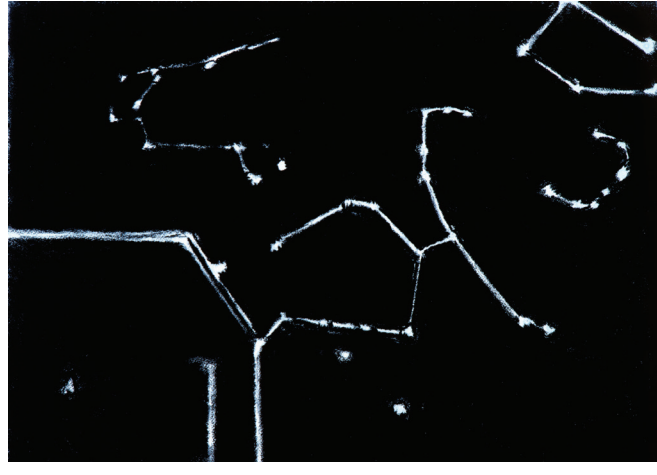
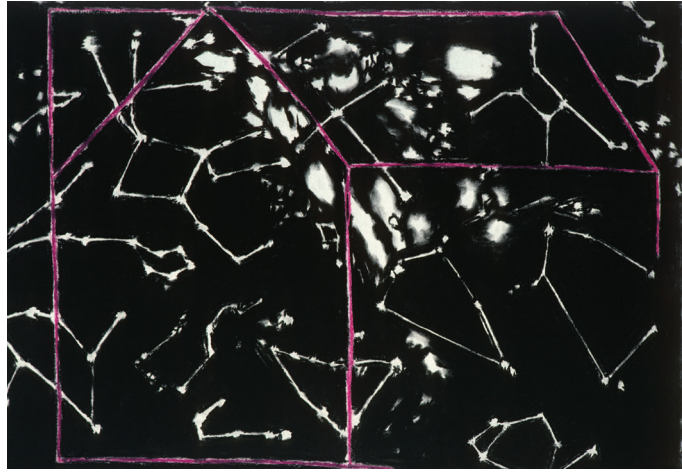
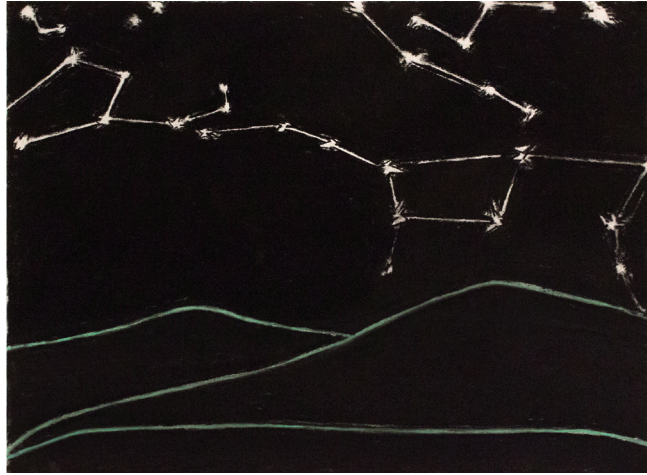
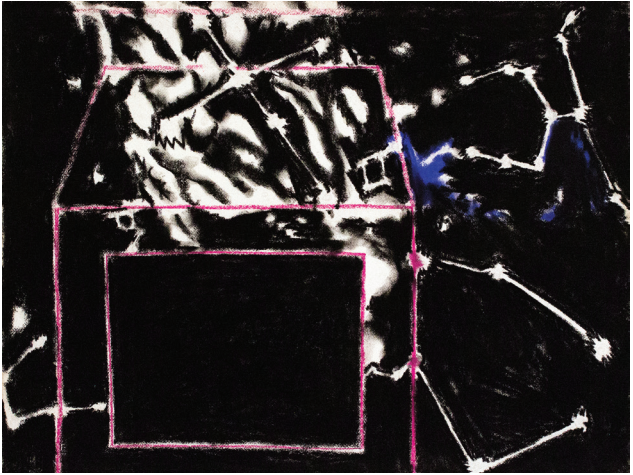
Collections with Constellation works: Brooklyn Museum, NY; Hudson River Museum, Yonkers, NY;
 Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI; Elinor Poindexter; Fitzgerald; Corbin, Silverman and Sanseverino, New York, NY.

Frances Hynes has also had one-person museum exhibitions at: PS1 Center for Contemporary Art, now called PS1 MoMA, Long Island City, NY; Hudson River Museum, Yonkers, NY; Ogunquit Museum of American Art, ME; New Britain Museum of American Art, CT; and Jacksonville Museum of Contemporary Art, FL; among others. The work has been shown at the American Academy of Arts and Letters, New York, NY. Hynes has received awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, Washington, DC; and the National Academy of Design, New York, NY. Her paintings are included in the collections of: the Farnsworth Art Museum, Rockland, ME; Portland Museum of Art, ME; Albany Institute of History and Art, NY; Colby College Museum of Art, Waterville, ME; Hudson River Museum, Yonkers, NY; Zimmerli Art Museum, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ; and numerous others.



Star Stories
 Gertrude Chandler Warner (American, 1890-1979)
 Illustrated by Winifred Bromhall (1893-1985)
 Boston: The Pilgrim Press, 1947

Credits:
Design: Ann Pachner
Photography: Jason Weller, Hudson River Museum, #'s: 3, 10, 1, 2, 6, 16, 7 and 8; Sara Wells, #'s: 12A, 4 and 11;
 Star Stories: Frances Hynes
 Unless otherwise noted all works are collection of the artist All artworks c. Frances Hynes 2021
 FrancesHynes.com
 Phyllis Stigliano Art Projects, Brooklyn, NY, phyllisstigliano.com



Constellation Series #10, Milky Way and House, 1986
Compressed charcoal and pastel on paper, 19" X 26"

Constellation Series #6, Big Dipper and Green Hills, 1986
Compressed charcoal and pastel on paper, 19" X 26"

Constellation Series #12A, with Castor and Pollux, 1986
Compressed charcoal and pastel on paper, 22" X 30"
Collection: Elinor Poindexter

Constellation Series #4, 1986
Compressed charcoal and pastel on paper, 27" X 39"
Collection: Brooklyn Museum, NY (88.133)
Gift of Elinor Poindexter

Constellation Series #1, Northern Cross and Barn, 1985
Compressed charcoal on paper, 19" X 26"

Constellation Series #7, with Hercules, 1986
Compressed charcoal and pastel on paper, 19" X 26"

Constellation Series #2, with Hercules, 1985
Compressed charcoal on paper, 19" X 26"

Constellation Series #8, Thinking of Music, 1986
Compressed charcoal and pastel on paper, 22" X 30"

Constellation Series #16, Meteor Shower and Planet, 1986
Compressed charcoal and pastel on paper, 19 ½" X 22"

Constellation Series #14, with Cow, 1986
Compressed charcoal and watercolor on paper, 31" X 43"
Collection: Corbin, Silverman and Sanseverino, New York, NY
Sold by Terry Dintenfass Gallery, New York, NY

Constellation Series #3, Northern Cross, Milky Way and House with Window, 1986
Compressed charcoal and pastel on paper, 27" X 39"
Collection: Hudson River Museum, Yonkers, NY (2019.08.1)
Gift of the artist in memory of the Nolen/Hynes Family and Veronica, Wanda and Angie Miller