Art On Paper

November-December 1999



Working Proof

Susan Wanklyn, Backyard Brooklyn #2 (fig. 20; 1999), a watercolor monotype. It measures 35-3/4x31-1/2 in. (paper) and 28-1/2x25-3/4 in. (image) and was printed on Rives BFK paper by Cheryl Pelavin at Cheryl Pelavin Fine Art, New York. Painter Susan Wanklyn has recently executed 15 monotypes in her signature style, translucent grids of lighthued strips, sometimes interrupted by irregular clusters of squares. Even in her casein paintings, it looks as though it's just rained, or someone has just had a good cry and is feeling better; so the effect is even more pronounced in these works on paper, made by printing matrices washed with watercolor. They are lovely, with evocative titles like Shower or Feather Robe or, in this case, Backyard Brooklyn, the name of more than one in the group. Anyone who has ever had a top-floor view of Brooklyn backyards, with their clotheslines of dripping garments drying in the sun, will appreciate the allusion. Light pink, green, and blue bands create a fabriclike plaid broken only by the space of the empty, color-outlined squares. It's worth seeing the whole group to watch Wanklyn delicately modulate her palette from one to the next. Price: \$2,800. Published by Cheryl Pelavin Fine Art.