



Wendy Shalen, "Sam Reading to Mia," 2013, watercolor on paper, 13 x 22 in. Prince Street Gallery

Wendy Shalen: Meditations on Motherhood and Mortality

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Displaying a recent series of touching drawings, watercolors, and prints, Wendy Shalen honors the shared joys and sorrows that form abiding ties among family.

Prince Street Gallery in New York City's Chelsea district will soon premiere an exhibition for established figurative artist Wendy Shalen. "Family Matters: Drawings, Paintings, Prints and Handmade Paper" opens April 22 and continues through May 17. Visitors to Prince Street Gallery will have the opportunity to meet the artist during an opening reception on April 26, from 3-7 p.m., a closing reception on May 17, from 3-6 p.m., and every Saturday during the show's run.

"Family Matters" visualizes the artist's conviction of the beauty and profundity of family, as Shalen draws on memories and images of her late grandmother, elderly mother, baby granddaughter, and other family members. The artworks on view demonstrate Shalen's talent in a range of media, including graphite, charcoal, and silverpoint drawings, watercolors, drypoint etchings, monotypes, and handmade paper embossments of her grandmother Sophie's vintage lace.

"The show focuses on contrasts -- between generations, sensibilities, materials, and techniques," explains Shalen. "I hope to capture and communicate emotions that we share -- watching my late grandmother struggle with dementia and the fear of death at 90, watching my own mother in bed unable to walk or speak, yet free of pain and with a strong heart. At the same time, I celebrate my daughter's excitement and exhaustion in caring for a newborn, the formal joy of my parents' wedding day, and the amazing gift of having twins."



Wendy Shalen, "Sophie," 1980, charcoal on Rives BFK paper, 22 x 15 in. Prince Street Gallery

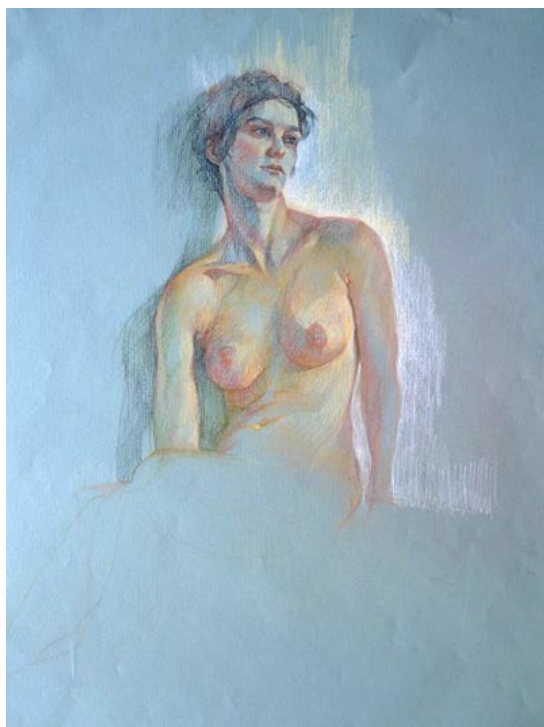


Wendy Shalen, "Sophie's Lace," 2014, handmade cotton paper pulp embossment, 16 x 20 in. Prince Street Gallery



Wendy Shalen, "Mom at 101," 2013, charcoal on paper, 19 x 26 in. Prince Street Gallery

Wendy Shalen has held her current position as an instructor of drawing, painting, and portfolio development at the Art Students League of New York since 2005. She has exhibited prolifically in the Northeast, holding solo exhibitions in New York, Connecticut, and New Jersey. The artist's work has also been featured in many group shows throughout the region, including displays at the Salmagundi Club, the National Academy of Design, and the National Arts Club. Shalen is represented by Prince Street Gallery.



Wendy Shalen, "Olivia in Paris," 2011, pastel on paper, 24 x 18 in. Prince Street Gallery

To learn more, visit the [artist's website](#).

This article was featured in Fine Art Today, a weekly e-newsletter from Fine Art Connoisseur magazine.



Wendy Shalen, "Menemsha Reflections, Self-Portrait," 2011, pastel on paper, 28 x 17 in. Prince Street Gallery