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By PHYLLIS BRAFF

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## Drawings

*Gallery Authentique, 1499 Old Northern Blvd., Roslyn. 484-7238.*

Imagination and invention characterize most of the drawings in this 11-artist show, which offers a range of approaches and materials. Most of the choice pieces are abstractions that use the energetic action of mark and gesture as their subject. Others, in the best tradition of drawing, emphasize discoveries in shapes and their interrelationships. A number of the artists clearly have their roots in Abstract Expressionism.

Vigorous overlapping marks create a sense of urgency in the densely structured "Fired Clay" by Eleanor Honig. Yet this drawing, and the strong work by Susan Kornblum, also seek to harness the strokes into forms.

Shapes are more symbolic and fanciful in Renee Ritter's large work,

which suggests the influence of Surrealism and the ideas of Matta, in particular, in its ambiguous floating meteorites and dreamlike creatures.

Some of the show's best pieces, by Sylvia Harnick, Paulette Singer and Frank Wimberley, create visually engaging forms. Hints of violent anthropomorphism contribute to the power in Ms. Singer's "Chaos of Memory." The dominant shapes in Ms. Harnick's "Essence Series" are more biomorphic and lyrical. Both Mr. Wimberley and Karen Salup add collage units to assert the independence of shapes.

Important contributions to the show come from several smaller pieces, too, including figurative works by David Slater and more conceptual examples by Chris Coffin. Mr. Coffin's smart comments on ecology add a different and welcome direction. ■