

CHEIM & READ

art on paper

January / February 05

Louise Bourgeois: The Reticent Child

Cheim & Read, New York. Louise Bourgeois's six new groups of abstract drawings on paper are unself-conscious calligraphic records of her feelings over several months in 2003–04. Some of these threadlike compositions of freely drawn lines, grids, and concentric circles evoke the crisscrossing of woven yarn or clouds of spun cotton. Others suggest woolgathering on the page, similar to her "Insomnia Drawings" (1994–95). Done mainly in red and blue ink on 9 1/2-by-8-inch sheets, they are grouped in different grid formations. Fresh and intimate as individual works, collectively they attain an unexpected expressive power and majesty.
—*Stephen Robert Frankel*