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Artist Liza Phillips will present *SUSPENDED*, an installation of drawings at The Oresman Gallery of Smith College at 22 Elm St, Northampton Mass. The show dates are February 5th to the 27th, 2018.

The larger-than-life size gestural drawings depict chairs wrapped in blankets, shrink-wrapped for transport and storage. The medium is charcoal on bed linens, hung and draped loosely on the wall and other supports.

The project was initially conceived for an exhibition called *Drawing Big; The Immediacy of Touch*, curated by Artist John Tomlinson in 2015. Phillips took as her subject some of the family chairs which she brought from her mother's recently sold apartment to her barn in upstate NY. Although concealed by the blankets, the shape and character of each of the chairs is revealed through the language of design. The range of styles—from Victorian to Modern—represent generations of women in the artist's family. As keepers of objects and family history, women are the underlying subject of the works, and the chairs can be partially understood as portraits. Because of the fragile nature of charcoal on fabric, the drawings, like memories, may fade over time.

In the catalog for *Drawing Big*, writer Dominique Nahas described his impression of the shrouded forms, evoking entombment scenes from Carravaggio and Zurbaran—but also Bernini, acknowledging that “In the cloth are revealed both life and death”.... “The artist allows us to dwell within that mental, psychological and emotional space that is hidden beneath inert forms.”

Liza Phillips lives and works in Narrowsburg NY. She holds a BA in Art History and Philosophy from Vassar College, and an MFA in painting from Chelsea College of Art in London. She attended Skowhegan School of Art, and The Otis Art Institute in LA. She has exhibited work in London, New York City, San Francisco, Washington DC, and other US cities. In addition to drawing, she has exhibited painting, sculpture, video, photography and rugs.

The exhibit runs from February 5-27 and is open to the public 8:30-4:30 on weekdays. There will be a reception for the artist on Thursday, Feb 15th from 5-7 pm.