

**Sarah Hardesty: *Imminent***

January 7 – February 11, 2012

Opening Reception: Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 – 7:30pm

**Davidson Contemporary (724 Fifth Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor**

**New York, December 12, 2011** – Davidson Contemporary is pleased to announce a solo exhibition by **Sarah Hardesty**, entitled *Imminent*. This will be Hardesty's first solo show, and her first with Davidson Contemporary. The exhibition will feature new work in a variety of media, including paintings, works on paper, and sculptural installations.

Sarah Hardesty's sculptures and installations use found and reclaimed wood, mason's string and thread, and are almost always site-specific. The works hang from ceilings, emerge from floors, and penetrate walls. They feel precarious, as though they are about to tumble down, yet are serene in their taut stillness. The visual impression is one of both explosive force and magnetic attraction, as though the walls themselves are either erupting outward, or pulling inward.

In her paintings and drawings, Hardesty often depicts animals - usually birds - entwined with lines or covered with actual thread. The viewer is never certain whether the creatures, with their impeccably rendered silhouettes, are being ensnared by the artist's delicate cross-hatching, or are liberating themselves from restraints.

The stark contrast of matte white with micaceous iron oxide paint adds to the mystery inherent in Hardesty's work. Does this represent an untangling of fetters, or is there something sinister taking place? Will the unraveling of lines, string and thread reveal some new and beautiful stage, or sheer emptiness?

Sarah Hardesty has exhibited with Davidson Contemporary at the PULSE art fairs in Miami, New York, and Los Angeles, as well as in the 2010 group show, *American Demonic*, curated by Eve Biddle. She has had several artist residencies, most recently at The Wassaic Project and the Islip Art Museum Carriage House.

For further information, please contact Brittany LoSchiavo at [info@davidsongallery.com](mailto:info@davidsongallery.com).

Gallery address: 724 Fifth Avenue (between 56<sup>th</sup> and 57<sup>th</sup> St.)

Gallery hours: Monday-Saturday 10:00am – 5:30pm