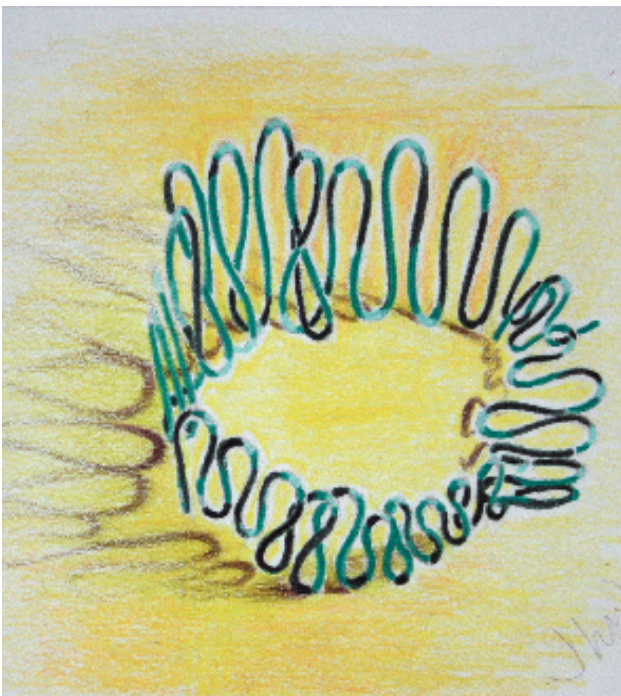




## Jane Irwin



Top: Jane Irwin 'Thingamajigs' detail  
2009 pastel on paper 30" x 22"

Bottom: Jane Irwin 'Green Wire' detail  
2007 coloured pencil on paper 6". x 4"

From the outset of her career in the early 1980's, Jane Irwin's works have explored the varying ways in which organized predetermination and random occurrence interact. In commissioned glass artworks and, since 2003, in pencil and pastel drawings, she investigates the mysteriously complicated relationship between these 2 competing impulses. The resulting synthesis of careful observation from the material world, abstracted elements, and/or empty spaces suggest ideas of choice, change, connection. Her latest drawings present discarded metal objects, salvaged from landfill piles or recycling depots. "These bent and rusty components sometimes reveal clues as to their identity. Now freed from their life of service, they have been transformed into objects of beauty by an unknowable sequence of random and considered events." These musings on material obsolescence can be metaphorically extended to include the role of drawing in an age where technology offers an ever-increasing repertoire of alternatives. Jane Irwin's drawings speak about drawing itself, the myriad methods of mark-making that distinguish the hand from all others.

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