



**Sherman Sam:
Let's Stay Together**

A 43-year-old native of Singapore, who served the compulsory two years in the city-state's army before moving on to rigours of the art world, Sherman Sam has a well-earned reputation for producing challenging work. The pencil drawings that he exhibited in a five-person group show at the Rubicon three years ago, for example, were easily the loosest stylistically of the pieces exhibited. This, his first solo show here, comprises a modest selection of small, abstract paintings interspersed with more of his sparse line drawings. Sam's background as a curator and critic — he contributes to an online journal — is evident in the painstaking nature of the display, arranged on a single wall of the gallery. The sense of freedom or chaos — depending on how you want to look at it — that was evident in the 2006 work is apparent once again, with natural patterns such as bubbles and DNA chains giving a semblance of order to what otherwise exudes a sense of exuberant abandon.

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