

GALLERY GO 'ROUND

BY VICTORIA PEDERSEN

One can't help but think of all measure of Freudian fantasies and frustrations when viewing Rona Pondick's work. Pondick has long labored in the field of dreams and desires, an idea reflected in work that is filled with gaping mouths, breastlike forms, beds, shoes and other psychologically charged objects. But add a little humor, and it is clear that one of Pondick's intentions is to skewer any easy reading of her work. Mine, her current collaboration with her husband, Robert Feintuch, and choreographer Sara Rudner, on view at the Brooklyn Museum's Grand Lobby, proves to be both dark and funny. This animated version of Pondick's suggestive sculptures includes a long, thin bed with hundreds of ears spilling out from underneath it, a giant door and costumes covered with the words "I Want." Mine functions as a kind of map for the intersection of self and the world, the infantile and the adult.

Susan Inglett is featuring a small show of Pondick's drawings, along with her first print project, a book called I Want. Playful rather than pathological, I Want began as a series of sketches that Pondick executed in the middle of the night. Predominately deep blue, gray and black, these images are filled with teeth—one of Pondick's trademarks-and childlike smudges and erasures. The words "I Want," scrawled across each page, are a kind of mantra to desire and longing. What makes this work so enjoyable is witnessing not only Pondick's fertile imagination, but also how it plays on our own secret associations. Brooklyn Museum, 200 Eastern Parkway, through Jan. 4, 1998. Susan Inglett, 100 Wooster St., through Dec. 14.