

Joy Walker, Line by Line: Walker's highly minimal work has nonetheless always displayed a certain playful pathos at its core, and Line by Line is no exception. A sensitivity to materials and a subtle insistence of the presence of a human hand leaven the austerity to warm-hearted elegance: Precise lines of coloured ink on linen, like in *Stripe #1*, poke at the rigid severity of Abstract Expressionist high priest Barnett Newman, but feel delicate and homespun, not heroic and declarative; black and white works like *Hip Curve*, a drape of curling parallel black lines on natural linen, are oddly warm and human, evoking not just a minimal ideal but a physical body. The two are anathema, of course, in theory, but with her elegantly composed work Walker makes clear the reality we can't escape, and perhaps shouldn't want to. At MKG127, 1445 Dundas St. W., until April 16.