

Terry Winters (American, born 1949), *Spine*, 1980, tempera, wash, crayon, and charcoal on white, wove paper, 30 x 22 in., Gift of Laura and Rick Schrager in memory of Phil Schrager, 2022.6.2

Spine is the first work by Terry Winters (American, born 1949) to enter Joslyn's collection. An artist with a keen interest in the history and materials of painting, Winters used homemade, egg-temperabased pigments to paint Spine's silver-gray rectangle. Marking its surface with crayon lines, he segments this shape into a geometric structure. Passages of wash and charcoal applied to the unpainted areas of this work create an atmospheric backdrop against which the centrally placed rectangle appears to hover. Because the silver-gray form resembles a specimen situated on a glass slide, Spine almost offers a view of a cross-section of cells through the lens of a microscope.

Winters's drawing weds geometric abstraction with the biological sciences. Evoking the vertical stripes of abstract works in the Museum's collection such as Gene Davis's monumental *Friar Tuck* (1978),

Spine simultaneously transports the viewer to the workaday space of a botanist's laboratory. In true 1980s fashion, this small but fascinating work provides a postmodern twist on an earlier episode of twentieth-century art. Spine is a gift of Laura and Rick Schrager in memory of Phil Schrager.