

DRAWING ROOM

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www.drawingroom.org.uk

Nicola Tyson, *Beyond the Trace*

28 September – 12 November 2017

Drawing Room presents *Beyond the Trace*, an exhibition of works on paper by British born, New York based artist Nicola Tyson. Predominantly known as a painter, Tyson also works with photography, performance, the written word and more recently sculpture. Drawing is the foundation of all her work.

Beyond the Trace is the first solo exhibition in the UK of Tyson's drawings. The exhibition includes two new large-scale works on paper made for the exhibition, a suite of new colour monotypes and a series of recent drawings. Working intuitively and from memory, Tyson's gestural works are a reimagining of the female body; they are highly animated, androgynous, self-contained and surreal.

Isolated on the page, or positioned against lightly drawn lines - suggestive of a landscape - Tyson's 'self-organised' pencil figures hold a strong presence. Appendages that are part human, part animal morph; lumpy torsos sprout spindly legs or a bird-like beak; a hollow-eyed figure might look out from under a heavy cloak-cum-body part. In Tyson's work, a piece of clothing possesses as much figurative potential as a body part.

"The frock is my 'vacant muse', as are pelmets, fringes, knickers, bed skirts... all are cathected and repurposed with my pencil"

Tyson's drawings are intuitive; by working fast, the hand takes the lead, providing the spontaneity she requires to be surprised and unnerved by what unfolds. She has spoken of drawing as "mapping around with a pencil" - a means to give and find form on the page - a subconscious cartographic process that allows the freedom to conjure images from nothing. Once an image suggests itself, she begins to build the detail, the shading and shadows, using lightly and heavily worked graphite or ink pen.

In all of her works, figures stand tall, peering out to meet our scrutiny. Each figure, in its absurdity and humour, expresses the vulnerability of the body subjected to our gaze.

In the late 1970s and early 80s Tyson was involved in London's post punk music scene, taking photographs in underground clubs whilst studying at Chelsea College of Art. For a short time she worked as a journalist for the music press, returning to study painting at Central St Martins in the mid-1980s. She moved to New York in the early 90s.

Exhibition kindly supported by Sadie Coles HQ, London, Petzel, New York & Susanne Vielmetter, Los Angeles



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ENGLAND**

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LIST OF WORKS

1. *Untitled*, 2008

Graphite on paper
117.48 x 41.91 cm



6. *Untitled*

(sketch book page) #10,
2004
Graphite on paper
42.5 x 36.2 cm



2. *Untitled*, 2009

Graphite on paper
117.4 x 41.9 cm



7. *Pencil Stub*, 2016

Ink on paper
182.9 x 106.7 cm



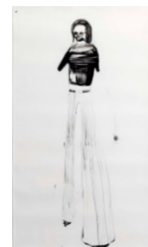
3. *Untitled*, 2009

Graphite on paper
117.4 x 41.9 cm



8. *Great Pants*, 2016

Ink on paper
182.9 x 106.7 cm



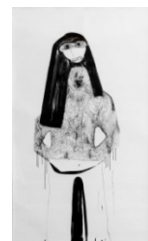
4. *Untitled*, 2009

Graphite on paper
117.4 x 41.9 cm



9. *Tie Not*, 2016

Ink on paper
182.9 x 106.7 cm



5. *Untitled*, 2008

Graphite on paper
117.48 x 41.91 cm



10. *Uteryne*, 2016

Ink on paper
182.9 x 106.7 cm



11. *A Step Forward*, 2016
Ink on paper
182.9 x 106.7 cm



17. *A Simple Hair Piece*,
2015
Graphite on paper
19.1 x 19.1 cm



12. *The Selfie*, 2017
Pencil on paper
132 x 183 cm



18. *Snog*, 2015
Graphite on paper
19.1 x 19.1 cm



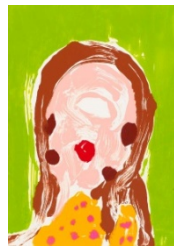
13. *The Secret*, 2017
Pencil on paper
132 x 183 cm



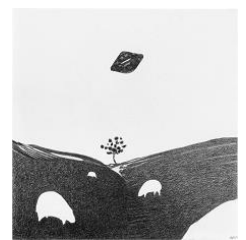
19. *Coming in to land, nevertheless*, 2015
Graphite on paper
19.1 x 19.1 cm



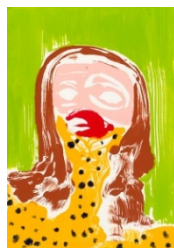
14. *Self-Portrait: Coy*
2016
Acrylic on paper
25.4 x 17.8 cm



20. *Grazing sheep and sky object*, 2015
Graphite on paper
19.1 x 19.1 cm



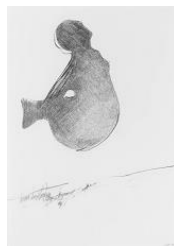
15. *Self-Portrait: Worried*,
2016
Acrylic on paper
25.4 x 17.8 cm



21. *Miming the Bonfire*,
2015
Graphite on paper
19.1 x 19.1 cm



16. *Untitled*
(sketch book page) #98,
2002
Graphite on paper
26.7 x 20.3 cm



22. *Getting there*, 2015
Graphite on paper
19.1 x 19.1 cm



23. *Today's Inaudible Sound*, 2015
Graphite on paper
19.1 x 19.1 cm



29. *Untitled*
(sketch book page) #98,
2002
Graphite on paper
26.7 x 20.3 cm



24. *Something in the Air*,
2015
Graphite on paper
19.1 x 19.1 cm



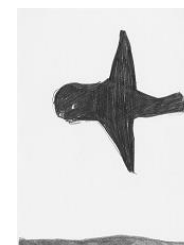
30. *Untitled*
(sketch book page) #98,
2002
Graphite on paper
26.7 x 20.3 cm



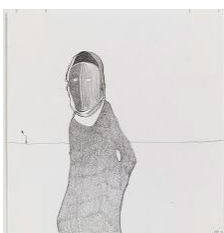
25. *Proboscis*, 2015
Graphite on paper
19.1 x 19.1 cm



31. *Untitled*
(sketch book page) #98,
2002
Graphite on paper
26.7 x 20.3 cm



26. *Near and far*, 2015
Graphite on paper
19.1 x 19.1 cm



32. *Untitled*
(sketch book page) #98,
2002
Graphite on paper
26.7 x 20.3 cm



27. *Door Knob*, 2015
Graphite on paper
19.1 x 19.1 cm



33. *Untitled*
(sketch book page) #98,
2002
Graphite on paper
26.7 x 20.3 cm



28. *Untitled*
(sketch book page) #98,
2002
Graphite on paper
26.7 x 20.3 cm



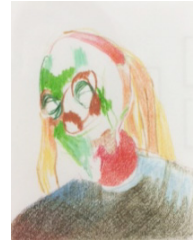
34. *The Gaze*, 2015
Graphite on paper
31.8 x 31.8 cm



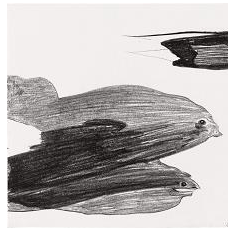
35. *Extraordinary Powers of Hearing*, 2015
Graphite on paper
31.8 x 31.8 cm



41. *Self-Portrait in Colored Pencil*, 2007
Pencil on paper
11.4 x 8.9 cm



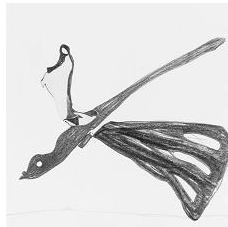
36. *The Fly Past*, 2015
Graphite on paper
31.8 x 31.8 cm



42. *Self-Portrait: Tired (dots)*, 2017
Acrylic on paper
60.96 x 45.72 cm



37. *Bird on the Wing*, 2015
Graphite on paper
31.8 x 31.8 cm



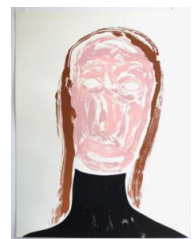
43. *Self-Portrait: Tired (red sweater)*, 2017
Acrylic on paper
60.96 x 45.72 cm



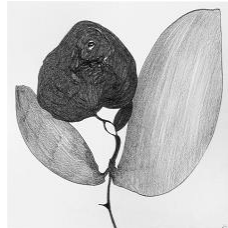
38. *Falling or floating*, 2015
Graphite on paper
31.8 x 31.8 cm



44. *Self-Portrait: Tired (black turtle neck)*, 2017
Acrylic on paper
60.96 x 45.72 cm



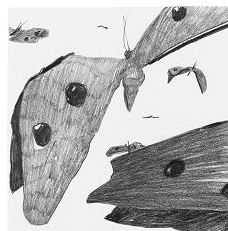
39. *Stoned Rose*, 2015
Graphite on paper
31.8 x 31.8 cm



45. *Self-Portrait: Tired (beige)*, 2017
Acrylic on paper
60.96 x 45.72 cm



40. *Hefty butterflies begin their migration*, 2015
Graphite on paper
31.8 x 31.8 cm



46. *Self-Portrait: Tired (green shirt)*, 2017
Acrylic on paper
60.96 x 45.72 cm

