

Silverfish

19 - 26 March 2021

www.elizabethdrury.com

Within her drawing practice, Drury combines research into Object Attachment Theory and Speculative Realism with her interest in early film and theatre sets to explore the deceptions of image-making. Her large-scale works construct illusory spaces that question the credibility of the artist's sleight of hand and the audience's willingness to suspend disbelief.

Exploring the limitations of observational drawing, she incorporates basic everyday objects and artists' tools that sit on the peripheries of sight. Paper, glass, plastic pieces, pencils, lamps and fabrics are transformed from one state into another. The new, metamorphic, silvery graphite shapes can no longer be pinned down to their previous forms. Something new has been rendered into existence.

Silverfish, the online exhibition created as part of her tenure as Visiting Artist at Harrow School, pursues a similar narrative. Misleading and hidden letters, limbs and everyday objects slip in and out of observation. Drury playfully throws into question our responsibility as creators of our own speculative realities. How do we safely interpret ambiguous symbols, information and objects to construct our own 'internal' psychological worlds?

Living in damp, unlit spaces, the deceptively named silverfish devours such materials within our peripheries, as we unknowingly absorb and internalise the world around us. The processes are elusive, as we only occasionally catch sight of the silvery body when it catches the light slipping from one dark space to another.

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