

Jocelyn Clarke: Jerwood Artists Platform

25 June – 20 July 2003

Jerwood Space, 171 Union Street, London SE1 OLN

Open Tuesday-Saturday 11am-6pm, Sunday 1pm-6pm

Jocelyn Clarke's first major London solo exhibition presents a new body of her characteristic small paintings, as part of the Jerwood Artists Platform - a recent initiative funded by the Jerwood Charitable Foundation which seeks to support visual artists at a pivotal time in their career.

Within each of Clarke's small canvases, the tension of the surface of the picture, and the forms and spaces described within it, are built up with fine painted lines. She paints and draws at the same time, making crosshatch markings across the entire surface of the canvas to describe the already obscured surface of an object. Her subject matter is the minutiae of domestic life – the odd conjunction of disparate items gathered in the corner of a sofa, belongings often handled but rarely noticed, the corners and edges of rooms. The colour becomes dense where there is a build-up of descriptive lines – accretions of paint creating edges and boundaries. What begins as a slow study of a particular object undergoes a transformation as the painting assumes its own reality and two and three dimensions melt in and out of each other.

'The effect [of Clarke's paintings], though firmly and delicately bound to its formal premise, is one of exciting, uncomposed freshness' Sacha Craddock, *The Times*

Images and advance copies of the exhibition catalogue, with an essay by Sacha Craddock, are available on request.