



It is and it is not

Celia Morgan

The Macnaughton Focus Gallery

Friday 15 July – Sunday 11 September

This work is drawn out of a life-long enchantment with the evanescent line of the horizon. With the contemplation of that beguiling line comes a celebratory yearning for the void, a definitive dissuasion towards fixed and exact conclusions, and an increasing conviction that paradox is the key to life.

The title of the exhibition comes from Nicholas Cusanus and his *De Docta Ignorantia*, in which he reduces the discombobulating possibilities of existence into a happily (in)coherent formula of “it is or it is not; it is and it is not; it neither is nor is it not.”

Fundamental to my work is a deep love for the natural world. The relatively simple drawings are meant as a dedication to, and an arousal of the effects of communion with this world. I do not imagine such beauty and ephemerality could be re-presented with justice, and so the best I aim for is an evocation. There is a sense of righting, at once unearthly and grounding, that the contemplation of nature brings - the mystical, the ephemeral, beauty, light and the tree; but perhaps most of all, the unknown. These are the subjects and inspiration for this exhibition.

Celia Morgan, March 2016

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Untitled 2015

graphite on paper

10.5 x 4.5cm