



Drawn to Print: David Fairbairn
The Temporary Exhibitions Gallery

Friday 21 April – Sunday 18 June

Renowned portraitist David Fairbairn is well known for his large mixed media drawings. Although this aspect of his practice continues, in recent years he has worked almost exclusively on large scale etchings.

David Fairbairn said, "It is important to me that my etchings compliment and extend my previous explorations in drawing. With these new prints, drawing directly from the sitter onto the copper etching plate is an important aspect of my process. The length of time spent with a person and the stopping and starting of a work as a series develops, are factors that contribute to the final outcome. I am interested in the unexpected transformative qualities of the line that is etched by immersion in ferric chloride. The quality of the corrosive line is different to a drawn line on paper using charcoal or pastel. Now working predominantly in black and white, I am able to reinforce the underlying formal and abstract structures in the depiction of the sitter, whilst still emphasising the emotional and psychological content of the work."

Drawn to Print: David Fairbairn showcases drawings produced from 2010–2016, and etchings of the same sitters created during the period 2015–2017.

David Fairbairn is represented by Stella Downer Fine Art, Sydney and Port Jackson Press Print Gallery, Melbourne.

David Fairbairn

J.L. No.4 2015

copper etching and drypoint on Hahnemuhle paper

36 × 30cm