



She Took to the Bed

The Matriarch took to her bed after opting for married life over the clergy...

'She Took to the Bed' was an installation that sought to offer the audience an opportunity to explore and reflect on ideas of vulnerability and threat and unresolved incongruities relating to the resonance of place and object. A loaned archive photograph from this family home became the vehicle by which to explore notions of loss conceptualised through the image of a clergywoman. Physically mirrored and re-framed by the mechanism of the dressing table mirror, the image is thrown into relief, refracted, at further remove in its incongruous absence. To enter this room the viewer was placed at a challenge. The doorway was screened by a large dresser and a salt threshold. Entry to the room required a 'crossing over' into an ethereal and foreboding environment. Walking over a large iron-oxide floor drawing the viewer was re-positioned becoming part of a silent subversion of the words by Rainer Maria Rilke 'the stubborn life that has taken place in rooms will always resist being trampled into oblivion'.

Rock Salt*, Iron Oxide*, Charcoal*, Photography*, Wooden dressing table*

Marie Brett + John McHarg

