Patrick Cockram likes to respond to a site and to use drawing as a means to both analyse and involve the architecture of where the works are to be installed. His drawings call attention to the particular characteristics of a space: its dimensions, its features and how people move through it. For this set of site-specific drawings his aim has been ‘to evoke feelings of the particular space … I want them to create the illusion that you are in the drawing’s space, and that this space differs to the space of the gallery.’ Taking inspiration from the sculpture and drawings of Richard Serra and the wall drawings of Alan Johnston, each of these drawings has a sculptural presence, involving ideas of mass, weight and balance, process and placement.

While he favours conventional drawing materials such as charcoal, graphite and ink, rather than making a drawing of something (figure on ground), Cockram’s approach is to fuse material, process, concept and artefact (figure as ground). Working at the interstices of drawing and sculpture he notes that ‘as black is deemed to have the greatest mass of all colours, it gives my drawing a sense of weight’.

The title of the collection of works that he has made in response to the architecture of the Project Space is Rectangular. He identifies the rectangle as one of the most basic representations of spatial containment and uses it to ‘explore the various ways in which the relationship between line and space can be manipulated, blurring the parameters between the 2- and 3-dimensional object’.

Clockwise from bottom of stairs:

**Divided**

2 plinths, each with 10 drawings made in block printing ink on polycarbonate sheets

PLEASE DO NOT TOUCH THE ARTWORK

The whole work is composed of two related sets of drawings, each creating a 3-dimensional illusion and alternative views of perspectival space inside the drawings. The placement of the layered drawings on plinths identifies the work as a sculptural object.

**Drawing Space**

Graphite wall drawing

Here the space is divided into three sections, composed of drawn lines and the lines of the walls. Cockram’s graphite drawing defines 4 rectangles (two on the walls, one on the floor, one on the ceiling). The viewer is able to enter into the drawing’s space - a space subtly delineated from its surroundings - which, despite its economy of production, heightens their awareness of the gallery’s architecture.
Drawing Blocks

Graphite with resin on cardboard

Each of the blocks is created through a process of mixing graphite and resin, and repetitively working across the surface of the cardboard base until it is completely covered. The density of the surface creates an illusion of weightiness. The scale of the work is influenced by life drawing, in particular the technique of planning a figurative life drawing by dividing the human model into seven heads; the tower is composed of seven blocks that relate to human scale and that at the same time reference the height of the gallery. The impressions of weight and mass contribute to the physical presence of the tower, while its apparent imbalance and placement creates an uneasy feeling that the blocks might fall. The work looms over the viewer, demanding that they give full attention to both the drawing-object and the relationship of their own body to the surrounding space.

Patrick Cockram is available to work to commission.

Patrick Cockram (b. 1990) studied for a BTEC National Diploma in Fine Art at Canterbury College (2008 – 2010) and graduated last summer with a BA Hons in Mixed Media Fine Art from the University of Westminster (2010 -2013). His work has been exhibited in a number of group shows in London that include: 51, Ambika P3 (2013); Machine, 5th Base Gallery (2013); and Silver Bond, London Gallery West (2012). His solo, one-off public performance titled See the Control took place outside the National Gallery in 2011.

Marsden Woo Project Space is curated by Tessa Peters.

The Marsden Woo Project Space is a space for experimental new work in art, craft and design and runs alongside our established programme of solo and small group exhibitions by gallery artists. The Project Space allows us to respond quickly to significant bodies of innovative work, particularly that of talented emerging artists and designers, as well as fresh directions in the work of more established artists. The exhibitions are organized at short notice, so please check our website regularly for news of forthcoming shows and events.