Rebecca Ackroyd takes everyday objects and de-familiarizes them; she is interested in both revealing and concealing their qualities. In the course of her investigative process and by employing the languages of drawing and sculpture she defines and distils the characteristics of overlooked things until they emerge as something quite vivid.

In this series of works her reference points are items of utility and adornment. All her chosen objects have modular, repetitive elements and she uses this feature in the way she develops an idea. For example, in Nice Touch the mesh-like pattern on the plinth elements is echoed in the Neoprene net which they support; the pattern is seen again, but with different features, in the shifting structure of her graphite wall drawing titled dot dot dot; and then again, seemingly distorted by gravity, in the laser cut MDF panels of Six Pack that are propped against it.

The kinds of dispersive conditions she explores, ones that involve notions of the commonplace, the ephemeral and permutation, have been incisively described by art historian Alex Potts as “… the positing of presence as something unstable, more like an utterance than a thing, and activated in the contingencies of a viewer’s encounter with a work rather than being anchored in its form.” Indeed Ackroyd confirms that she would like her works to be suggestive of a narrative, not to be fully apprehended at once, but to act as a spur to the imagination of the spectator.

Rebecca Ackroyd (b. 1987) studied Fine Art at the Byam Shaw School of Art (2007 - 2010) and is currently undertaking postgraduate studies at the Royal Academy Schools, London. Her most recent exhibitions include: Material Matters, The Drawing Room off-site project at UBM HQ, SE1 (2012), Magnitude - Real Gold Event, 19:23 Kingsland Road, E2 (2012), Odds Against Tomorrow, Bearspace, SE8 (2012), The Face of the Shape, La Scatola Gallery, EC2 (2011), Print Now, Bearspace, SE8 and SW1 Gallery (both 2011).

Marsden Woo Project Space is curated by Tessa Peters. The Marsden Woo Project Space runs alongside our programme of solo and small group exhibitions by gallery artists. The Project Space allows us to respond quickly to significant bodies of innovative work and showcases the work of talented emerging artists and designers and fresh directions in the work of more established artists. The exhibitions are organized at short notice, so please check our website regularly for news on forthcoming shows and events.