

17-18 great sutton street  
london EC1V 0DN  
t +44 (0)20 7336 6396  
info@marsdenwoo.com  
www.marsdenwoo.com

PATRICK MIFSUD  
ON DIFFERENT LEVELS

Marsden Woo Project Space  
16 February - 17 March 2012

*Site-specific interventions by talented young artist.*

Patrick Mifsud's installation redefines the architecture of the Project Space. It offers an immersive experience, both obscuring the visitor's range of vision and opening up new viewpoints as they descend the staircase from upper to lower floor and pass through the redrawn passages of the gallery. It entirely alters the viewer's perception of the room and heightens their spatial awareness. The ambiguous opaque/transparent structure of the intervention is formed by fine lines of polyester sewing thread, a simple everyday material which serves to emphasise the transformative character of the work in contrast with the minimalist economy of its construction.

Two complementary series of works, one comprised of ink drawings, the other of photographic prints, present related facets of his current practice. He starts each of the ink drawings with an identical first line, although they evolve quite differently. Their progression is dependent on the thickness of the line, the colour of the ink (a different pen is selected for each individual drawing) and the variable freehand element. Titled *Margin of Error*, the drawings are also differentiated by a number that records the number of lines that make up the individual compositions.

The photographs are from an ongoing sequence titled *Geometric Forms (Urban Series)* and represent the temporary interventions that Mifsud makes in public spaces, in which he proposes extensions to a site, seeking to offer regular users of that thoroughfare - a tunnel, a bridge, a footpath - a new perspective on a familiar environment. A self-imposed rule is to use only pre-existing fixing points, such as a steel ring or lamp post, in order to enact his spatial drawings. The photographs present the formal characteristics of the interventions, in contrast to the taken-for-granted features of their sites and encourage speculation on how the impediment was physically negotiated or dismantled. Such redefinitions of space make us aware of how we are subconsciously influenced and directed by features of our immediate environment.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Patrick Mifsud (b. Malta, 1984) studied at the University for the Creative Arts, Canterbury (2006-09) and for an MA in Fine Art at Wimbledon College of Art, University of the Arts, London (2010-11). He was a prizewinner at *Creekside Open 2011*, selected by Phyllida Barlow, and a finalist in the *10 Gales Art Prize* (2011). Other recent exhibitions include *Futura Bold/ Futura Oblique*, The Nunnery Gallery, London (2011), *Relocation: Emerging Artists from Malta*, Bank of Valletta HQ, Malta (2010), and *Altturnertive*, Crate Space, Margate (2009). His commissioned works include a commemorative sculpture for the University of the Creative Arts, Canterbury and he collaborated with dance artists Maria Cassar and Jo Leahy in *Walk the Plank*, a work performed at the Manoel Theatre, Malta, during the *Notte Bianca* in 2010.

Marsden Woo Project Space is curated by Tessa Peters and 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.

For more information, images, or to arrange an interview with the artist please contact Alida Sayer or Rachael Crabtree:  
Tel: 020 7336 6396  
Email: [press@marsdenwoo.com](mailto:press@marsdenwoo.com)

Main image 'Vanishing Points I' © Patrick Mifsud

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