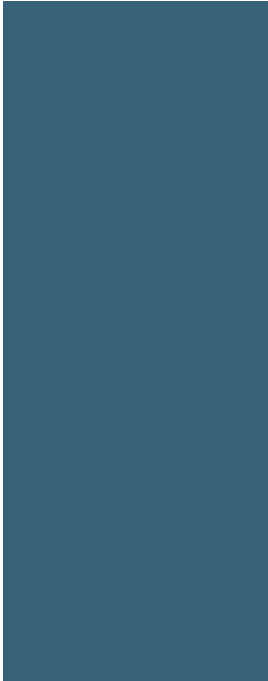


# ROGER BOYCE & MARIE CLAIRE BREHAUT

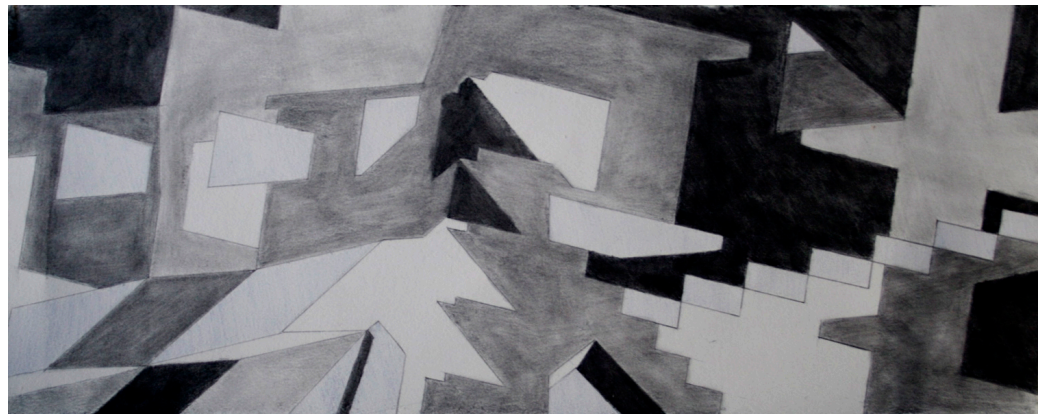
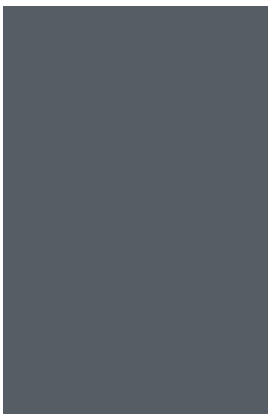
## NATURE MORTE

10 Aug - 4 Sept 2010



With their work *Nature Morte* Christchurch based artists Roger Boyce and Marie-Claire Brehaut draw a provocative equivalence between a bedroom methamphetamine lab and an artist's studio. It is a simile that expands beyond the formal mimicry of sprawling bottles and tubes, which characterise both set-ups; hinting at an overlapping alchemy of art, science and psychotropic substances. The artists describe their work as a tableau mort, referencing the stasis and opulence of Victorian tableau vivant, but with dead and deadly subject matter. The artifice of P-lab set-up is exposed through its mirroring on canvas as a perverse still life. In turn, the artists present us with a contemporary memento mori, which sparks our curiosity precisely because it reminds us of our mortality.

# JOE WORLEY | BEWILDERING SCHEME



Joe Worley's *Bewildering Scheme* covers the walls, floor and ceiling of an entire gallery space with hard edged and angled blocks of colour. This achromatic patterning is an exercise in spacial distortion: twisting, disrupting and expanding space and perspective to create a virtual space within the architecture. Worley's design is inspired by a pattern developed by British Naval Lieutenant Norman Wilkinson during WW1. Painted on to battleships merchant vessels and aircraft, Wilkinson's Dazzle pattern was intended to make it difficult to judge a vessel's speed and direction. This was a camouflage system designed not to conceal, but to confuse. The Dazzle pattern mimics not only the aesthetic of the British pre-war Vorticism movement but also its faith in modernity, and its proscribed role for art in the service of 'progress'. Whilst the effectiveness of the pattern to reduce losses to shipping remained unproven, it did provide a thin veneer of courage for soldiers facing the machinery of war.

Blue Oyster Art Project Space | [www.blueoyster.org.nz](http://www.blueoyster.org.nz) | Ph 03 479 0197 Basement, 24b Moray Place | PO Box 5903, Dunedin 9058

Gallery hours: Tuesday–Friday 11am–5pm, Saturday 12pm–3pm | Supported by Creative New Zealand/Toi Aotearoa