

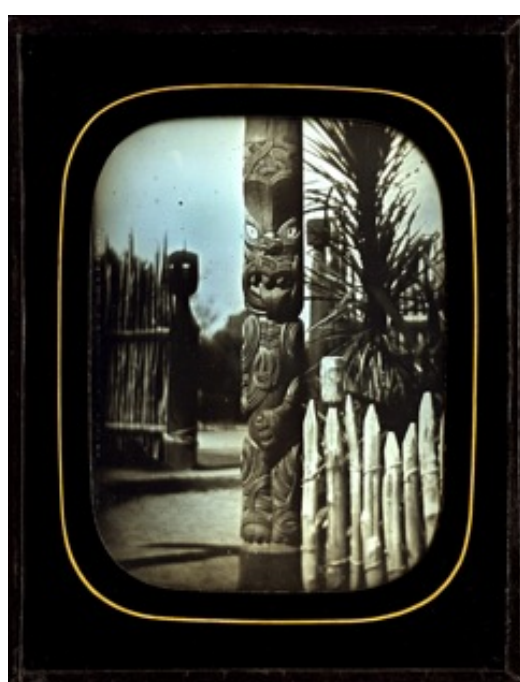
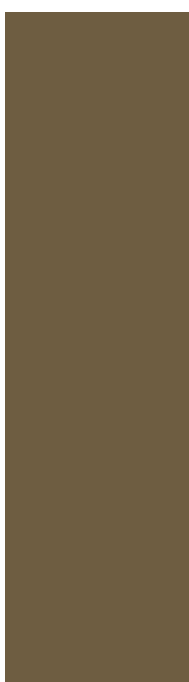
ANNA PERRY | FOG

18 MAY - 12 JUNE 2010



For *Fog* Anna Perry has created a sensory environment with devices that emit smells, which can provoke individual recollections of place, time or event. Central to the exhibition is a sculptural apparatus that creates the all too familiar smell of rain-on-hot-concrete continuously inside the gallery. Perry singles out the olfactory senses because of their close association with the memory centers of the brain. With time our memories become foggy and abstract; as such the exhibition expands to include a collage of found images and material illustrating our desire to collect and cling to things, like fragrances, that contain triggers for us as aide-mémoires. *Fog* is proudly supported by Serviceman, Placemakers Dunedin and Artzone.

LIGHT SENSITIVE | ALTERNATIVE PHOTOGRAPHIC TECHNOLOGIES



Light Sensitive: Alternative Photographic Technologies brings together the work of New Zealand photographers Alan Bekhuis, Joyce Campbell, Ben Cauchi and Darren Glass. These photographers are part of a growing international revival of interest in obsolete and alternative technologies, re-engaging with the hands-on nature of early processes in response to the dominance of digital imaging.

Glass' DIY pinhole cameras have all been constructed for a purpose; recording a specific piece of coastline, for example, or capturing what a log might see when lying in the forest. He often displays his cameras independently from their images, drawing attention to the role technology plays in their production. Pinhole cameras are the most basic of photographic technology, yet Glass pushes their design to the extreme, converting frisbees into flying cameras to create the *Cosmo Flying Disc* images, or rolling cameras like *Icky II* into old volcanic craters. Each resulting image is a visual record of an event rather than a moment in time.

For Bekhuis, the purpose of the daguerreotype is to revere its subject. Invented in 1839 and rendered obsolete only a few decades later, the daguerreotype is a unique photographic image on silver-plated copper. The daguerreotype is traditionally a handheld image-object, its protective case allowing the viewer to reveal the image hidden in its mirror-like surface. Bekhuis replicates this viewing experience by handcrafting traditional enclosures, emphasising the tactility of his daguerreotypes and reinforcing their status as precious and intimate objects associated with memory and.

Campbell's series *Sacred Botanical* consists of small ambrotypes; unique negative images on glass which are rendered positive when seen against a dark background. In this series she documents plant species which have traditional spiritual associations. The wet-plate process used to create the ambrotypes, is unpredictable and often results in streaks and anomalies across each image. Campbell has utilised these accidents in her series, as they are evocative of the presence of spiritual forms hovering near each specimen.

Through his ambrotypes and tintypes Cauchi engages with questions regarding photography's status as a provider of visual evidence. While his staged tableaux are often Victorian in form, they reflect contemporary dialogues, seeking to expose photography as highly constructed and mediated itself. Works such as *Torch* make explicit the role of the photographer's hand in creating elaborate photographic illusions such as those seen in *Magic Wand*, while many of his other works draw attention to the role of the camera and studio enhancements such as electric light.

- ① Darren Glass. C-Type Prints left to right: *Cosmo Flying Disc No. 223* and *Cosmo Flying Disc No. 221*. 2008.
- ② Darren Glass. Pinhole Camera. *Icky II*. 2003-2005.
- ③ Ben Cauchi. Ambrotype. *Torch*. 2005.
- ④ Alan Bekhuis. Daguerreotypes left to right: *Waharoa II*; *Three Trees*; *Waharoa*. 2009.
- ⑤ Ben Cauchi. Ambrotype. *Magic Wand*. 2004.
- ⑥ Darren Glass. Pinhole Camera. *Ngauruhoe Cam*. 2008.

- ① Joyce Campbell. *Sacred Botanical* series. Ambrotypes. 2007/2008.
- ② Darren Glass. Pinhole Camera. *Log*. 2003.
- ③ Darren Glass. Pinhole Camera. *Coastline Cam*. 2000-2003.
- ④ Darren Glass. Pinhole Camera. *Lemi with Legs*. 2006.
- ⑤ Ben Cauchi. Ambrotype. *The Beginning and the End*. 2009.
- ⑥ Ben Cauchi. Tintype. *Lamp*. 2008.

