

**Press Release. "Measured - Rose Davey Toni Davey".
12th January - 4th March 2010**



Measured is an exhibition, which for the first time brings together the artwork of Toni Davey and her daughter Rose Davey.

Toni Davey moved from Bradford to London in the mid 1960's and she completed her MA Sculpture at Chelsea College of Art in 1971. During the seventies she worked as an artist, a college lecturer and an architectural model maker. After the birth of Toni's children she chose to place her career on hold. Her youngest daughter Rose was born in 1984, six weeks before the family relocated from East London to the rural seaside town of Minehead in Somerset.

Rose Davey went on to complete a BA in Fine Art at Edinburgh College of Art, after being taught GCSE and A level art by Toni Davey. The art department at the local school in Minehead being run by Toni's painter husband Andy Davey, resulted in Rose and her sister and brother, all being taught by their mother and father. Her sister Fay is now a web-site designer and her brother Leo an illustrator. Toni left teaching in 2007, closely followed by her husband Andy and they have both since re-established their artistic careers. Toni has exhibited in the South West, and is currently involved with commissioned work for architectural practices. Rose, now 25, has exhibited in London and is currently studying for an MA in painting at the Slade School of Fine Art.

'Measured' is comprised of works by two artists from different generations yet they each employ a visual language that is strikingly similar.

Toni Davey uses single sheets of white paper as material and cuts, scores, folds and sometimes burns to form pure geometric and abstract compositions. Toni writes 'The underlying grid which structures most of my work allows a 'measured' response to things and an understanding of how one reached that point and also what the next step should be: it stabilizes the chaos of ideas.' She describes how as a child she would spend hours meticulously filling in colouring books, which would be completed before they were replaced each Saturday. This resulted in the Littlewood football coupons, delivered weekly to all households, acting as a substitute until the new colouring book arrived. 'I would mesmerize myself, carefully filling each square and column with different colour sequences.'

Rose Davey is a painter working from interior architecture which is reconfigured into a body of work that consists of drawings, photographs and paintings. The influence of her mothers' work and teaching is clearly visible through the deployment of a visual maths. Works are governed by a logic lifted from the interior and exterior structure of buildings, and used as a basis for composition. Rose is gradually moving away from what she terms as the comfort of architecture as subject matter. She describes how 'The work is not conceived in order to gain an understanding of architectural form, the interest lies in the process of working. The visual language used to convey the architecture as subject matter, is the subject matter.'

Toni was only a little older than the age her daughter Rose is now, when she decided to place her career on hold. She tells how she felt that motherhood and the making of art placed demands on the same part of her, and that neither could be compromised. Perhaps unlike other careers, art has little regard for age. One is never too old or too young to begin or to begin again. Who knows the direction that Toni's art career would have taken if different decisions had been made, but it is unlikely to have included a joint show with Rose.

Events

Private view Thursday 21st January 6.00 - 8.30pm

Venue

The Institute of Physics
76 Portland Place
London
W1B 1NT

The exhibition dates are 12th January – 4th March 2010

Viewing by appointment please contact Jenny Hullock 0207 470 4871

All works for sale

Pricelists available in exhibition space.

Further Info

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