



CAFÉ SPACE

ALIKI BRAINE

Dessine Moi un Arbre...

22 February – 5 April 2006

Dessine Moi un Arbre... is one of a series of photographic prints of trees by London based artist Aliki Braine. Inspired by the 18th Century 'blot' drawings of Alexander Cozens, the negatives of these tree photographs were, prior to being printed, punched using a standard single hole punch, cutting away the foliage and following the depicted trees' outline. Once printed the resulting hole in the negative reads as a completely dense, black shape; a shape both recognisable as the trees' original forms and reminiscent of the circular forms of a child's drawing of a tree.

Aiming to use photography as a way of harnessing and containing expansive images of landscape, sky and water, Aliki is concerned with showing the photograph as an object. The photographs are often cut, re-photographed, blurred, folded, or selectively enlarged, thus pulling the viewer away from the image and pointing to its surface. Although the images are all 'originals' they are treated as if they had a prior existence, through subsequent treatment they acquire a new identity. The violation of the immaculate surface acknowledges our reading of the image as object, representation and symbol. However, despite this intervention, the works remain attached to the beautiful and the romantic.

French born Aliki Braine has lived & worked in London since 1999. She studied MA in Fine Art Media, Slade School of Fine Art, UCL, 1999 – 2001 and BFA Hons in Fine Art, Ruskin School, Oxford University, 1995-1998. Recent exhibitions include: Slade Gallery, Slade School of Fine Art, (2005), Gallerie Magda Danysz, Paris, (2004), 'Je n'ai pas pu résister à être là', Centre d'Art en l'Île, Geneva, (2003), 'Dramatic Events', The George Rodger Gallery, Kent Institute of Art and Design, Kent, (2002), 'St'Art', Salon d'Art Contemporain, Strasbourg, (2002).

Images can be viewed at; www.alikibraine.com