

AIPP PINHOLE – AUSTRALIA Exhibition

Artist Statement

This image *No Stain*, is one from an exhibition entitled 'Artists in the Bedroom.' My photographs are taken with pinhole cameras that I construct myself. While making the photographs for this exhibition I have been concerned about the intimacy they reveal to the viewer, because of the angle of view as well consistent depth of field, distortion and shift, consequently showing the incidental which is often overlooked. This is an area in which pinhole work excels.

Photographing artists' bedrooms, bathrooms and studios, which include personal items in their most private of spaces, may reveal aspects of personality previously unknown. In this work the artist is therefore present by association.

I intrude with permission, and consultation, then developing my own interpretation, accomplishing the revealing of individuality through spaces not normally entered. A level of trust is fundamental to my work.

While working with artists' bedrooms I concurrently became absorbed in Google Earth imagery. I could see a similarity in the outcome of these vastly different mediums. The invasiveness of both are interesting to me as well as the parallels one can draw from, with the later, of continuous and sometimes unwelcome intrusion into other people's lives. Alfred Hitchcock's 'Rear Window' was a pivotal look at such voyeuristic tendencies. Photographers, on many levels, are sometimes oblivious to repercussions of images taken, being available for public consumption. Just because you have it in your hand, is it necessarily right?

Ultimately I am interested in factors and influences concerning power and control, in a whole range of circumstances and how that can play out in society, sometimes without sufficient questioning. Photography has a major role in this dance of power and control. In my work I hope to encourage inquiry about where technology takes us...photographically, medically, environmentally, and psychologically.

Ronda Wallis 2008