

MATILDA DOWNS

Born September 1974

1999-2001	Royal College of Art, London M.A. Fine Art (Printmaking)
1995-1998	Edinburgh College of Art B.A. (Hons) Fine Art (Printmaking)
1993-1994	BTEC Foundation in Art and Design
August 2001- Present	Editioning/Framing for The Clink Press, London

Selected Exhibitions

November 2001	'RCA Secret' at the Royal College of Art, London
October 2001	Open Studio at the Clink Press, London
July-September 2001	'The Map is not the Territory' England & Co., Nottingham Gate, London
June 2001	'The Show Part One' the Royal College of Art, London
November 2000	'R.A.C. Secret' at the Royal Collge of Art, London
October 2000	'Assembly' Group Show, Whitechapel, London
July 2000	Solo Show of Drawings at Cliffe Castle Museum, Keighley, West Yorkshire
September 1999	Selected Drawings at The Cartwright Hall Art Gallery, Bradford, West Yorkshire
1998	Society of Scottish Artists Exhibition, Royal Scottish Academy, Edinburgh

Awards

January 2001	John Moate Materials Award
April 2000	Linklaters Prizewinner

Web Site

www.tillydowns.co.uk

Artist's Statement

My current interest is in codes, systems and patterns. At the moment I am looking for those phenomena in language and nature. For example, within language, I made a list of words related to animals which have applications to human diseases or characteristics such as elephantitis, thrush, goose pimples etc. I then arranged and colour coded them and they seemed to fit into a naturally emerging pattern.

Similar systems can also be observed in aspects of nature. For example, I photographed a herd of friesian cows in order to trace the marking on their backs, which look like maps. From these tracings I have made various maps of the world and an atlas.

I also find Bird Flight patterns very interesting. The co-ordinates of cranes flying in formation can be reduced to formulae on an x-y axis and comparisons can be made between different species.

To me, these system are everywhere and represent connections between apparently unrelated things and I fell I am trying to crack codes or solve equations in order to find an overall formula or blueprint.