

Utilising magnets, fans, mirrors and small explosives,

Lorraine Snape wants to create a sense of awe, inviting the viewer to catch a glimpse by revealing that which is unseen or hinted at; to highlight invisible forces and make concepts tangible.

Snape is fascinated with the materiality of things and conversely elusiveness itself. Subtle interventions create an illusion and evoke a sense of mysticism. The everydayness of objects such as fans, motors and balloons, belie the event being played out and act as the perfect magician, misdirecting. The performer is both the machinery and the ethereal motion it provides.

Snape's work plays with tension and seeks to be unnerving. It performs through an alchemy of chemical reactions and physical forces; employing suspension, magnetism, convection and kinesis. In exploring performative artwork as a construction, contraption or installation, some of the works create an illusion in time, whilst others evolve and produce residues. Temporary in nature, the artwork exists for the exhibition or environment in which it is shown and documented.

Perceived as calming and meditative, her work can paradoxically be grating and irritating, inducing feelings of anxiety and tension. Within this dichotomy, it is playful, with an anarchic sense of humour, celebrating everyday moments of wonder whilst nervously hinting at impending doom.

Snape is interested in going beyond restrictions and experimenting with risk and sees the audience as active participant.

Lorraine Snape

Personal Statement

December 2020