

MUSEUM OF SILENCE

ROLL 1 : AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM

17/8/91.

Ex - Extinct
En - Endangered.
P - Predator or Pest



Thylacine
f4 for 1 sec
f2.8 for 1 sec



Rabbits
1 sec @ f4/2.8



Pig
1 sec @ f4/2.8



Cat &
Rat
1 sec @ f2.8



Fox
1 sec @ f4/2.8



Rabbits



thylacine
1 sec @ f4/2.8



Seal
1 sec @ f4/2.8



Seals
1 sec @ f4/2.8



Seals
1 sec @ f4/2.8
@ 2.8/1.8



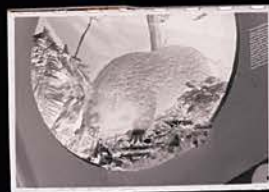
bats
1 sec @ f1.8



Spinifex hopping Mouse
2 sec @ f2.8



black
flying fox
2 sec @ f1.8



Long beaked
Echidna
1 sec @ f4/2.8



Brush tailed
rock Wallaby
1 sec @ f4/2.8



Lumholz tree
Kangaroo.
1 sec @ f4/2.8

Artist Statement

Through our relatively short history of development, Australians have become one of the most highly urbanised populations on earth. We live on the edge of a continent whose landscape has been radically altered and many of its natural systems have been destroyed or polluted.

From within our urban settlements we now relate to and experience nature at an ever increasing degree of distance and abstraction. We experience wildlife through photographs, the wildlife documentary or in Museums and Zoos. The natural environment in these contexts has been ordered and tamed.

My images have come out of a collection of preserved native animals in the Australian Museum in Sydney. The way in which animals are presented evokes a sense of the spiritual distance that separates us from our fellow species in the present day. They are long dead and dust covered, locked away in glass cabinets and stored in a monumental building deep within the city.

In this work, taxidermy is put to use as a metaphor for our lack of awareness of the needs of our fellow species. It is possible to draw similarities between taxidermy and photography, for instance, both strive to achieve some semblance of life. If we continue to put other species at risk the earth will suffer a great loss. We cannot expect these records to last eternally, they too will fade with time.

Melita Dahl.

Collections

National Gallery of Australia
Art Gallery of Western Australia
Parliamentary Library Art Collection
School of Art and Design, Australian National University (ANU)
Private Collections

Exhibitions

Stills Gallery, Sydney
Centre for Contemporary Photography (CCP), Melbourne
Drill Hall Gallery, ANU, Canberra
Photospace, (then) School of Art, ANU, Canberra



Melita Dahl

Untitled (Girl and Seal)

From the series *Museum of Silence* (1991)

Available formats:

Ink jet print. Edition of 5 + 1 AP

Framed silver gelatin print (available for loan only)

57 x 87 cm



Melita Dahl

Untitled (Conservatory)

From the series *Museum of Silence* (1991)

Available formats:

Ink jet print. Edition of 5 + 1 AP

Framed silver gelatin print (available for loan only)

57 x 87 cm



Melita Dahl
Untitled (Owl)

From the series *Museum of Silence* (1991)

Available format:
Ink jet print. Edition of 5 + 1 AP
57 x 87 cm



Melita Dahl

Untitled (Magpie and Wombat)

From the series *Museum of Silence* (1991)

Available format:

Ink jet print. Edition of 5 + 1 AP

57 x 87 cm



Melita Dahl

Untitled (Kangaroo and Display)

From the series *Museum of Silence* (1991)

Available formats:

Ink jet print. Edition of 5 + 1 AP

Framed silver gelatin print

57 x 87 cm



Melita Dahl

Untitled (Girl and Thylacine)

From the series *Museum of Silence* (1991)

Available formats:

Ink jet print. Edition of 5 + 1 AP

Framed silver gelatin print

57 x 87 cm



Melita Dahl

Untitled (Thylacine and Man)

From the series *Museum of Silence* (1991)

Available format:

Ink jet print. Edition of 5 + 1 AP

57 x 87 cm



Melita Dahl

Untitled (Woman and Tree Kangaroo)

From the series *Museum of Silence* (1991)

Available formats:

Ink jet print. Edition of 5 + 1 AP

Framed silver gelatin print

57 x 87 cm *and Tree Kangaroo*)



Melita Dahl

Untitled (Boy and Wombat)

From the series *Museum of Silence* (1991)

Available formats:

Ink jet print. Edition of 5 + 1 AP

Framed silver gelatin print

57 x 87 cm



Melita Dahl

Untitled (Woman and Seal)

From the series *Museum of Silence* (1991)

Available formats:

Ink jet print. Edition of 5 + 1 AP

Framed silver gelatin print

57 x 87 cm



Melita Dahl

Untitled (Girl and Wombat)

From the series *Museum of Silence* (1991)

Available formats:

Ink jet print. Edition of 5 + 1 AP

57 x 87 cm



Melita Dahl

Untitled (Kangaroo)

From the series *Museum of Silence* (1991)

Available formats:

Ink jet print. Edition of 5 + 1 AP

Framed silver gelatin print

57 x 87 cm



Melita Dahl

Untitled (Hand and Possum)

From the series *Museum of Silence* (1991)

Available formats:

Ink jet print. Edition of 5 + 1 AP

Framed silver gelatin print

57 x 87 cm



Melita Dahl

Untitled (Possum and Magnifying Glass)

From the series *Museum of Silence* (1991)

Available formats:

Ink jet print. Edition of 5 + 1 AP

Framed silver gelatin print

57 x 87 cm



Melita Dahl

Untitled (Long-nosed Bandicoot)

From the series *Museum of Silence* (1991)

Available formats:

Ink jet print. Edition of 5 + 1 AP

Framed silver gelatin print

57 x 87 cm