



Meanwhile...

Sara MacKillop

14 March - 12 April, 2025

Sara MacKillop's practice can be read as an exploration of paper and its capacity to support and transmit information.¹ Her works often come about through encounters with common objects, images, and structures that take on a wider set of associations when taken out of their typical context.

Office supplies, stationery, and paper are freed from their intended functions. They are no longer made to inhabit the laborious realm of commerce and productivity, but instead, are given the choice of leisure. They are allowed to unfurl, loosen or lay dormant.

Every single work in this exhibition is oriented vertically. The artworks run parallel to one another. Thesauruses and furniture catalogues have been equipped with handles and now hang on walls patiently, anticipating some kind of imminent use as reading material. Rolls of paper act as a barrier, a bollard and a curtain as they divide the space into lanes, leaving behind their cylindrical forms as they unravel.

Objects display their intended form while being able to unfurl to the limits of the forces acting upon them. These two function groups of "rolled" and "handled" illustrate two continuums of activity and passivity in regards to a person's interaction with the object. A paper cannot physically be folded symmetrically more than eight times while rolling paper can seemingly be done infinitely and efficiently.

The exhibition's title, *Meanwhile...*, brings to mind the cliché intertitle from cartoons and silent films while also alluding to this transfer of associations and form in the artist's practice. The exhibition features a blend of new as well as reworked gestures in which each aspect performs simultaneous functions. "Meanwhile back at the ranch" was the name that Alfred Hitchcock gave to a piece of storytelling advice that he gave to filmmakers, whereby you structure the story as two parallel storylines, and cut from the first to the second just as the first reaches its peak.

1. Adam Hines-Green, *Sara MacKillop: Separate Volumes*, Art Monthly, no. 470, October 2023

FINAL HOT DESERT

29 Ability Plaza
Arbutus Street
E8 4DT
London



Sara MacKillop (b. 1973) lives and works in London. MacKillop has presented solo exhibitions at Roland Ross, Margate; Ginny on Frederick, London; Florence Loewy, Paris; Clages Gallery, Koln; Cabinet Du Livre D'Artiste, Rennes; Laurel Parker Gallery, Paris; A. Maior, Viseu; Print Room Rotterdam; Piper Keys, London; Bonington Gallery, Nottingham; Haus der Kunst, Munich; Trondheim Konstmuseum; Konsthall Charlottenburg, Copenhagen; Motto, Berlin; Spike Island, Bristol; White Columns, New York; Sorlandets Kunstmuseum; and Dundee Contemporary Art. Recent group exhibitions include Ginny on Frederick, London; Gestures, Naples; Circuit, Lausanne; Hyundai Museum of Kids' Book & Art, Seoul; Under The Spell, London; Florence Loewy, Paris; Leopold Hoesch Museum, Duren; Stadtgalerie, Bern; London Centre for Book Arts; Laurel Parker Gallery, Paris; Weiner Foundation, Vienna; ICA Milano; Serralves Museum, Porto; Clages Gallery, Koln; Gregory Allicar Museum of Art, Fort Collins; Reading Room, Bard Graduate Center, New York; Kunsthalle Wein, Vienna; Weserburg Museum of Modern Art, Bremen; Reina Sofia, Madrid; and Corvi Mora, London.

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Main Floor

1. *Gift Roll Barrier (temporary), 2025*
bulk gift roll displays
70.5 x 20.5 x 20.5 cm each
2. *Book/Bag (blue stripe), 2025*
book, belt
48 x 22 x 11 cm
3. *Pen Fence 9, 2025*
digital print on billboard poster
184 x 59 cm
4. *Paper Column, 2010 / 2025*
florist paper
100 x 60 x 14 cm
5. *Book Bags (Appliances; Fires; Doors, Windows and Interiors; Kitchens; Furniture and Storage; Radiators), 2025*
B+Q brochures, metal eyelets, ribbons
42 x 19.5 cm each

