

19 August - 17 September 2011

Exhibition Opening Saturday 27 August 2011, 3pm-5pm



In *Cataloguing the Composite*, Melanie Jayne Taylor utilises photographic based installation to explore the transitory nature of images, memory, loss, absence and the function of the archive.

To compile the work for this exhibition, Melanie has undergone a process of looking back into her personal photographic archive; retrieving earlier images and combining them with more recent photographs in an attempt to classify, describe, and record all the links that exist between them. These acts of retrieving and cataloguing form the basis of the exhibition. The archive here is fluid and flowing, in a constant state of construction and re-construction. This reveals the fragmentary nature of the contents of the archive and amplifies the paradox of photography: as a physical confirmation of the irretrievable past.

This exhibition presents a visual representation of the process of cataloguing, and the concept of the catalogue as a completed, physical item. The photographs selected for exhibition are thematically arranged, described, piled, stacked and in constant dialogue with one another. *Cataloguing the Composite* not only presents the idea of the catalogue and the process of cataloguing, it also functions as a visual and temporal representation of the catalogue itself.

**Melanie Jayne Taylor** was born in Melbourne, Australia, grew up in Bangkok, Thailand and is currently residing in Melbourne. She has recently completed a Master of Fine Art at RMIT University in 2010. Recent exhibitions include: *Constructing Absence: Part two* at Kings ARI, Melbourne, 2011; *Constructing Absence: Part one* at Dear Patti Smith, Melbourne, 2011; *(Untitled)*, at the National Museum (Amnasuraka), Kurdistan; *On the Rise*, (*Ballarat International Foto Biennale*), at South Street Studios, Ballarat, 2011; *Some Sort of Split (Summer Studio Program)* at Blindside, Melbourne, 2011; *Viewing Room* at First Site Gallery, Melbourne, 2010. Melanie has recently been awarded an Art Start Grant through the Australia Council for the Arts and a residency at Mustarinda in Hyrynsalmi, Finland in 2012.

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Image: *The View*, Inkjet Print on Archival Paper, 2011.