

Drawing Time

Photography's relationship to time is at the heart of its perceived truthfulness. Whether it purports to be a factual record or a fictional artifice, the photographic seems to encode time itself in a particular way. Light exists only in constant movement, within discrete temporal periods. Thus all photographic processes, which must use light as their agent, record a particular interval of time, always in the past, but represented in an eternal present.

Drawing Time is an exhibition of David Stephenson's recent large format colour photographs that explore the passage of time in the environment. Representations of momentary or extended natural processes - including human actions such as forestry, mining, and residential development - mark the environment as a site of flux, its equilibrium contested by various forces and competing value systems.