

Tricia Wright

Statement

I grew up in England in a culture with a strong tradition of decorative interior design; the patterns and motifs that covered almost every surface in my home are, for me, synonymous with the domestic interior. My work draws on our complex and often ambivalent relationship to this enclosed world, and employs patterns and decorative motifs as metaphor for the psychological interior.

Pattern is a primary element in my work, providing cultural markers and a context of time and place with which to enter each piece. My source material is primarily wallpaper and textile designs, often those of the '60s and '70s, which reflect my own background, but I also draw freely from a wide range of cultures and periods. I filter this material through my own process, deconstructing, altering, layering, and combining it with my own imagery.

My paintings are labor-intensive and slow to produce, echoing the "soft" labor of the decorative arts and suggesting the passage of time. While the larger paintings exploit color and the formal rhythms of pattern, the smaller ink on mylar drawings explore its linear possibilities, and are generally made in series form.

The *True Value* series on paper and mixed media introduces a tactile, three-dimensional element into the mix, again with pattern as a central defining element. This series explores the relationship between the decorative and the functional, and the value judgements attached to each.

Tricia Wright
2010