

Claire Watson: Artist's Statement

Certain classes of objects possess, to my mind, latent narrative content. Lost dolls, sewing accoutrements, wooden tools, kid gloves, tobacco pipes: these are intimate links to imagined histories, hand-held reminders of a body's physical experience, and starting points for several ongoing sculptural series. Although I am drawn to them for their inherent associations, what I discover in them is never what I expect. My studio habit is to create collisions between incongruent objects and the poetic properties of such materials as leather, sawdust, tobacco, cloth, and hair. The results are visual objects that pose questions. I consider a work to be successful when the question surprises me, and leads me to begin another inquiring construction.