

Bush for Life

Margaret Ambridge

158 cm x 112 cm (WxH)

Charcoal, Indian Ink, raindrops on distressed paper

Drawing has primacy in my practice, an iterative tonal approach involving endless charcoal mark-making and subsequent erasure. I respond intimately to the materiality of the surface I draw on.

This drawing is about discovery, concealment and loss, both in subject and process.

Paper placed in summer rain, from seconds to hours, absorbed rapidly, yet hidden when dry. Dragging charcoal across the paper's minute landscape of raindrop induced undulations reveals elusive shapes; rub too hard, they disappear.

Across Tarndanya a cartesian cancer invades, divides and covers the earth, city rain in search of soil, the constant march and retreat of infrastructure on the Parklands.

'Bush for Life' brings the bush in, offers the possibility of respite, natural regeneration, restorative care, home.

