

Will Nolan -*Where to Now*

FELTspace,

3/7 – 19/7/2014

Walking into Will Nolan's exhibition at FELTspace is like a reprieve from the overabundance of images of the outside world. Comprising of just six works, *Where to Now* seems sparse, but is refreshingly so. Rather than bombarding us with visual stimuli, the gallery, along with the pieces themselves, are minimal – in composition, and in colour - presenting a range of images that are at once familiar and expected but also not so. Diffusion's of light and dark, and objects that are concealed and may be something else, draw us in, and hold us there, making us question what it is that we are looking at.

With each work taken with a different type of camera, the exhibition is also an homage to photography and a worthwhile reminder that there is more to the medium than the iPhone and Instagram. The titles themselves allude to forgotten times and Nolan's obvious respect of the technique he was trained in, but there is concern here too. In a world of smart phones and social media and no shortage of the visual, how do we maintain the still image as something culturally and conceptually relevant? Where does photography go when it is already everywhere?

Where to Now is a counterbalance to the speed and ways in which we are expected to digest imagery. Nolan invites an intentional kind of looking: providing a place to slow down, to contemplate and to consider the photographic image, and our role as the viewer, in contemporary times.

Jessie Lumb