

Talking Points: Karen Wicks

Explore the work of printmaker, Karen Wicks.

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Karen Wicks

“My practice has developed out of a love of surface and process and through trying to find a medium to record and express my fascination with sense of place and the memories that can be held from previous human habitation. I have always been interested in pushing print processes and using them in ways that perhaps are not standard. For me, making art is about recording your ideas but in a way that is non-permanent.

Collagraph printing always reveals surprises and I think that is why I continue to explore its limits: by using household packaging to create intaglio ‘drawings’ I like to incorporate the accidental and play with what can make marks. I also like that there is zero waste from using low-fi print methods at home: everything can be recycled.” – [HAUS-A-REST](#)

Her work is inspired by derelict buildings and captures the presence and intrigue of these abandoned structures using intaglio print techniques. Her work uses recycled packaging which becomes fragile and disintegrates over time, which

reflects the subject matter of the 'ghost buildings' that inspire her. [Ghostbuildings](#)



**RAF Tangmere by Karen Wicks Medium: Collagraph
Paper Type: Fabriano Unica (250gsm) Year: 2022
Print dimensions: 22.5cm x 22cm**



**Commodore Hotel, Collagraph print, H 380 x W 280
mm**



**Commodore Hotel 3/3 by Karen Wicks Tetrapak print,
H 280 x W 380 mm**

Questions to Ask Students

What kind of mark-making can you see within the print?

How would you describe the tonal range?

What kind of atmosphere do the prints capture? How do you think this has been achieved?

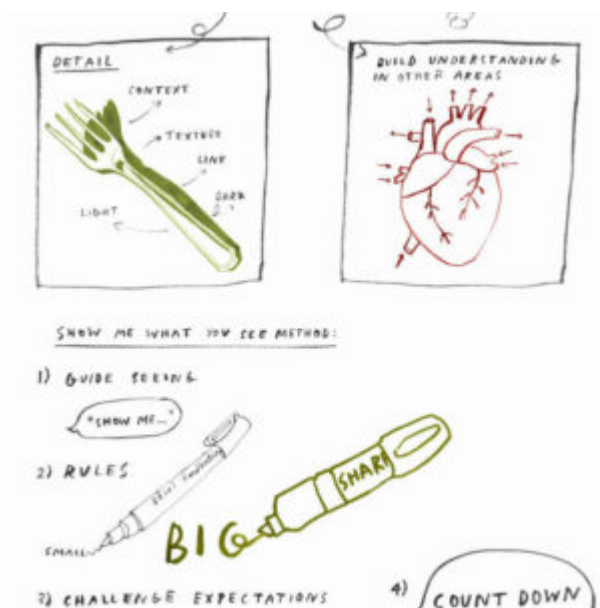
How do you feel when you look at the prints?

What do you like about the work?

Can you name some similarities and differences between the prints made by Karen and prints made by [Gail Brodholt](#)?

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