

Insulate

Thermostat Gallery
Palmerston North
2008

Artist statement

Linda Bruce

We insulate for many reasons – to protect and defend, to shelter and shield, to separate and segregate – for reasons physical, emotional, psychological. These works explore the hard and defensive, the soft and cushioning, aggressive and dark, passive and light, defiant and vulnerable. They contemplate the difference of interior and exterior realities, and examine the space between.

Quilt

The week *Quilt* was finished Tui Brewery hosted a day for farmers who have been weathering two years of drought conditions. Around 1,700 farm owners and workers from around the lower North Island descended on the Brewery and downed 10,000 large bottles of free beer, as well as enjoying a free feed, and entertainment. Mostly a day off, catching up with friends, away from the farm and the pressure drought has brought to their doors.

Insulate with alcohol. A dozen panels of quilt stitched together with D-shackles and repair links, the clay wedged with coarse grog*, studded with brass washers, Tui beer caps and brass dome head nuts. Looking like chain mail, *Quilt* is a comfort rug for the lads around here who enjoy, and often need a few beers.