

Deanna Petherbridge – *Places of Change and Destruction*

Drawings

6 September – 14 October 2017

[View exhibition catalogue on-line](#)



The Destruction of the City of Homs, 2016, ink on paper, 106 x 228cm

Following the highly-acclaimed retrospective at Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester (2016-17) this exhibition of drawings by Deanna Petherbridge focuses on her most recent work. It is a selection that shows her response to specific places and cultures that she has visited worldwide and her readiness to challenge head-on the political issues, and even the atrocities, of our time.

Since the 1960s Deanna Petherbridge has sustained the dual role of practising artist and distinguished writer, lecturer and pioneer of critical thinking on drawing and its place in art. She has travelled across continents to work, study and lecture and regularly takes as her subject the places she has visited. In Goa and Kerala, it is the juxtapositions of wild rural scenery and vernacular buildings under threat from urban sprawl that has fascinated her. In Italy it is the effect that urban sprawl and industrial blight has had on the once mighty river Tiber. And in Syria the horrors of war have prompted 'The Destruction of the City of Homs' and 'The Destruction of Palmyra' which will form the focal point of this exhibition.

Rigorously executed with a skilful use of closely hatched repetitive designs in ink and ink-wash on paper, Deanna Petherbridge weaves together architectural and ornamental structures that evoke strange and beguiling places. The single viewpoint is absent, inside and outside space is ambiguous, and complex rhythms and unexpected intervals are all deployed in pursuit of images that reflect real experience of place with purposeful political engagement and historical research.

From 1995 – 2001 Petherbridge was a Professor of Drawing at the Royal College of Art where she set up the Centre for Drawing Research. She has curated numerous exhibitions including *The Primacy of Drawing: An Artists View* (1991) followed by the publication of her acclaimed book *The Primacy of Drawing: Histories and Theories of Practice* (2010). Her works are in public and private collections worldwide and the monograph *Deanna Petherbridge – Drawing and Dialogue* was published by Circa Press in 2016.

Exhibition catalogue 30 pages, 17 illustrations and text by Deanna Petherbridge available in hard-copy.