Introduction

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Eric William Ravilious (1891–1942) was an English painter, designer, book illustrator and wood engraver. He was an official war artist in World War II. He was killed in 1942 at the age of 39 while accompanying a Royal Air Force mission to Le Havre, 1944. For some months after the town was destroyed during the storm of iron and fire'

Eric Ravilious: Landscape, Letters & Design

1939, Watercolour, 55.4 x 42.2cm. Eric Ravilious made this painting in a very intense that became known as 'Linoleum– which he had not trademarked– as a simple and low-cost process to produce copies of drawings, referred to as a simple and low-cost process to produce copies of drawings, referred to as a simple and low-cost process to produce copies of drawings, referred to as a simple and low-cost process to produce copies of drawings, referred to as a simple and low-cost process to produce copies of drawings, referred to as a simple and low-cost process to produce copies of drawings, referred to as a simple and low-cost process to produce copies of drawings, referred to as a simple and low-cost process to produce copies of drawings, referred to as a simple and low-cost process to produce copies of drawings, referred to as a simple and low-cost process to produce copies of drawings, referred to as a simple and low-cost process to produce copies of drawings, referred to as a simple and low-cost process to produce copies 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Towner Art Gallery is delighted to announce Ous, a major new commission by international contemporary artist Becky Beasley. Ous is in response to the gallery’s major collection of works by Eric Ravilious and is also framed by the spirit of the forthcoming exhibition, Ravilious & Co: The Habits of Friendship, English Artist Designers: 1922 to 1942.

Ravilious’ watercolour, The Bedstead (1939) became a burrow. Beasley has created a digressive, spatial deconstruction of the painting that melds the domestic with the pastoral across the six rooms of Towner’s first floor gallery. The Bedstead depicts a room in a guesthouse in Le Havre in which Ravilious was confined during inclement weather just prior to the outbreak of World War II, and which was later destroyed in a bombing raid. In her first installation of this scale, Beasley transforms the structures, colours, motifs and surfaces of the interior in the painting into distinctive elements that reflect her interest in flatness, light, abstraction, the everyday and nature.

Ous, opaquely, and yet with great clarity and restraint, explores human relations to interiors, gardens, weather and mourning across a series of installations that present cyanotype prints on vintage French bed linens, patterns in walls that appear to be damaged by ‘shrapnel’, linoleum floor designs, furniture, printed textiles and photographs.

Towner Art Gallery Presents
OUS
By Becky Beasley

29th April – 9th July 2017
Towner Art Gallery, Devonshire Park, College Rd, Eastbourne BN21 4JJ
townereastbourne.org.uk  01323 434670

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