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Gothic Pleasures

[Featured image (c) of the artist. SARAH SPARKES Big Sur

2015 acrylic and gold leaf on wallpaper]

Memory, the subconscious, hidden threats and hauntings underlie Gothic Pleasures, an exhibition currently showing at the Eagle Gallery, London. It's your last chance to see this exciting and resonant show which closes this Saturday (11th June 2016).

The show brings together six artists exhibiting a variety of media including painting, sculpture, print and ceramics.

In *Grandmother's Pocket Knife*, by Arabel Rosillo de Blas, a penknife with a handle inset with tiny pearls, marries fragility with a suggestion of violence with its' working blade of intricate lace-like silverwork.



P.P.O.W. Frieze London



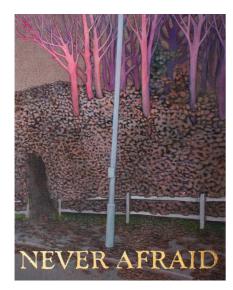
ROSILLO DE BLAS Grandmothers pocket knife

Glinting on the mantelpiece are what appear to be conventional decorative figures. Closer inspection of *Swooning Girls (featured image)* by Denise de Cordova hints at something darker.

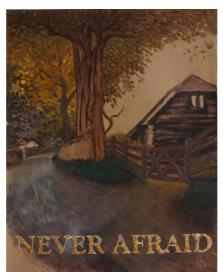


DENISE DE CORDOVA Swooning Girls

Never Afraid, a series of paintings by Sarah Sparkes, examines the place where the conventions of suburbia might be challenged by older, less cultivated elements. Steeped in folklore, the series is inspired by stories of giants and the devil, passed down through the artists' maternal line.

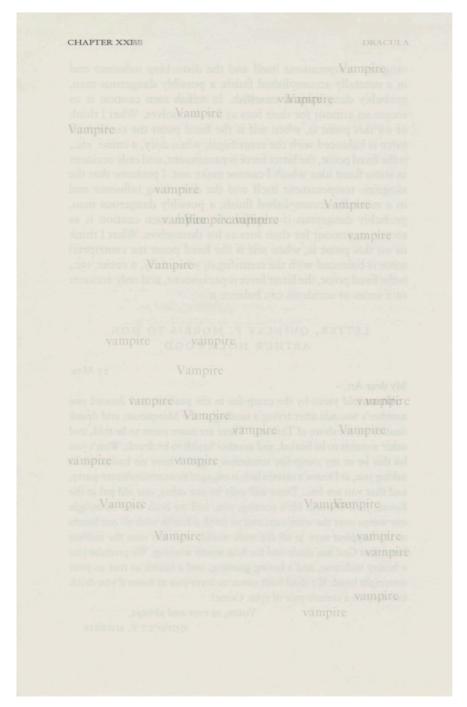


SARAH SPARKES NEVER AFRAID Season II -Netherwood



SARAH SPARKES NEVER AFRAID Season I - Still from a Cursed Movie

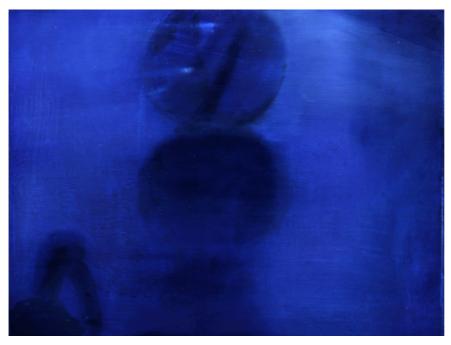
Carolyn Thompson alludes to episodes of madness and hysteria. In *Havisham*, human hair is sewn to paper in the shape of lace embroidery. In other work, a page of *Dracula* has been adapted to examine perception and obsession.



CAROLYN THOMPSON Night Terrors (Vampire)

Elaine Brown's *Blue Series* (oil on panels) suggest hidden narratives. They play with ideas of absence and presence. Harriet Mena Hill's detailed imagined

landscapes share a haunted quality.



Elaine Brown Blue series 2 2015 oil on panel



HARRIET MENA HILL Around Midnight 2016

Gothic Pleasures

19th May to 11 June 2016

The Eagle Gallery

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