



Artist Margarita Gluzberg on how she draws

Margarita Gluzberg
The Guardian, Saturday 19 September 2009

A [larger](#) | [smaller](#)

I have this idea that drawing is a process of translating material into matter. With these hair drawings, it's as if the line becomes a hair, and the hair becomes a line.

These drawings aren't so much an imitation of hair as an actual construction of it. Drawing them literally felt like I was building the hair as I built the drawing out of lines. Rather than working from left to right or top to bottom, I created layers, accumulating lines and matter simultaneously. I see the drawing as a kind of sculpture - an object constructed out of lines, where each one line is placed on top of another. Eventually, a three-dimensional sculpture was formed on the piece of paper.

Pencil and eraser are my only tools in this work. The lines are being taken away as much as they are being added. If you look closely at the white spaces, you'll see that the paper is never completely blank: something has always been slightly erased. The sheen of hair is the same sheen you can achieve by layering graphite. Here, the material itself has become a reflective dark surface, reflecting light in the same way the gloss of hair does.

- Margarita Gluzberg was born in Moscow in 1968. She appears in the group exhibition, *Play*, by Paradise Row from 8 October to 15 November. She is represented by [Paradise Row](http://paradiserow.com), London. For further details see paradiserow.com

© 2011 Guardian News and Media Limited or its affiliated companies. All rights reserved.