

PAPERS

Gail Hastings' Studio

Floor Plan: Spilt Milk, 1990

Pigmented wax and acrylic on MDF; 2 hardcover custom made books
The work comprises eight components with an overall measurement of 2
(80h x 120w x 240d), each a bracket on either side of a central audience.

The occasion: A Sculpture Triennial Forum at the Town Hall, Melbourne.

The situation: The lower Town Hall with a raised stage opposite the entrance. Blue plastic chairs in rows in front. Vacant space on the audience's left and right.

The sculptuation: On the right of the audience the situation comprises of half a square room demarcated on the floor, a circular table, a circular chair at the table, and an open book on the table. The chair comprises a square for the back and circle for the seat and is painted with white acrylic. As is the table and demarcations on the floor. Lead pencil markings on the floor demarcations are measurements of the work's components.

The open book is full of empty pages except for a central image. The image is a plan view of the sculptural situation, forum stage and central audience as set out in the lower town hall, with milk spilt from a cup and saucer. The same plan appears as a printed catalogue for the forum audience . The book's caption reads 'object: Spilt Milk'.

The situation on the left of the audience repeats the first, but as a mirror reflection. The floor demarcations, table, and chair are not coated in acrylic paint as is the first, but white wax.

The wax is fluid when melted before setting in shape, as with thought.

The book is similarly full of empty pages except for the central image that mirrors the opposite book's image. This time, though, the caption reads in reverse 'objectively spilling'.

The forum's audience is at the centre of these two opposites.