

Celebrating Women in Photography Today

7 DAYS, 3 WEEKS, 1 MONTH

Sian Matthews

This series of work focuses on the routines associated with living with an autoimmune disease. It takes a closer look at the objects which hold a huge amount of control over my life and is designed to be an exercise in understanding and regaining some control over my condition.

This installation and the prints which accompany it are a small part of a much larger group of works and mimic the repetitive action of taking the medication Mycophenolate Mofetil and other medications through the process of documentation, experimentation and thinking.

The main installation, "7 days, 3 weeks, 1 month" is made up of 224 tiny resin slabs. Each slab contains one Mycophenolate mofetil tablet, designed to frame each pill. They are then grouped in accordance with the relevant dosage for the time span they represent. Demonstrating how much of this medication I was taking and how much control it had over my life.

An artist with an interest in the everyday and the objects, routines and actions which we take for granted and that blend into the background of our lives, I use repetitive processes and simple mediums to explore and highlight the mundane details of life. In more recent years I have focused this interest into a much more personal subject, my health and the monotonous but necessary routines and procedures I must deal with daily due to my autoimmune disease.

I have found that I often speak about my condition in the third person, as if it is a separate entity all its own. Like a petulant child who screams if you do anything that strays from the routine. When in reality, it is just a part of me. As much as I try to distance myself from it, the same as you would a toxic Ex, it is part of who I am, part of my life story and without it I would be an entirely different person. I try to understand this relationship and how it effects my identity through the work I produce.

MORE INFO

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