



Katrine Spilling

Destabilising (2021)

71 x 92 cm

Photography on paper (Hahnemühle photorag baryta)

(Hosiery, ceramic shards, cut brief, cheese-cloth, silk chiffon, wool)

'Destabilising' is a staged photograph showing blurred materials with an intense backlight. The work plays with photography as a medium, expressing a blurred and unclear subject matter, an effect often avoided or used to enhance clarity in photographic images. The strong backlight reference the harsh lighting used to enhance vision for clarity and accuracy in traditional medical practices, expressing here a displacement as the image is unclear. The atmospheric texture suggests the objects being immersed in water or ice, while also referencing the conditions of a camera – the camera being too close or pulsing on autofocus, as if the image won't let itself capture, yet the blurred effect has nothing to do with external conditions such as water or the conditions of cameras, the aesthetic is received materially. How do we care for the unknown that might destabilise us? How do the unclassified exist in a world where classification assures a place in culture? To exist in blur, to not know, has value. It respects the integrity of difference and sparks the capacity to care. It acknowledges what is alive within us and between us.