



**Artistic Evaluation – Visual Arts**

**Organisation/Venue:** TALBOT RICE GALLERY  
**Title of Event:** FRANCES WALKER  
**Type of Event:** (eg exhibition/workshop/screening/lecture) **exhibition**  
**Date of Visit:** SAT 24 October 2003

This report has been commissioned by the Scottish Arts Council to evaluate the artistic quality of the production named below. It has been prepared by either a Specialist Advisor or a Council Officer as indicated at the end of the form. The report will be circulated to the organisation which produced the work and to the management of the venue if it is Core Funded by the Scottish Arts Council.

The report may be made available to Scottish Arts Council Officers, Council and Committee members, and Specialist Advisors as appropriate. It will be taken into account in assessing the work of the organisation in relation to applications for funding to the Scottish Arts Council. It may also be used by the Council to report on the overall performance of its Core Funded organisations.

**Evaluators should enter their rating under each section, explaining briefly their reason for the rating with reference to their comments under each section. Ratings should be given in accordance with the following:**

- **Very Poor** – standard falls well below what is acceptable
- **Poor** - not attaining acceptable standards of conception or presentation
- **Competent** – routine rather than especially interesting
- **Good** – well conceived and executed.
- **Excellent** – conceived and executed to a high standard.

**This form is available electronically. Please word process/type response.**

**Assessment will depend of nature of event/exhibition reviewed but we anticipate it should take between 30 - 45 minutes to fill this form in.**

## 1. Artistic Assessment

Please evaluate the **artistic quality** of the event

### 1.1 Vision and Imagination:

Rating for this section (Please tick)		Comments and key reasons for rating:
Very Poor		The quality of the artists work was good. <i>Further detail?</i>
Poor		
Competent		
Good	<b>X</b>	
Excellent		

### 1.2 Clarity of Communication:

Rating for this section (Please tick)		Comments and key reasons for rating:
Very Poor		The exhibition was wall titles and the artists name was on the wall. <i>Were they clear?</i>
Poor		
Competent	<b>X</b>	
Good		
Excellent		

You are also asked to assess the **strengths and weaknesses** of the event with specific reference to the following:

### 1.3 Artist's Work - please include:

- quality of ideas
- skills in execution
- have you seen the work of this artist/these artists before (particularly in relation to new work, or second productions)

Rating for this section (Please tick)		Comments and key reasons for rating:
Very Poor		I have seen work by this artist before. It was <b>nice</b> to see the bookwork included and displayed well. But there was no new presentation or development in the work.
Poor		
Competent	<b>X</b>	
Good		

Excellent		
-----------	--	--

1.4 Curatorial Vision/Selection:

Rating for this section <i>(Please tick)</i>		Comments and key reasons for rating:
Very Poor		<p>There was a lot of work in the show and as I said it was <b>nice to see her book works but it was a little uninspired.</b></p> <p>It would have been <b>nice</b> to have had a new approach with this established artist.</p> <p><b>Maybe less subjective wording</b></p>
Poor	<b>X</b>	
Competent		
Good		
Excellent		

Please also indicate, as far as you are aware, if the event:

has been originated by the exhibiting organisation **X**

hired  a collaboration

part of a festival  artist led

*(Please tick above as appropriate)*

1.5 Standards of presentation – please include:

- use of equipment
- use of space
- overall layout/hang

Rating for this section <i>(Please tick)</i>		Comments and key reasons for rating:
Very Poor		<p>There was nothing new in the presentations of these works and <b>I felt</b> there was too many of them.</p> <p>The books were presented well and were a welcome interruption to the rhythm of the hang.</p> <p><b>Again, maybe different wording</b></p>
Poor		
Competent	<b>X</b>	
Good		
Excellent		

1.6 Please indicate the range, quantity, clarity, tone and level of Interpretative information/material provided at the venue:

- wall panels
- labels
- catalogue
- leaflets
- artists CVs

Rating for this section (Please tick)		Comments and key reasons for rating:
Very Poor		<p>There was very little interpretation material. In the gallery there was no guide and only a little education information.</p> <p>The work was able to stand on it's own <b>but it would have been nice</b> to have a new slant on the work.</p>
Poor		
Competent	<b>X</b>	
Good		
Excellent		

1.7 Please indicate the number of visitors/participants at the time of your visit:

Rating for this section (Please tick)		1
Very Poor		A little poor for a Saturday afternoon
Poor	<b>X</b>	
Competent		
Good		
Excellent		

1.8 Please indicate the audience reaction – to include:

- time spent
- interest
- activity
- visitors' book comments

Rating for this section (Please tick)		Comments and key reasons for rating:
Very Poor		<p>The other person worked their way around the exhibition in approx 5-10 minutes.</p> <p>Visitor book comments were good.</p>
Poor		
Competent	<b>X</b>	
Good		
Excellent		

1.9 Please indicate how appropriate you think the work was for the audience:

Rating for this section (Please tick)		Comments and key reasons for rating:
Very Poor		
Poor	<b>X</b>	
Competent		
Good		
Excellent		

I think the exhibition was aimed at a very specific audience and as a regular visitor to contemporary art exhibitions I found nothing new.  
The lack of insightful interpretation gives this exhibition the feel of a private gallery exhibit.

1.10 Please indicate events available and groups targeted:

Rating for this section (Please tick)		Comments and key reasons for rating:
Very Poor		
Poor		
Competent	<b>X</b>	
Good		
Excellent		

However I was not aware of this activity when I was in the gallery.

**Further explanation of events?**

workshops	<b>X</b>	pre-school	<input type="checkbox"/>
artist's talks	<b>X</b>	primary	<b>X</b>
discussion groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	secondary	<input type="checkbox"/>
		students	<b>X</b>
		over 18	<input type="checkbox"/>
		over 60	<input type="checkbox"/>
		other	<input type="checkbox"/>

(Please tick above as appropriate)

## 2. Management of Event

Please evaluate the way the event was presented/organised by the organisation and by the venue. Please answer, where relevant, with reference to the checklist below adding any other comments/observations you may have.

2.1 Was the venue suitable for the event?

**YES**

2.2 Information/Interpretive material provided at the venue (e.g. programmes, displays etc) range, quantity and clarity

**Competent - SEE 1.6**

- 2.3 Publicity/Pre-Publicity for the Event (leaflets, posters, etc)
- range, content and when and where available. Please be alert to the publicity available prior to your visit to the event. Please also view and comment on the company's website where one is advertised. Comment on the ease of use, and quality of content and presentation, and currency of information.

**Competent – there was more information on the Website than in the gallery.**

- 2.4 Accessibility of the venue **COMPETENT**
- ease of payment (if applicable) **N/A**
  - location **GOOD**
  - external signposting **COMPETENT – the wall signage downstairs was in a very bad state**
  - internal directional signing **COMPETENT**
  - access and provision for disabled people **COMPETENT**
  - opening hours/ timing of event **COMPETENT**
  - attractiveness for children/families **COMPETENT**

- 2.5 Customer service
- quality and efficiency of staff (eg welcoming, informed) **COMPETENT**

3. **Acknowledgement of Scottish Arts Council Funding** (if applicable)  
 Following is an extract from the Scottish Arts Council's conditions of grant for funded organisations:

*“The company should acknowledge Scottish Arts Council funding in press releases, at launches, on all published materials (including leaflets, brochures, programmes, posters, notices display and exhibition materials, websites and advertising). Acknowledgement of the Scottish Arts Council grant must also be made in any secondary or indirect products arising from the revenue funding such as recordings, publications, video, broadcasts, and computer programmes etc. “*

Please comment on whether the above conditions of grant were met, including use and prominence of the Scottish Arts Council logo on the company's website.

**I could not see any acknowledgment on the website but it was on the wall text.**

4. **Scoring**  
 Overall Rating. Please rate the event overall, taking into account your ratings for each section. Please state the key reasons for your overall ratings – that is the particular strengths and weaknesses.

Overall Rating <i>(Please tick)</i>		Comments and key reasons for rating:
Very Poor		<p>There was nothing new in this presentation of Frances Walkers work. As I have seen her work before I was a little under-whelmed in the presentation and interpretation by the gallery.</p> <p><b>Again – fairly personal – no overall programme context</b></p>
Poor	<b>X</b>	
Competent		
Good		
Excellent		

**Name:** Elizabeth McLean  
**Date:** 03 November 2003

**Advisor**      **X**  
*(Please tick above as appropriate)*

**Scottish Arts Council Officer**