

*Dale Harding and Dana Lawrie*  
by Denise Hodgeson

The works of Harding and Lawrie engage the viewer as they confront what people try to believe about the feminine, that it is a single construct that can be feigned, but it is real and affective with multiple frameworks and manifestations. Although different, both artists' works include the notion of the relationship of the self to the Other. The element they create when a third person is involved, a spectator, is a platform embedded within the public and not contained within the private ideas of femininity. The space in between is like the very works themselves, dense enough for reflection, but ultimately flat, denying the invocation of the "speculum of the other woman"<sup>1</sup>. This is the feminism that appeals in the Now, but the want for a new term is overwhelming.

[1] Irigaray, Luce; trans Gill, Gillian C. *Speculum of the other woman*. Ithaca, N.Y: Cornell University Press, 1985. © Denise Hodgeson 2012

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