

Century fire

Ed Ritchie

Invisible infrastructure, hot roads, repellents and rain are just some of the themes present in *Century fire*.

Focusing on the material properties of repellent *Century fire* explores the dichotomy between repellent and absorption, extraction and infusion and the important role these processes play in environmental balance as a whole. Each work lays traces of local industry, new and old infrastructures and the simultaneity of their building/destroying amongst delicate ecosystems.

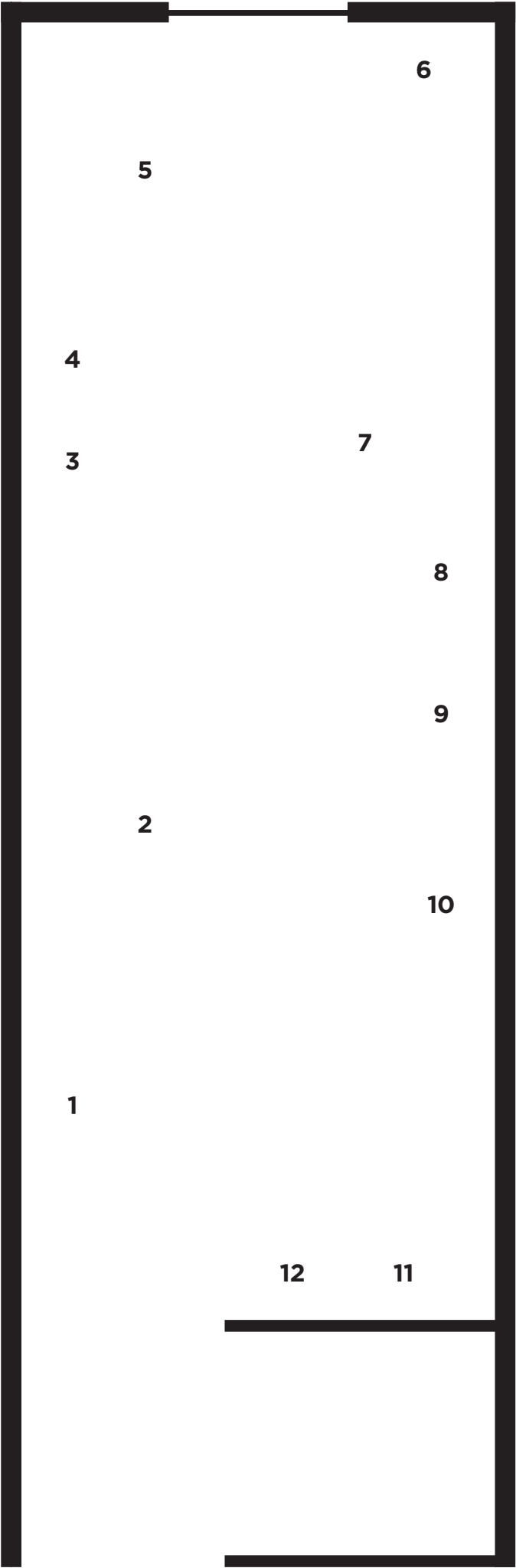
Insinuating different modes of environmental analysis (rain gauges, temperature gauges, acid tests, traps) the works operate as microcosms standing in a space of perpetual stalling; an indecisive landscape of amalgamated industries, building themselves around their own fragilities and shortcomings.

Ed Ritchie is an artist based in Ōtepoti. He completed a Bachelor of Visual Arts (Hons) in 2017 through the Dunedin School of Art and has since become a founder and co-facilitator of ARI Favour. Recent exhibitions include: *Soda Ash*, Blue Oyster Art Project Space (2023) *Central heating*, Dunedin Public Art Gallery, Ōtepoti (2021); *heat transfers*, Blue Oyster Art Project Space (2021) *Lay in Measures*, Enjoy Contemporary, Wellington (2021) *Hush Swarms*, Hot lunch, Ōtautahi Christchurch (2020); *Console Whispers*, Blue Oyster Art Project Space, Ōtepoti (2019).

Ed Ritchie

1. *Dry snow 2*
Found image, match heads
140mm x 120mm
2025
2. *Staller 2*
Wax, plastic, wool, pine, plaster,
dye, matches, charcoal
Dimensions variable
2025
3. *26 degrees 1*
Burl wood, citronella, pine
1090mm x 710mm
2025
4. *26 degrees 2*
Burl wood, citronella, pine
1090mm x 710mm
2025
5. *Staller 4*
Wax, plastic, plaster, wire, rubber,
dye, matches
Dimensions variable
2025
6. *Low temp*
Copper, match heads
245mm x 300mm
2025
7. *Staller 3*
Wax, plastic, aluminium, dirt, gravel,
concrete, pine
Dimensions variable
2025

8. *Safe distance 3*
Copper
455mm x 415mm
2025
9. *Safe distance 2*
Copper
455mm x 415mm
2025
10. *Safe distance 1*
Copper, liver of sulfur
463mm x 420mm
2025
11. *Firecomb 4*
Pine, match heads, ash, vanish,
wire, seed head
300mm x 230mm
2025
12. *Firecomb 3*
Pine, match heads, varnish,
seed head
300mm x 230mm
2025



Century fire is presented with support from: