

*Sarah Jones: Photographs,*  
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*The Rose Gardens (display : II) (I), 2007, lambda print mounted on aluminium*  
© Sarah Jones, courtesy Maureen Paley, London

## Sarah Jones : Photographs

National Media Museum, Bradford, UK  
until 17 February

A major exhibition celebrates the work of the Bradford Fellow in Photography 2006-7, Sarah Jones. Previous Fellows include Fay Godwin, Paul Graham, Dalziel & Scullion and Julian Germain. An internationally exhibited photographer, Jones' solo shows include *Le Consortium*, Dijon (1997 and 2000), the Museo Reina Sofía, Madrid (1999), and the Folkwang Museum in Essen, Germany (1999). Her work has also been in numerous group shows. This display features both new and previous examples of her distinctly contemplative work, interweaving the figurative elements of portraiture and still life to create images that seem haunted by prior events. Common themes, whether therapists' empty couches, urban gardens and parks or domestic spaces, often featuring posed young women, convey a sense of what is not there, the ghostly memory of absent things.

Jones' signature large-scale colour prints appear alongside a range of new work. Some take her foray into the consulting room one stage further, providing a glimpse of items seen at psychoanalysts' offices in New York. Others explore her fascination with urban rose gardens and 'the studio' as a potential site. Her rose displays from London parks have an inexplicable presence: some flowers seem to be gazing towards us, although we cannot be sure; others turn their heads away. They share some of the animism of literature, as in Oscar Wilde's *The Nightingale and the Rose*, or fairy-tale flowers in children's books, such as Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's *The Little Prince*. Together these works address how we experience photographs: the nature of photographic space and emotive distance, along with a perception of what we bring of ourselves when viewing them.

## Sarah Jones

Maureen Paley, London  
until 24 February

Hot on the heels of her solo exhibition at the National Media Museum in Bradford (see left), this commercial display showcases Sarah Jones' latest photographs, in her fourth one-person show at the gallery.