

## OPEN/CLOSED

What is now? What was then?

Dr Sophia Errey's observations in her 2013 essay that accompanied my exhibition *Gilt Edge* are equally applicable to OPEN/CLOSED. My processes and imagery have changed but the content and associations she identified then remain much the same now.

I have used gold and its synthetic substitutes since 2008 – on paper, on linen, on wood panels. Such works have always been exhibited in conjunction with their genealogical counterparts: works, predominantly oil paintings, from which they were birthed. That's how I envisaged it to be then. Now, with a much larger body of gilded and recycled metal works available to choose from, I wanted a selection of them to dialogue in the same space, place and time.

A simple premise for a solo exhibition, but also a privilege for an artist to be able to analytically scrutinise past and current works in a public space; away from the comfort of the studio. The associational, or even actual implications of this exhibition's title are numerous; open to a variety of ideas, closed to facile readings. For me, it is as if I am opening and closing the pages of an oversized personal visual diary.

Wilma Tabacco  
October 2022