



Nina Fowler  
Intimate Strangers: Marianne

In this piece, as with all my work, I bring a new angle to the idea of an icon. I have used private, sometimes very personal, images borrowed from friends to create drawings which conflate the idea of the personal with that of the iconic. This particular work is of Marianne Faithfull, who was married to John Dunbar, founder of the Indica Gallery (London), in the early 1960s, before her infamous relationship with Mick Jagger. I found the image amongst a collection of negatives, while working as an archivist to John. In the background is a framed painting given to the couple as a wedding gift. The resultant drawing, while maintaining an enigmatic quality lent by its original private nature, also appears to be an object of veneration, much in line with my previous work using film stills from early Hollywood cinema to create contemporary reflections on the complex relation between desire and the nature of the iconic.

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Nina Fowler graduated from Brighton University with a BA in Fine Art (Culplure) in 2003. She has since been nominated for the BP Portrait Prize, the Jerwood Drawing Prize and The Young Masters Prize. She is included in private and public collections in Europe and the USA and last year enjoyed her first museum show at Neuer Kunstverein Ashaffenburg. [www.ninafowler.com](http://www.ninafowler.com)