



March 2022

Dear Jane

I visited your old house in Chawton the other day. It has of course been more than two hundred years since you've last been there, but I really felt your presence. Your energy was palpable, which inspired me to create 'Vanishing Traces', a video-based artwork exploring those energetic traces left behind by yourself but also the other women living and working in the house - now mingling and merging with the energy of contemporary women like myself visiting your home.

I wanted the work to reference the unseen connection between all women, past and present, by visualising how the self leaves invisible energy traces wherever it goes, which linger long after the person has left and even fuse with the energy of others, exquisitely blurring the line between the self and the other.

By revealing the infrared energy left behind by myself, now held within my scarf that I left on the windowsill next to yours, the work alludes to an energetic entanglement not only between you and me, but in extension between all women. I was also inspired by the satin stitch crosses or stars you so skilfully embroidered onto your shawl, which at the neckline you connected to each other via fine network. I thank you for this gesture, as it seems to reflect on my theme - everything is connected.

When thinking about where within the house to show 'Vanishing Traces', I decided to position the screen in the room at the end of the upstairs corridor, close to the information about your death. I felt that placing the work here, may remind visitors that although your physical body has long left the earthly plane, traces of your energy and your legacy remain, which may be a comforting thought for some. Anyway, sending my love to whatever plane you now reside in. Speak soon.

Stefxx