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Elena Alonso, *Visita Guiada (Guided Visit)*, 2017, copper wire, wood, cement, cork, plaster, paint, dimensions variable. Installation view.

MADRID

Elena Alonso

MATADERO MADRID

Plaza de Legazpi, 8. Centro de Creación Contemporánea

February 10–July 30, 2017

Since its inception, Elena Alonso's drawing practice has continually redefined its own formal limits. It was only a matter of time for her motifs to evolve into sculptural entities. The artist cultivates an ambiguous terrain in her iconography, somewhere between geometric abstraction and organic representation with allusions to the body.

This site-specific project, titled *Visita Guiada* (Guided Visit), 2017, is a newly commissioned work installed in the cold storage of a former slaughterhouse in Madrid. That she has so successfully translated her personal language, her profound sense of intimacy, into such an overwhelming and complex scenario is stunning. Drawing evolves into space in the form of a hand railing that runs around the columns, which she has covered with a rhythmic succession of materials ranging from copper wire to softly carved wood or plaster, and the architecture of the installation, rather than its surface appearance, comes to the fore. A number of holes in the ceiling provide the only illumination in the show. These were once covered but now allow light to flow down from the floor above. This lighting is eminently unspectacular, as if not seeking to brighten the installation but to emphasize the singularity of the space.

— Javier Hontoria