

PRIVATE VIEW

**Nick Miller***from Friday**Art Space, London N1*

Nick Miller's new exhibition of drawings is titled simply "Closer" – a reference, I think, to the rather peculiar way in which they are made.

His model lies on the ground on a large piece of paper while Miller hangs over them, swinging in a sling inches above their face, his breath mingling with theirs, his stare returned at point blank range as he scratches his marks on to the paper.

It's almost like he's looking into a mirror and his choice of subjects – his wife, his mother, his baby son and a succession of close friends – suggests that he's well aware of what he's doing. He's drawing them, but he's really looking at himself,

and he's looking very closely. It's a bizarre, but powerful way of working that produces extraordinary results with an intensity that marks Miller as one of the most interesting figurative artists around.

Also worth a visit this week is the London Original Print Fair at the Royal Academy in Piccadilly: it's smaller than most art fairs, with just 26 specialist print dealers, but with unusually high standards. It runs from Thursday to 16 April, 11am to 6pm.

*Art Space, 84 St Peter's Street,
London N1 (020-7359 7002)
Fri to 13 May*

Richard Ingleby