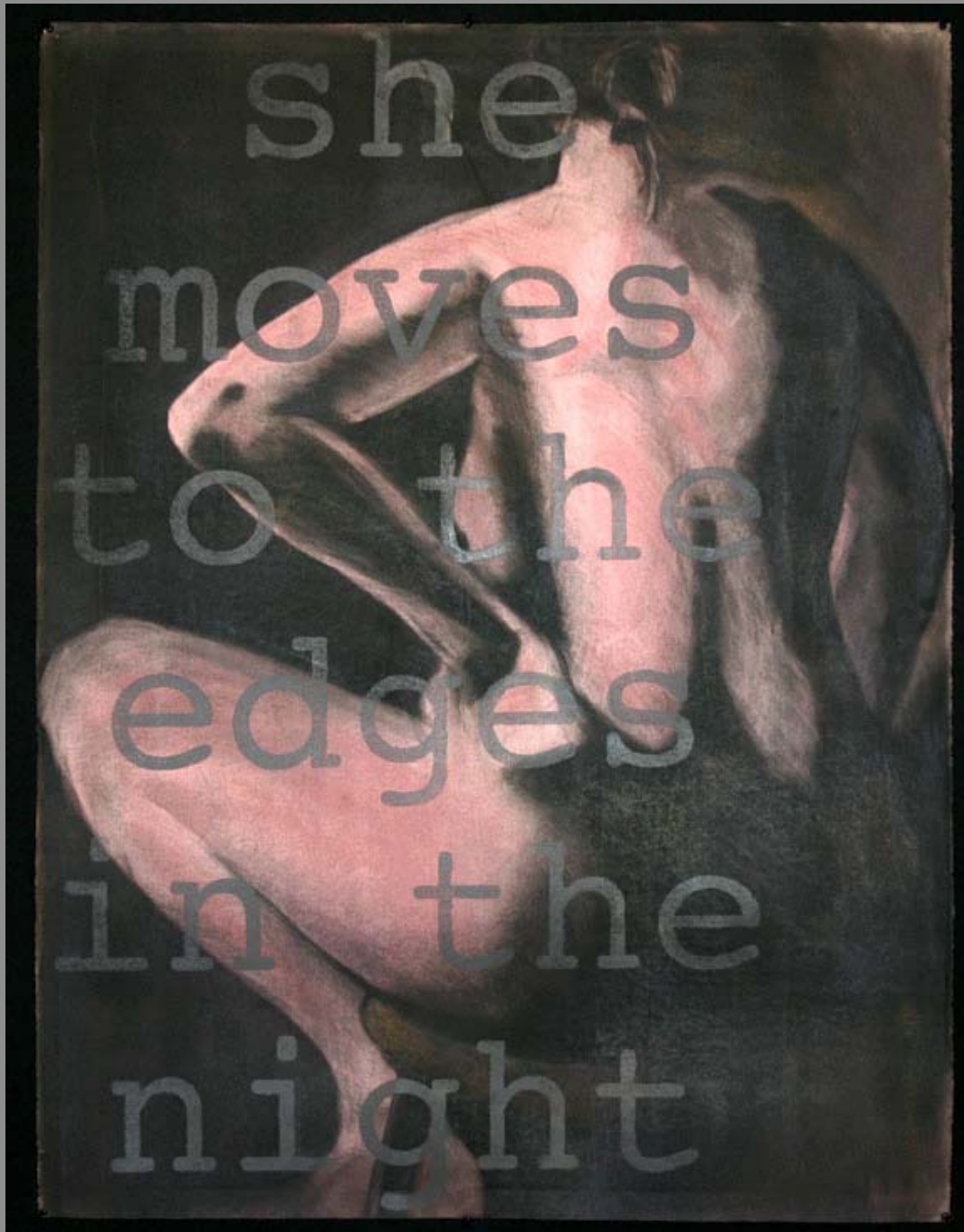


This work is part of a 15 year (1992-2007) project of evolving drawings. These images explore aspects of representation of the female body. The project includes a series large (40x50inch) drawings. These drawings were most recently exhibited in the *figure 8* exhibition, 2007, at Austin Peay University in Tennessee.

My 40x50 inch mixed media drawings are created as a series in near life-size format. They are drawn directly from the model as well as from a large collection of self-portrait photographs. Layers of color are built up using charcoal, graphite, pencil, ink wash and crayon pastel.

Text is overlaid xerox transfer technique in which the large xerox sheet is treated much like a lithograph and rolled up with ink and then printed on top of the drawing.

Via the use of text, the woman in this work reclaims authority over her own body in the presence of the gaze of the viewer. Repetitive phrases and private journal create a veil of thoughts on the body. These texts slow down the gaze of the viewer. The presence of the body indeed becomes a metaphor for the *intimacy of self* revealed in the text. The images thus create a private space of thought and body.

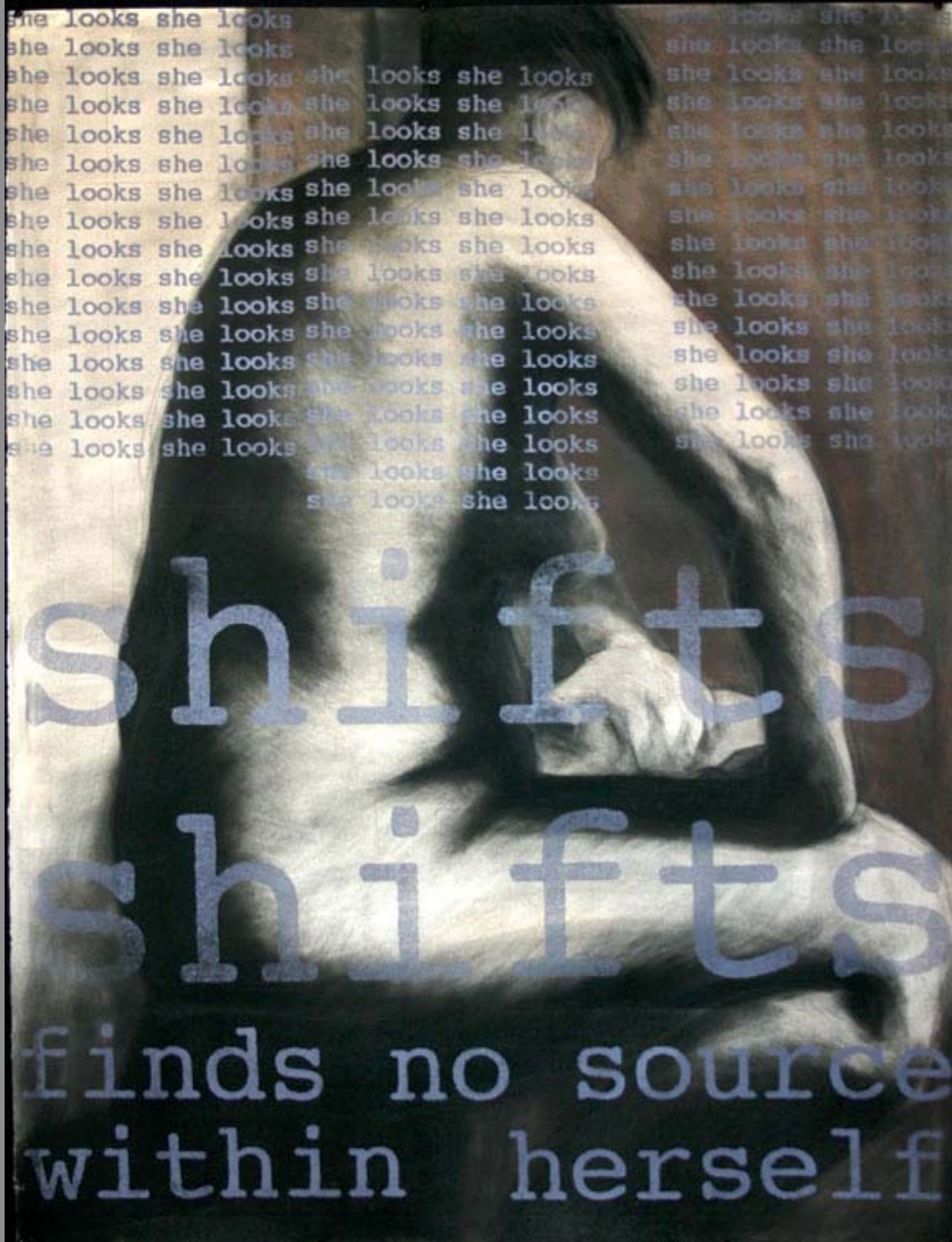


Body/Text, 40x50 inches
mixed media drawing, 1992-2007

The large scale, mixed-media drawings are presented in an accessible style with the intention of subverting from within the familiar aesthetic tradition of the female nude.

In my search for an image that conveyed strength and power, variations on a simple crouch or squat seemed most compelling. It is a stance of our daily life functions of giving birth, of elimination and of bathing. This simple visual metaphor seems an appropriate starting point for reclaiming the images of ourselves.

The viewer is invited to engage in an intense visual dialogue with the subject's strong sense of self in these images. The viewer is also deflected by the solitude of the space the figure inhabits.



Body/Text, 40x50 inches
mixed media drawing, 1992-2007



Body/Text, 40x50 inches
mixed media drawing, 1992-2007

In these drawings, the scale of the body maintains a sense of standing beside the viewer. I want the viewer to be aware of the body and of the intimacy of nakedness. This is an invitation for reflection on the way we experience our own female or male bodies. As well, to reveal on some level our cultural expectations when viewing images of the body.



Studio, with work-in-progress (1998)