

25th Anniversary Exhibition
Medal Artists of New Zealand
Regroup Reflect Regenerate

21 July – 20 September 2015

Christine Hellyar



The octopi and the rocks belong to both regional and polar localities. Although these are octopi found in the Pacific their cousins can also be found in the Mediterranean. I found the flints on the South West coast of England but have seen similar ones north of Kaikoura. Pacific and Mediterranean cultures both see the octopus as the creator of life.

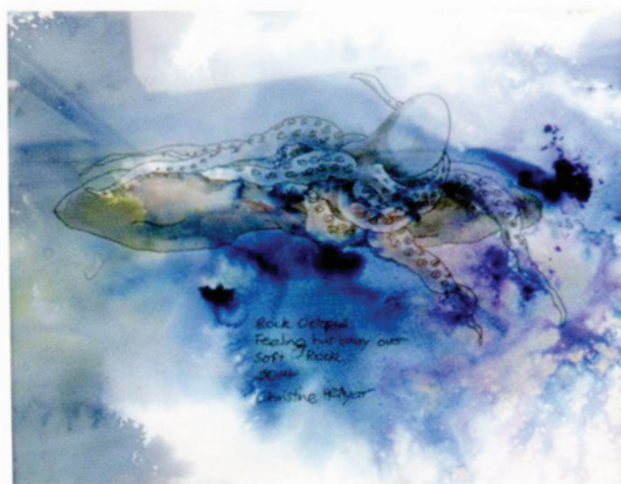
The materials I have used are timeless and relevant. Additionally, I like the way the octopi can relate to Japanese netsuke and the flints are like Henry Moore's inspirational rock samples.

Handling these small sculptures is enjoyable because they reveal more as they are turned around and they have a good weight when they are nestled in to the palm of the viewer's hand.

These drawings play with line and form and words. I like the abstract quality of the paint and the scientific quality of the pen and ink.

I have been exhibiting sculptures and drawings since 1969 and have work in most public collections in New Zealand. Conceptually my work is always about how we have thought about and made use of our environments in different places and at different times.

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1 *Rock Octopus I* 2015 Cast lead, flint rock 45 x 80 x 50mm Three views of object medal
 2 *Rock Octopus II* 2015 Cast lead, flint rock 50 x 80 x 70mm Three views of object medal
 3 *Rock Octopus III* 2015 Cast lead, flint rock 40 x 100 x 77mm Three views of object medal
 4 *Rock Octopus IV* 2015 Cast lead, flint rock 50 x 95 x 70mm Three views of object medal