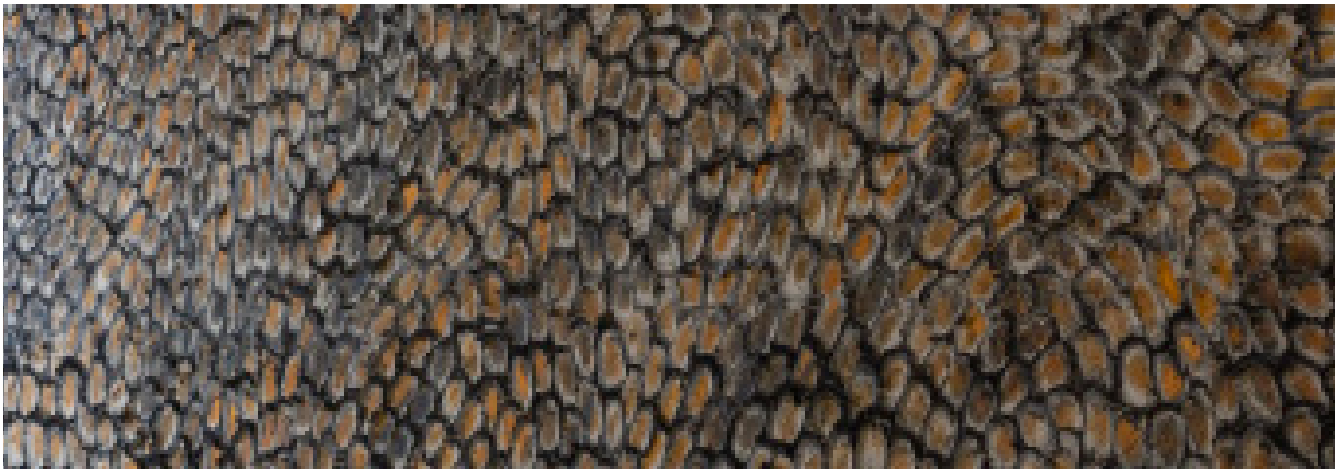


Raukura Turei: Takoto ai te marino

TEACHER RESOURCE



ABOUT THE ARTIST

Raukura Turei (Ngāti Tai ki Tāmaki, Ngā Rauru Kītahi) is a multi-disciplinary artist. She is a full-time architect and calls herself an 'untrained artist' because she didn't go to an art school. She is based in Tāmaki Makaurau, Auckland. Her painting practice has come out of her explorations to learn more about her whakapapa and her research into atua wāhine (female gods). She uses the whenua (land) as her paint and all the different types of earth she uses are very important to her as she takes them from locations that have connection to her tīpuna (ancestors). She mixes synthetic materials like a polymer binder into the natural pigments to make them more stable on the surfaces.

ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

This is a solo show and the title of the show 'Takoto Ai Te Marino' is taken from a Hauraki whakataukī which translates to 'The sea is calm, stretching far into the distance'. The patterns seen in the artworks remind us of the waves and swells of the moana (ocean) or maybe a murmuration of sea birds.

Some of these works were made in 2021 and others just a few weeks ago. All these works are being shown to the public for the very first time! The big works are on board, but all other works are on stretched linen. Raukura's process begins with an underpainting first, then layers of whenua are built up. She then uses different tools to make the lines. In some you can see her fingerprints and in

others she has used an oil stick to make the lines you can see. She considers some of the work in this exhibition to be experiments as she tried out new ways of making. There is a big artwork on the back wall of this exhibition which is the most recent made. We are checking this work every day to see if there are any changes and letting the artist know how this work is moving and changing as she had experimented with different techniques. She was very excited by the idea of trying out new processes for this exhibition.

In this exhibition there are four main natural materials from Papatūānuku she has used in her art, Aumoana/blue clay (which is the grey

colours), kōkōwai/red ochre (reddy orange clay), kerewhenua/ochre (yellow colours) and onepū/black iron sand (the sparkly black). These materials are very significant to Raukura as they are taken from her tipuna whenua, pigments were harvested from Mararetai, Tīkapakapa Moana on the East Coast and Paruroa in Te Manukanuka o Hoturoa on the West Coast of the North Island.

INSTALLATION VIEWS: PHOTO BY CHESKA BROWN



ART TERMS

Pigment- A substance that gives colour to other materials such as paint. For example, crushing the mineral lapis lazuli into powder to make blue paint.

Form- used to describe the shape of objects that are 3-dimensional and the space they occupy

Pattern- a design that repeats

Polymer Binder- an agent that holds other materials together to form a cohesive whole.

Underpainting- a first layer of paint applied to a ground which serves as a base for more layers of paint.

Texture- the feel or appearance of a surface or substance.

Layers- letting one application of medium dry before adding another.

Orche- a natural earth mineral coloured with hydrated iron oxide. It varies in colour from pale yellow to deep red and brown.

Abstract- art that does not look like real life but instead uses shapes, colours, forms and gestural marks to achieve its effect.

PRE-VISIT ACTIVITY

LEARN a purakau or whakatauki connected to your area

RESEARCH your whakapapa and ancestry

POST-VISIT ACTIVITY

PAINT what you can see outside with mud!

SMASH materials from nature, leaves, petals and rocks to discover the colour pigments found inside.

FIND materials at the beach, bush, forest or river and see if you can join them together to make a sculpture. Go to a nature filled environment - forest, beach and see what sculptures you can make from found materials at that place.

DRAW with sand on a light box to tell a story.

HUNT for patterns in nature and draw them or make rubbings. What patterns can you see on bark? In the clouds? Or on leaves and flowers?

PRESS nature items into clay and make nature texture artworks. You could pour plaster over top to make a cast of your imprinted textures.



STUDENT ARTWORK EXAMPLES, SAND, CHARCOAL ON OIL PASTEL, 2023.

FURTHER READING:

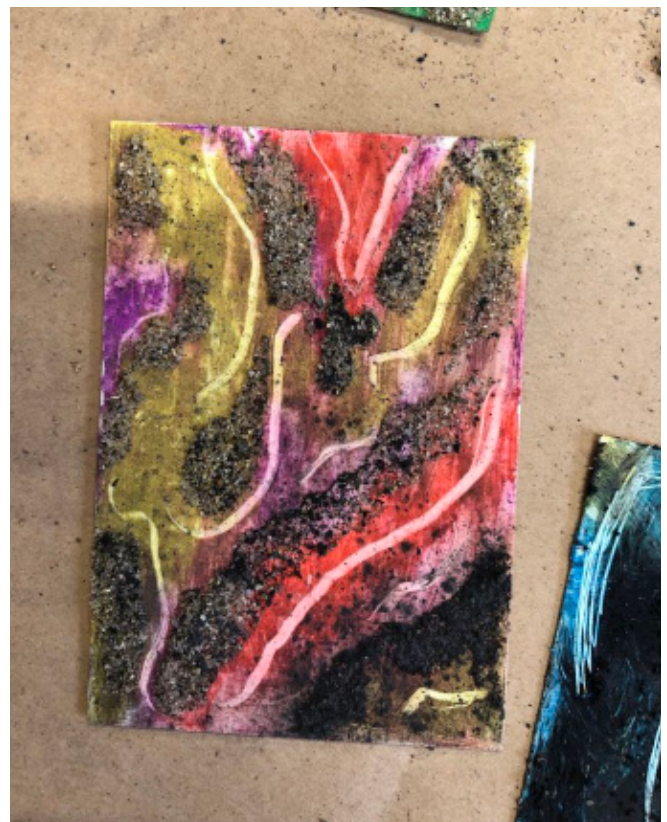
- <https://simonjames.co.nz/blogs/projects-journal/at-work-with-raukura-turei>
- <https://homestyle.co.nz/artist-raukura-turei/>

RAUKURA TUREI, TAKOTO AI TE MARINO, 2023.
ACRYLIC POLYMER AND OIL STICK ON PLYWOOD.
PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHESKA BROWN.

RAUKURA TUREI, HINEONEPŪ (PARUROA), 2022.
PARUROA ONEPŪ OIL ON LINEN.PHOTOGRAPHY BY
CHESKA BROWN.

RAUKURA TUREI, PAEMANU, 2022. PARUROA
ONEPŪ. MARAETAU KEREWHENUA, OTITORI BAY
KEREWHENUA, OIL ON LINEN.PHOTOGRAPHY BY
CHESKA BROWN

RAUKURA TUREI, HINEONEPŪ (TE HENGA), 2022. TE
HENGA ONEPŪ, OIL ON LINEN.PHOTOGRAPHY BY
CHESKA BROWN



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