

NATURAL MOODS

1st April – 8th May 2022

STUDIO TORU

3 Oroua Street, Eastbourne
studiotoru.co.nz
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An Exhibition with
Contemporary Artist
Jelena Rukavina &
Printmaker Kirsty White

Jelena Rukavina explores tactile art through classic drawings, as an expression of a need for contact with the outside world while under lockdown. In the Natural Moods exhibition, her work monitors and establishes relational instances that are framed and linked by the notions of traditional art and crafts in juxtaposition. In artistic reality, the established binary expression "crafts" is only one set of skills and traditions in relation to another, despite its rhetorical contrast with the term "art."

Jelena employs the interplay of lines, shapes, and colours, referring to these structural elements as nature's most fundamental forces. Jelena's artwork connects oriental painting palettes and flat surfaces by deconstructing them completely into absolute abstraction.

Kirsty White lives on Wellington's rugged and beautiful south coast, which has inspired her series of hand-printed artworks, 'Around the bays'. Capturing local landscapes right around the harbour and beyond. In the Natural Moods exhibition, Kirsty has focused on displaying work that she has created from her sketches of Wellington harbour, specifically from Petone foreshore through to Eastbourne foreshore.

Born and bred amongst the Wairarapa hills, on a large sheep farm gave Kirsty the passion for and connection to our unique landscape. Through her artwork, Kirsty allows others to appreciate and also connect to our incredible landscape. Kirsty's portfolio of work explores other parts of Wellington, as well as further up the west and east coasts including the Wairarapa. This work, whilst not displayed in this exhibition, is available to purchase at Studio Toru on request.

JELENA RUKAVINA

Jelena Rukavina was born in 1975 in Serbia's capital, Belgrade. After attending design school, she earned a Masters degree from the Academy of Applied Arts in 1999. Her practise is centred on experimenting with new materials, drawing, collage, and painting, all of which serve as the foundation for her expression.

Jelena won first place in an international exhibition for her oil on canvas portrait and rose to prominence as the exhibition's first student to receive an award for her work. Her work was selected to represent New Zealand and Serbia at the Florence Biennial 2021. Currently, Jelena lives in Wellington and works as a Lecturer teaching drawing courses at Victoria University.





Variation I

Mix media 500 x 600mm
510 x 680mm with Frame
\$1500

Variation III

Mix media 500 x 600mm
510 x 680mm with Frame
\$1500

Variation IV

Mix media 500 x 600mm
510 x 680mm with Frame
\$1500

Variation V

Mix media 500 x 600mm
510 x 680mm with Frame
\$1500

Variation VI

Mix media 500 x 600mm
510 x 680mm with Frame
\$1500

Variation VIII

Mix media 500 x 600mm
510 x 680mm with Frame
\$1500

Variation IX

Mix media 500 x 600mm
510 x 680mm with Frame
\$1500

Variation X

Mix media 500 x 600mm
510 x 680mm with Frame
\$1500

Variation XII

Mix media 500 x 600mm
510 x 680mm with Frame
\$1500



Variation V

Variation XIII

Mix media 500 x 600mm
510 x 680mm with Frame
\$1500

Variation XIV

Mix media 500 x 600mm
510 x 680mm with Frame
\$1500

Variation XV

Mix media 500 x 600mm
510 x 680mm with Frame
\$1500

Variation XX

Mix media 250 x 330mm
510 x 680mm with Frame
\$1500



Variation IV

KIRSTY WHITE

Kirsty discovered printmaking through her degree in spatial design at Massey University. The printing press and the many processes and techniques involved in printmaking opened up a world where art, design, and craft collide. Giving her the freedom to express herself through drawing, mark making, pattern design, and more.

Inspired by Maori whakairo, Fijian Masi cloth, and Samoan tapa, her landscapes are merged with patterning to reflect the history of a site. Mixed with the traditional etching style she uses for these landscapes, her artwork often sparks a nostalgic reaction to a favourite view.

Her skill is this ability to convey an historic narrative within a modern artwork. This original take on our beloved landscape gives us more than hills and water. It's also a chance for Kirsty to portray New Zealand's rich cultural mix, history, and passion for the land.



Eastbourne foreshore, Te Whanganui a Tara, Wellington



1 Eastbourne foreshore, Te Whanganui a Tara, Wellington
Drypoint etching with woodblock relief - framed
\$950

2 Lowry Bay
Drypoint etching with woodblock relief - framed
\$550

3 Sorrento Bay
(unframed)
\$320

4 Petone foreshore, Te Whanganui a Tara, Wellington
Drypoint etching with woodblock relief - framed
\$950



Petone foreshore. Te Whanganui a Tara, Wellington

5 Mahina Bay
Drypoint etching
with woodblock relief - framed
\$550



Mahina Bay

6 Matiu/Somes Island, Petone
Drypoint etching
with woodblock relief - framed
\$550



Matiu/Somes Island

8 York Bay
(unframed)
\$320

9 Toanga 1
(unframed)
\$350

10 Around the bays, Fish
(unframed)
\$280



Rona Bay Eastbourne

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