

The working title for the exhibition is ***drawing to sound, sound to drawing***

I propose showing a series of drawings that I am developing since participating in the ***Second Vietnamese Sculpture Symposium in Hue-1998***. I worked alongside Vietnamese and international artists in an outdoor public environment. The work I produced titled ***Drawing on Rock*** is situated in a sculpture park on the banks of the Huong (Perfume) River in Hue. The sculpture is composed of three large black stones. On the stones I repeatedly drew two motifs, a geological crystalline molecular structure adapted from previous work and a local architectural design called *hexagonal trellis* which is found on screens and the entrances to houses and pagodas. My choice in using a local design was a direct response to the cultural context. Making a connection to a wide community audience is an important part of my process. The analogy between the designs is their net- and web-like form which speak of interconnectedness and longevity. I worked with a carver who inscribed my drawn marks into the stone.

I have a particular interest in geology, especially limestone( *that crushed reef of memory*). Vietnam is a place where I have been able to develop this by visiting limestone formations and observing the making of lime for the colourful and fugitive painted surfaces of indoor and outdoor architecture.

The architectural patterns I am using in the drawings are from my sketches and photographs of the ancient buildings of Hue: the Imperial Palace, the Citadel and the Pagodas.

For the two month period I was working in Vietnam on my patterned stone sculptures I became more aware of the life of the city as a kind of living equivalent of the drawn patterns on the stone. The visual and auditory patterns of markets, street vendors, temples, plants, animals, cooking, smells, industry, weather, music and language are change constantly by day and by night. I am left with strong memories of hearing early morning sounds that signal particular activities. It is these sound patterns in my life and community that I am drawing into my work. The new drawings are expanding this idea of visual and audio pattern and rhythm.

Sound is a new direction in my work. I draw on the recorded sounds from my work and community, for example my studio and the sound of my working processes such as grinding limestone, cutting felt, mixing and painting lime onto paper; sleep; children playing in my street; breathing; music from the radio; and my tennis group. I see the drawings as musical scores representing the vibrations of sound and silence with colour and line ready to be played.

The drawings are on Vietnamese *Do* paper using watercolour, gouache and texta.

Gallery4A is a good context for this body of work. I am wanting ongoing dialogue and collaboration with other artists especially Vietnamese artists in Sydney and in Vietnam.