



marie**POWELL**

IT'S ABOUT DISCOVERY

CHRISTMAS IN NEW ZEALAND

We arrived in New Zealand shortly after Thanksgiving. The weather was beautiful so Randy and I just relaxed and soaked up the sun for a few days before I just had to pursue my passion for the art of printmaking. I will share more of what I am working on in "All About Discovery".

Here are a couple of photographs at Christmas time I wanted to share with you of the surrounding areas near where we live in Kerikeri. Here is a view from my car window as I drive the 50 miles from my home to the TeKowhai Print Trust Studio where I work in Whangarei. This is typical New Zealand scenery with gorgeous vistas and beautiful farmlands. It's a good way to relax and think about the artwork before and after creating monotypes in the printmaking studio. Well...except for driving on the left! That requires a bit of concentration, although I'm getting used to it after 20 years of driving in New Zealand.



This is a waterfront scene from the picturesque little town of Russell which was once a very rough whaling center in the 1800's known as the "Hell Hole of the Pacific". It is now a very up-market and historic tourist area where international cruise ships visit. I'm proud to say that in Russell, *Just Imagine Gallery* represents my artwork.

Just Imagine Gallery recently informed me that two large pieces of my artwork were purchased by former New Zealand Prime Minister Jenny Shipley. I am truly honored to know that my work is appreciated by Prime Minister Shipley. I thought you might be interested to know more about New Zealand's first woman Prime Minister.

The Right Honourable **Dame Jenny Shipley** DNZM (born 4 February 1952), served as the 36th Prime Minister of New Zealand from December 1997 to December 1999, the first woman to hold this office and the first woman to date, to serve as parliamentary leader of the National Party of New Zealand. (resource: Wikipedia). To learn more about Prime Minister Shipley, go to Wikipedia.org.



NEW ZEALAND'S CHRISTMAS TREE-The Pohutukawa Tree



One of my inspirations here in New Zealand is the Pohutukawa Tree, also known as New Zealand Christmas Tree. This beautiful tree blooms during Christmas season with striking red blooms, each made up of a mass of stamens. It is an evergreen that is a part of the Myrtle family that grows in coastal areas. For those of you in the Northwest of the U.S., I am sure you are familiar with the name Myrtle Wood trees that grow in parts of Oregon and Northern California.

Growing up to 82 feet (25 metres) in height with a dome like form, the tree presents a spectacular image. Because of their strength and beauty, these amazing trees perched on rocky, precarious cliffs, have found an important place in New Zealand culture.

ALL ABOUT DISCOVERY



THE PROCESS OF CREATING: At the TeKowhai Print Trust Studio, I am attending the Stone Lithography Workshop taught by Duncan Long, an artist affiliated with the Auckland Print Trust. Here we have access to what is thought of as the largest collection of litho stones in the Southern Hemisphere! I am so fortunate to have an instructor like Duncan who shares his knowledge and expertise about this very old printmaking process known as lithography.

These stones are extremely heavy; all made of limestone from Bavaria, and are difficult to move around. The process involves:

- Sanding down the surface so that it is exactly level and has no trace of any other images which might have been previously created on that stone.
- A new image is drawn on the stone using various types of "greasy" materials including litho pencils, tusche ink, and autographic inks.



- The image is then etched into the stone by using acid and gum arabic.
- Each stone can then be used to print the image on paper, by inking the surface which accepts ink where the image is created, and does not accept ink where there is no "greasy" materials.

The basic idea used in stone lithography is extremely simple:

<p>1. The artist draws/paints on the stone with a greasy substance. For example, a litho crayon is a soft waxy/greasy crayon. There are also litho paints and pencils. The stone picks up this greasy substance and holds it.</p>	
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<p>2. The stone is moistened with water. The parts of the stone not protected by the greasy paint soak up the water.</p>	
<p>3. Oil-based ink is rolled onto the stone. The greasy parts of the stone pick up the ink, while the wet parts do not.</p>	
<p>4. A piece of paper is pressed onto the stone, and the ink transfers from the stone to the paper.</p>	 



Bouquet

An edition of prints can be made, all with the same image. The press used for the printing is a lithography press, rather than an etching press. This is quite an extensive process which requires the right information, much practice, and a lot of trial and error. So far, I'm just fascinated to learn the basics, and hope to incorporate some of the printmaking techniques into my Monotype works of art. Here is an example of my latest mixed media print using lithography, monotype and collage.

Stone lithography was invented in 1798, and it was the first new **printmaking** technique to emerge in about 300 years. Stone lithography became very popular as a medium by the 1830s. People used stone lithography to create color art for books, as well as for more pedestrian things like labels, flyers and posters.

Stone lithography's popularity with artists came about because it was the first printmaking medium to allow the artist to naturally "paint" or "draw" onto a flat stone to create an image. The artist creates the work directly and naturally.

Winter Issue 2014

GALLERIES, EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS

GALLERIES

I continue to show my work at **Gallery 903** in Portland, Oregon. This Fall I will have a new exhibition at this important gallery. So stay tuned for details.

You can continue to see my work at **Riversea Gallery** in Astoria, Oregon and **Just Imagine Gallery** in Russell, New Zealand.

EXHIBITIONS-North Coast Printmakers Collective-Juried-January 11-February 4, 2014

Riversea Gallery in Astoria, Oregon, is hosting this juried exhibition. As a founding member of NCPC, I am thrilled to participate in this Regional Print Invitational. *Seascapes* and *Harbor Maps* are the artworks I submitted.

ALL ABOUT ART

GALLERY WITHOUT WALLS



153-Lyrical Gardens

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Return Policy for Marie Powell Artwork

All artwork purchases for **Gallery without Walls** on my website, come with a 30 day return policy from date of purchase. You will receive a full refund for the purchase of the artwork or a choice of another piece of artwork of equal value. If you wish to exchange for a piece of artwork of greater value, then you would just pay the difference between your original purchase and the amount over its value.

After 30 days from date of purchase, no refunds are given. However you have up to the 60th day from the date of purchase to receive a full credit toward an equal value of artwork or apply the credit toward artwork of greater value with a balance due for the difference. The balance due must be paid before shipping.

Returning the artwork to us is at your expense and must be returned in its original condition. If there is damage to the art the refund or credit becomes null and void. We will waive the shipping and handling charges if you are exchanging the artwork.

Winter Issue 2014

As you can see I have been very busy in New Zealand. I am working on a variety of styles and techniques for my next collection. Here is just one of the finished pieces. Much more is to come in my next newsletter.

 **It's About Discovery!**
Marie Powell

