

SUPER WILD BEACH PARTY

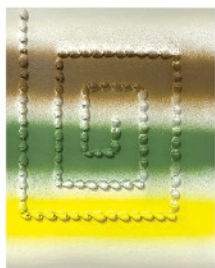
Holly Leonardson

Artist Statement

Residing close to Newcastle's coastline for the past three years and living in the sunny Noosa Hinterland another three years prior, the beach hasn't strayed far from Holly Leonardson's thoughts. Both wild, natural environment and site of lifestyle and culture, the coastline and its associated motifs are represented repeatedly across fine arts and handicrafts. A desire to gain a sense of belonging within this landscape has resulted in the ongoing creation of her own marine-focused works; an exercise in adding to a widely shared appreciation of the sea by way of the handmade.

Collecting, reflecting on and making use of shell necklaces and tourist tchotchkes, beach towels, sand, driftwood and other beachcombing finds, with the addition of paint and photographs clipped from discarded reference books, has resulted in a series of collage-based works on wood panel and small driftwood sculptures. Worn treasures found scattered along the shoreline have been collected and fashioned together by hand using simple materials such as nails and knotted cord to produce decorative hanging objects.

Beach towel-inspired stripes painted over layers of sand and photographic imagery are the main signifiers of a human presence within this body of work, which has been balanced with images of the landscape and wildlife seen from the skies, the water's edge or the oceans depths. Holly's work in Super Wild Beach Party combines the serenity of a deserted beach on an overcast day and the vibrancy of colours revealed by a cloudless sky and burning sun on a popular stretch of sand.



Shell Necklace (Dixon Park), 2022

Acrylic, shell necklace on wood panel

228mm x 305mm x 38mm
\$450



Drift (Bar Beach), 2022

Acrylic, driftwood on wood panel

228mm x 305mm x 38mm
\$450



Sunset (Burwood Beach), 2022

Acrylic, acrylic gouache, sand on wood panel

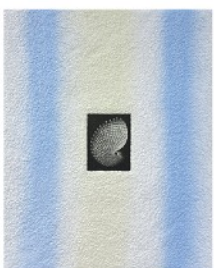
228mm x 305mm x 38mm
\$450 SOLD



Daybreak (Merewether Beach), 2022

Acrylic, sand on wood panel

228mm x 305mm x 38mm
\$450



Argonaut

Acrylic, found image, sand on wood panel

228mm x 305mm x 38mm
\$450



Shallow Reef

Acrylic, found image, sand on wood panel

228mm x 305mm x 38mm
\$450 SOLD



Endless Summer #1, 2022

Acrylic, acrylic gouache, crushed shells, enamel, found images on wood panel

457mm x 610mm

\$850 SOLD



Endless Summer #2, 2022

Acrylic, acrylic gouache, crushed shells, enamel, found images on wood panel

457mm x 610mm

\$850

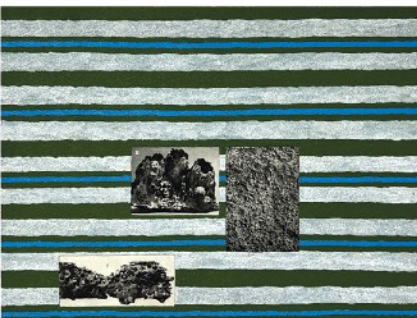


Endless Summer #3, 2022

Acrylic, acrylic gouache, crushed shells, enamel, found images on wood panel

457mm x 610mm

\$850



Beachcombing #1, 2022

Acrylic, acrylic gouache, sand, found images on wood panel

305mm x 406mm

\$650



Beachcombing #2, 2022

Acrylic, acrylic gouache, sand, found images on wood panel

305mm x 406mm

\$650



Beachcombing #2, 2022

Acrylic, acrylic gouache, sand, found images on wood panel

305mm x 406mm

\$650



Hibiscus, 2022

Acrylic, acrylic gouache, sand, found images on wood panel

305mm x 406mm

\$650





Pelican #2, 2022

Acrylic, acrylic gouache, crushed shell, sand, found images on wood panel

280mm x 356mm
\$650



Ocean Baths, 2022

Acrylic, acrylic gouache, sand, found images on wood panel

280mm x 356mm
\$650 SOLD



Pelican #1, 2022

Acrylic, acrylic gouache, crushed shell, sand, found images on wood panel

280mm x 356mm
\$650



Pied Cormorant (Nobbys' Breakwall), 2022

Acrylic, acrylic gouache, crushed shell, found image on wood panel

280mm x 356mm
\$500



Perfect Wave, 2022

Acrylic gouache, crushed shell, sand, found image on wood panel

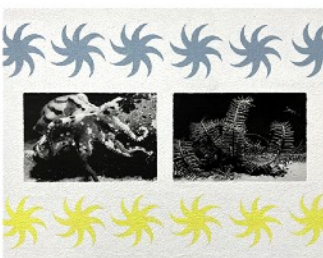
280mm x 356mm
\$500



Cormorants, 2022

Acrylic, acrylic gouache, sand, found image on wood panel

280mm x 356mm
\$650



Ocean Floor, 2022

Acrylic, acrylic gouache, sand, found image on wood panel

280mm x 356mm
\$650



Pelican (Cowrie Hole), 2022

Acrylic, acrylic gouache, sand, found image on wood panel

280mm x 356mm
\$650



Coral Bank, 2022

Acrylic, acrylic gouache, sand, found image on wood panel

228mm x 305mm
\$350



Open Ocean, 2022

Acrylic, acrylic gouache, shells, found image on wood panel

228mm x 305mm
\$350



Tideline, 2022

Acrylic, acrylic gouache, shells, found image on wood panel

228mm x 305mm
\$350 SOLD



Reef #2, 2022

Acrylic, acrylic gouache, shells, sand, found image on wood panel

228mm x 305mm
\$350 SOLD



Tern (Walking Yacaaba Headland), 2022

Found image on driftwood

NFS



Shorebird I.D., 2022

Acrylic, found images on driftwood

150mm x 200mm
\$300



Sandbar, 2022

Acrylic, acrylic gouache, crushed shell, found images on wood panel

280mm x 356mm
\$500



Surf Craft (No Wind, No Waves) 2022

Acrylic, acrylic gouache on driftwood

250mm x 320mm
\$300



Dawn, 2022

Acrylic gouache, shell, steel nail, driftwood

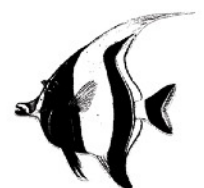
55mm x 70mm x 20mm
\$200



Tube, 2022

Acrylic, found wire object with shell, steel nails, driftwood

100mm x 30mm
\$200 SOLD





Mollusc, 2022
 Acrylic, acrylic gouache,
 shells, steel pins, driftwood
 60mm x 20mm
\$100



Seabird, 2022
 Acrylic, found image,
 driftwood
 140mm x 170mm
\$250 SOLD



Driftwood Keepsake #1, 2022
 Driftwood, acrylic, acrylic
 gouache, shell, steel nails, cord.
 150mm x 20mm
\$100



Driftwood Keepsake #2, 2022
 Driftwood, acrylic, acrylic
 gouache, found images, cord
 240mm x 50mm
\$150



Driftwood Keepsake #3, 2022
 Driftwood, sand, acrylic
 gouache, found pendant, cord
 180mm x 20mm
\$100



Driftwood Keepsake #4, 2022
 Driftwood, found images,
 shells, cord
 380mm x 20mm
\$100



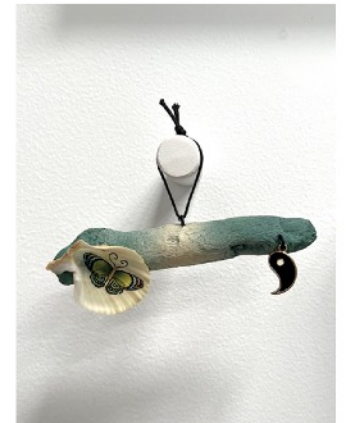
Driftwood Keepsake #5, 2022
 Driftwood, acrylic gouache,
 found images, shark tooth, nails
 170mm x 40mm
\$125



Driftwood Keepsake #6, 2022
 Driftwood, acrylic gouache,
 steel nails, cord, seabird bone
 100mm x 20mm
\$100



Driftwood Keepsake #7, 2022
 Driftwood, acrylic gouache,
 cord, shell-pressed clay
 120mm x 30mm
\$100



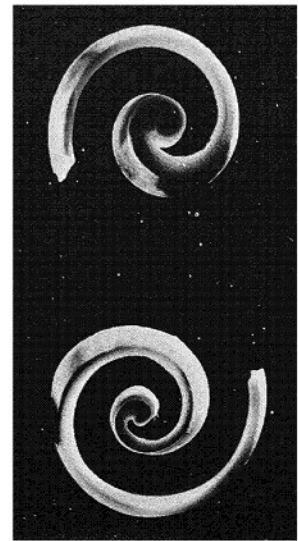
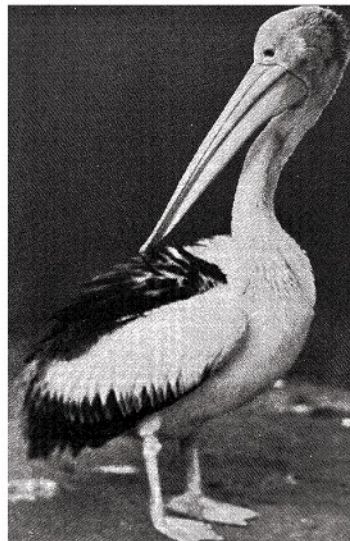
Driftwood Keepsake #8, 2022
 Driftwood, acrylic gouache,
 shell, temp tattoo, pendant
 160mm x 30mm
\$125

Artist Bio

Holly Leonardson is a visual artist currently residing in Newcastle, and has been working with collage-based concepts for over ten years. Her practice spans both handmade and digital collages, often extending to craft-based jewellery, textiles and small sculptural objects that maintain a focus on the assemblage of found imagery and materials. Holly's work is guided by a playful, material-led process and an enthusiasm for frequent studio experimentation. She considers the collage and assemblage process as being fundamental to her way of working and thinking.

The main themes in Holly's work reflect her interest in handcrafted objects and the making process, collections and collecting, surface and body adornment, domestic spaces and the natural environment. Drawn to the uninhibited nature of childlike mark-making and the balance of immediate and labour-intensive methods of creation, Holly's work has often been described by others as joyous, meticulous, detailed and colourful.

Holly graduated from the University of Tasmania in 2015 with a Bachelor of Contemporary Art and has lived in four different states along the Australian east coast, seeking inspiration from bush walks and found objects. She currently works from a studio at Onwards Gallery crammed with beautiful old books.



Onwards Gallery

Onwards Gallery and Studios is a Newcastle Art Gallery with diverse creative studios built for experimentation, personal development and growth for artists, designers and makers. Being an Artist Run Initiative, Onwards shares a unique purpose of support through collaborative studios, exhibition space, workshops, performances, seminars, welcoming arts events and gatherings.

6 Torpey Place
Hamilton, NSW

