



PEATA LARKIN



Peata Larkin's paintings explore the conjunctions between painting, weaving and digital technology.

Peata's language is that of geometric abstraction and pattern deeply informed by Maori culture. She is equally aware of the consequent linkages between past and present, craft and art, two-dimension and three-dimension, the debates of sight and perception, of surface versus distance, of structure versus colour nuance. In this way she asserts the relevance of painting in the digital, homogenised world.

Peata has pioneered a way of making which is unique. Acrylic paint is pushed through a weave substrate and in doing so the works acquire sculptural characteristics. While of course these works contain a cultural vernacular unique to NZ, the language of geometric abstraction is universal. Designs which we recognise as being Maori and containing specific references and meanings transpose (through familiarity and recognition) into other cultures readily yet translate differently.

Peata was born in Rotorua (1973) and is a graduate of Elam School of Fine Arts, Auckland University (2001-04). Awards include Molly Morpeth Canaday Award, RMIT University Scholarship for Excellence and Achievement, Norsewear Art Award, Mazda Emerging Artists Award, Trust Waikato National Contemporary Art Award. Peata is a regular contributor to Artists in Eden Day and other Eden Arts events, including being a guest judge for both our Young Artists Awards and our Art Schools Award. She has also been awarded an artist residency at Karekare House by the Eden Arts Trust in partnership with the Karekare House Trust.