



Jane Hoggard

ARTIST STATEMENT

Story to go with 'PAPAROA' series

Nestled a few hours north of Auckland, up and around windy, steep roads, just at the tip of the expansive Kaipara inlet - is the small town of Paparoa, in New Zealand.

In the farmland surrounding the township, upon 27 acres of hilly, hobbit fairyland, my older sister has settled on gold. Pretty farmland with enough grit and blank canvas to make her own, more than enough vista to cause your jaw to drop from every window.

When my feet touch this soil, I am grounded, absolutely. Having a connection with these views, these plants, these smells, the paddocks with their Nikau palms and Toi Toi clumps, chubby trees and elderly Kauri forests is, for me, like some sort of reckoning.

I was lucky enough to duck home to New Zealand in June (brief bubble bursting allowed this) and saw my sister - carving out her own mark in this region.

Paparoa and the sprawling inlet of the Kaipara, flounder stalls around every bend - has a freshness to it and feeling of pure opportunity and possibility that makes this place feel truly lucky. Buzzy in a wholesome way.

Within this series of paintings, I played with new palettes, introducing homemade stencil work, and painting and drawing from the heart. I always draw and "get to know" my subject but paint from memory, but the positivity of the visit to my sister's new home sparked a kind "festival" feel, particularly evident in the gentle but cheery palette that softens with tonal variation".

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