

HARAKEKE LACE

13 February – 16 March 2015

ArtsPost, Victoria St, Hamilton



Kookako Joyce Fleming 2014

Plumage and calls of New Zealand native birds inspire the colours and patterns of my 'birds' in which raranga and bobbin lace combine to produce sculptural forms. The various combinations and orientations of my 'lace-leaves' suggest either harakeke leaves or waka.

Material and process are important in my sculptures as I seek to combine the fibre work of two cultures without losing the identity of either. Fibres of harakeke, extracted by Maaori methods, emerge from intact leaf tips. European bobbin lace techniques, learned in my native Ireland, work the fibres into patterns.

By keeping part of the leaf whole the origin of the continuous fibres is a dominant part of my work, acknowledging the Maaori meanings held within harakeke. But close inspection may be needed to reveal the fibres are indeed part of the leaf rather than independent threads which have been attached!

10% of sale price will be donated to
Sanctuary Mountain Maungatautari – 'protecting our past for the future'

