

**PAEMANU**

**Jenna Cockeram**

Aparima

Our human lineage is inextricably tied to landforms erupting from sea, vast island chains, and continents adrift. Environmental shifts and curiosity for new lands have always pulled at the ordered nature of home.

I had the pleasure of working on this piece for a few days while decompressing from studies. I invited gallery visitors to help in the task of threading "cutouts" onto hot pink fishing lines. As often happens with repetitive handwork the mind was free for contemplation and conversation.

To gaze upon the work is both stimulating and peaceful, and leads the viewer to multiple readings.

I saw at first, the bead-like patterns and sweep of a cloak, soon after it gave the impression of mussel lines that trail behind voyaging waka. A volunteer helping to thread, saw in its form a lofty mauka.

Many saw the charcoal black "cutouts" as tiny slates of schist delicately beaded onto the fishing line. It was in these rock-like clusters stretched at random along the sinuous pink line, that I saw suspended, some kind of geological process - the kind that forms the places we call home.

A sheltering mountain, a sheltering cloak, a pathway across the sea, a midden of shells, a conversation, which of these endures? Ko aku whakaaro.