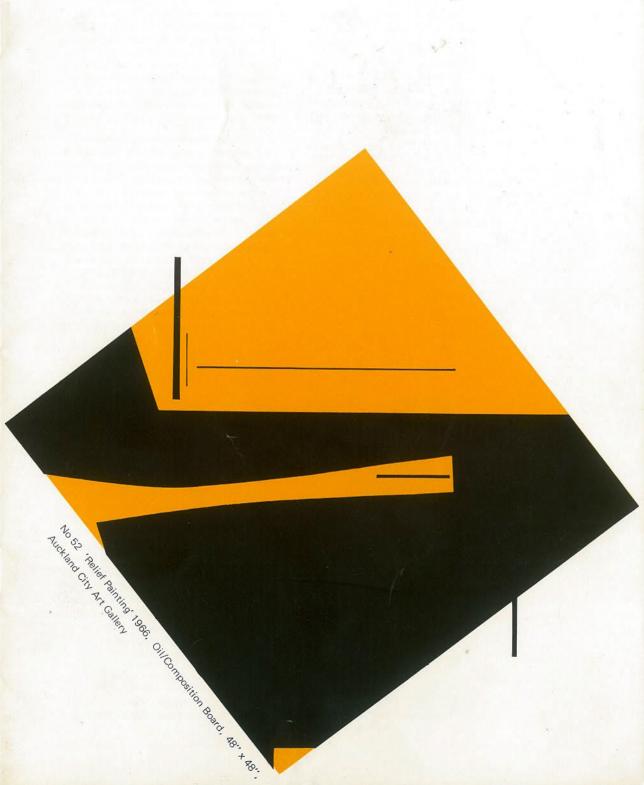
DON PEEBLES RETROSPECTIVE 1973-74



DON PEEBLES was born in 1922 at Taneatua, eight miles south of Whakatane. At the age of two he moved with his parents to Wellington, where he eventually attended Wadestown School and Wellington College. Although his main interests at school were sport and art, rather than the academic subjects, it was the long term result of an ear ailment that led him to leave school at fifteen. He joined the Post Office as a telegraph boy but continued his schooling in the evenings and passed his Public Service Entrance Examination.

During the Second World War, Don Peebles went into the Army, where he became a signalman, serving first in the Solomon Islands and finally in Italy. On the cessation of hostilities, the British Army organised various schemes to fill in the time between the cease fire and demobilization. Don Peebles rejected a furlough in Britain, preferring to go to Florence where the Royal College of Art had organised a study programme. Although he had shown an interest in art as a child-his mother remembers very early interest in drawing—this was his first experience of academic teaching. Besides the lessons there were visits to the frescoes and sculptures of the Italian Quattrocentoor rather, to those examples still on public view.

Don Peebles returned to New Zealand with an awakened desire to paint seriously. Accordingly, he enrolled for evening classes at the Wellington Technical College, the Art School then being under the directorship of F.V. Ellis. From 1947 to 1950 working days at the Post Office were followed by a trip in a number 11 Newtown tram to the Tech, where he joined classes in painting, anatomy and drawing from the antique. It was not long, however, before he found the traditionally orientated courses limiting and frustrating. In view of his then preoccupation with the formal elegance of James Mc. Whistler and for the subtle tone design of P.W. Steer, this reaction was hardly surprising.

To be a painter in New Zealand in the forties was not easy, but the Post Office clerical division meant money for food and painting materials. Peebles' work

during this early student period was that of a fairly competent representational artist. Few works remain of these years, most having been given away or destroyed in moments of dissatisfaction. Those that do remain reveal a grasp of the fundamentals of pictorial structure. His frequent use of watercolours when painting outdoors emphasised the sureness with which he was able to place the colour on the paper. It also illustrates his strong interest in tonal organisation.

Many of these early works were done after a day's work at the Post Office. Grabbing his colour box and walking briskly to the Railway Station, Don Peebles would then ride out to the Hutt, Porirua Harbour, or the coastline around Paekakariki, and in the summer months have three hours of painting before dusk turned to night. Painting in such light seemed to accentuate through shadow and silhouette, the basic angular structure of the Wellington landscape. This preference for the angular and emphatic rather than the softly flowing is still a noticeable feature in the artist's work.

During 1951, Don Peebles moved to Australia where he stayed for three years. He enrolled at the Julian Ashton Art School, Sydney, as a full-time student, supporting himself by working in the evenings until 11.00 p.m. as a cleaner in the David Jones department store. He was tutored by Henry Gibbons in antique and by John Passmore in painting and design. Passmore who had just returned from 17 years in England was one of the forerunners of the nonfigurative revolution who were transforming art in Sydney as they were ultimately to do throughout Australia. Passmore's masterly style, derived from a thorough study of Cezanne, resulted in works rich in ambiguities of space, form and atmosphere. The teaching of this reserved and intense man, with his understanding of such artists as Braque. Picasso, Matisse, Mondrian and Bonnard. as well as his outstanding competence in the principles and practice of draughtsmanship, opened up a new world for the young New Zealander.

Peebles' interest in structure, emerging in his early watercolours, received

great stimulation in Sydney. Inspired by Passmore and indebted to Cezanne, his work now started to become a slow but steady progression towards abstraction. A comparison between one of the Sydney period "Cezannes" and "Girl with a Ball" 1954, illustrates this clearly.

On his return from Australia, Don Peebles held his first one-man show at the Architectural Centre Gallery, Wellington, in 1954. For those who remembered his representational water-colours prior to the Julian Ashton Art School, this exhibition must have been either a tremendous shock or a stimulating experience. As it was possibly the first exhibition of indigenous abstract art shown in the Capital City, there should have been no surprise at the flurry of correspondence in the press.

The review in the Evening Post was a statement of patronising ignorance. Abstract painting was referred to as this "obscure cult". Some of the works "might well be the product of children", but as the reviewer went on to say in amazement, "the difference. is, of course, that Mr Peebles deliberately paints that way". A few, however, rallied to the cause of contemporary art, one commenting in a letter to the Evening Post that having seen the then current N.Z. Academy of Fine Arts Exhibition, it was a pleasure to see work which was in vivid contrast to the "miles of monotony" and "wishywashy utterances" of that show1.

During the fifties, the battle of the styles was fought with enthusiasm. The Evening Post, through the critiques of Eric Ramsden, gave public utterances to the voices of the reactionary. The Academy set its face sternly against modern work, while the National Gallery of New Zealand under the chairmanship of G.G. Gibbes Watson, regarded it as his particular duty to "keep the Charlatan out of art".

On the other side, there was the Architectural Centre Gallery, the Trojan Horse in the camp of the conservatives, assisted when possible by Graeme Dowling's Willeston Gallery. Younger artists like Melvin Day, John Pine Snadden, Victor Gray, John Drawbridge, L.D. McCormack,



Jacqueline Fahey, Pat Williams and Don Peebles manned the barricades and noisily parried the verbal blows that came their way. Older artists like Helen Stewart, Gwen Knight and R.J. Waghorn quietly, and with humour, gave their support to the cause. Twenty years later and the battle won, it is hard to appreciate the intensity of feeling that raged between the "representational" and the "modern" painters.

The most splendid act of defiance was the open-air exhibition held behind the Wellington Public Library during the warm December of 1955, when Don Peebles, along with his young contemporaries, showed a number of works. This exhibition attracted a great deal of public attention, enthusiasm, puzzlement and scorn. Eric Ramsden came to the solemn conclusion that "modern Wellington artists" were producing "a collection of weird and wonderful abstractions—work that, in the main, has neither rhyme nor reason" ²

If the Wellington art establishment disowned the work of young contemporary artists, Auckland did not. Led by Peter Tomory, Director of the City of Auckland Art Gallery, active patronage was now exercised to the benefit of contemporary painters. From

1959, Peebles, along with others, began to show in Auckland. Localism, which had dominated so much of this country's artistic life from its earliest days, was being challenged seriously. Exhibitions selected nationally by the Auckland Gallery and toured throughout the country, were to become part of the New Zealand scene.

During the fifties, Peebles continued his quiet but determined search for pure abstraction. The Wellington Series of 1957 to 1960 represented the culmination of his thinking up until that time. These rather austere, blueblack abstracts, although inspired by the harbour which lay below Wadestown, were dedicated to Wellington rather than abstracted from it. The seductive quality of colour was played down in favour of strong emphatic tonal contrasts. A factor which forces the viewer to disassociate himself from the naturalistic, compelling him to observe

the "firm structural underpinning (which) gave his work a vital challenging quality . . . quite unparalleled in New Zealand painting".3

In 1960, following on the success of his Wellington Series, Don Peebles was granted the \$2,000 fellowship by the Association of New Zealand Art Societies. He went to London accompanied by his recently married partner, Prudence Corkill of Wellington, and eventually settled in a flat in St. John's Wood, where downstairs another recently married Wellingtonian, John Drawbridge had arrived with Tanya. For two years Peebles painted full time. It was, until then, the most stimulating and fruitful period of his painting career for it provided him with opportunities to meet people and to view art in European galleries. As well, the general support and financial assistance given by the artist's wife, who resumed her profession as a dietitian in the Royal Free Hospital, was important in making possible a continuity of work in the studio.

In 1961 he met Victor Pasmore, an experimental English artist. This man had moved in his own work from figuration to pure abstraction after the war, and then in the early fifties, commenced constructing abstract reliefs. An article Victor Pasmore wrote in the Observer on abstract art attracted the interest of Peebles. He wrote to him and from this initial correspondence the two men met and a mutual respect for each other and each other's work developed, Peebles, on Pasmore's invitation, joined in the exhibition at the 1962 Aldeburgh Festival where British constructions and collages were exhibited by such people as John Piper, Ceri Richards, Anthony Hill, Roy Ascott, Matt Rugg, and Pasmore himself.

The Constructions that Peebles had commenced making in 1961 were now becoming a positive part of his overall philosophy. He strove as he had done in his Wellington paintings to pare away incidental effect and strive for purity of form. The imagery now owed nothing to the external objects around him. Rather it emerged intuitively from his mind and from an interaction with the materials he chose. He was, in other

words, moving away from abstraction with its reliance upon external objects as a source of ideas, into a more concrete world with its own dynamism and visual vocabulary. For this work, Peebles found stimulation in the example of Mondrian and of the English Constructivists around him. "Seeing their work was like a kick in the guts for me. It pushed things home. Made me realise that the only justification for painting was to get at the essence of things—to keep pushing back the boundaries".4

Two years after his return to New Zealand, Don Peebles was appointed lecturer in Basic Design at the Canterbury School of Fine Arts in 1965. Here he was expected to teach, amongst other things, the theory and practice of colour. Unlike some painters, to whom teaching and painting are an impossible combination, Peebles finds the teaching studio a source of stimulation, rather than a drain on his creative energy. Organising and researching projects for students often leads towards fresh starting points and new ideas.

It was to some extent through teaching that he began once more to investigate the possibilities of colour. But again it was not the seductive quality of colour that interested him. Nor was it a desire to move into the optical frenzy which marked a great deal of "op art". Rather it was the desire to explore the possibilities of combining his interest in area division with that of colour interaction. To some, his work seemed and still does seem, rigid and geometrical—the product of inductive reasoning and the psychology of perception. He is, some claim, an intellectual designer, rather than a warm-blooded artist. But, he might well reply, if elements such as colour, light, line, form, mass and volume are intimately experienced. they too can result in a very personal imagery.

Beneath the deceptive guise of simplicity, in fact, lie many hours of intuitive reasoning, scrupulous editing, deliberately chosen colours and disciplined shapes. Reviewing the Auckland Festival Exhibition at Barry Lett Galleries in 1967, T.J. McNamara commented in the New Zealand Herald "that each

(painting) is a final solution reached by deep thought... every element in them has a carefully balanced part to play in the picture area and nothing could be altered without a loss of subtle tensions that hold the picture together".5

Peebles' art continues; he feels that he has barely scratched the surface of things, for to him art is an ethical pursuit that knows no end. It is the search for the quintessence of relationships, whether these be shapes, colours, volumes or space. It is a search for the ideal. As John Coley commented, "To him the integrity required in facing a canvas and having to make the right choices adds a dimension to life that makes the difference between living and merely existing".6

This introduction was made possible by co-operating closely with artist and by frequent reference to the very full scrapbook his wife, Prudence, has kept of his painting life.

David P. Millar, Director, The Dowse Art Gallery.

November 1973

Notes

- 1. Artist's scrapbook
- 2. ibid.
- 3. D.F. McKenzie, Landfall June 1964, p.161
- 4. Artist's scrapbook
- 5. op. cit. 9 May 1967
- 6. Time Off 17 July 1973

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|---|--|---------------|--|---|---|--|
| Period | Title | Year | Medium | Dimensions | Owner | Where Previously Exhibited |
| Italy Pre-Australian | Old Tower, Florence | 1945 | Oil | 8" × 7¾" | Mrs H.A. Peebles, Wellington | |
| Period 1947-1950 | 2. The Little Beach | c1950 | Oil/Board | 8½" x 10¼" | Mrs H.A. Peebles, Wellington | N.Z. Academy of Fine Arts |
| | 3. Late Afternoon, Hutt Estuary | 1950 | Water Colour | 12¼'' x 15½'' | Mr & Mrs W.D.P. Norris, Wellington | N.Z. Academy of Fine Arts |
| | 4. Karori Light | 1950 | Water Colour | 13¼'' x 14¾'' | Mr & Mrs W.D.P. Norris, Wellington | N.Z. Academy of Fine Arts |
| | 5. Oil Drums6. Paremata | 1950 1950 | Water Colour Water Colour | 12¾" × 16¾" 10¼" × 12¾" | Mrs H.A. Peebles Mrs T.F. Corkill, Wellington | N.Z. Academy of Fine Arts N.Z. Academy of Fine Arts |
| Period | 7. Bathers | 1952 | Oil/Board | 8" × 9½" | The artist | |
| 1950-1953 | 8. Bathers 9. Landscape | 1953 1953 | Oil/Board Oil/Canvas | 10'' × 13'' 14¾'' × 18¾'' | Mrs D.C. Peebles Mrs H.A. Peebles | |
| Pre-Wellington Series Period | 10. Early Abstract | c1954 | Oil/Canvas | 31" × 21" | Elva Bett, Wellington | Architectural Centre, Wellington, 1954 |
| 1954-1957 | 11. Girl with Ball | 1954 | Oil/Canvas | 28½" × 22¼" | The artist | Architectural Centre, Wellington, 1954 |
| | 12. Man with Buildings | 1954 | Oil/Board | 29½'' x 22¾'' | Mrs H.A. Peebles | Architectural Centre, Wellington, 1954 |
| | 13. Abstract Painting | 1958 | Oil/Canvas | 36" x 32" | Canterbury Public Library | Architectural Centre 1958 Gallery 91, Christchurch, 1959 |
| Wellington Series | 14. Wellington | 1960 | Oil/Board | 36¼'' x 61'' | The artist | 1909 |
| 1956-1960 | 15. Wellington | c1958 | Oil/Canvas | 30½'' × 46¾'' | Mr & Mrs G.R. Peebles, Wellington | |
| | 16. Wellington IV 17. Wellington | c1957 1960 | Oil/Canvas Oil/Board | 31¼" x 42¼" 23" x 37" | Mrs H.A. Peebles Mrs H.A. Peebles | Manawatu Art Gallery |
| | Abstract 18. Wellington | c1959 | Oil/Board | 30'' × 48'' | Victoria University, | |
| | 19. Wellington | 1958 | Oil/Board | 344'' × 38½'' | Wellington Mona Edgar Collection | Hocken Library, |
| | 20. Wellington | 1960 | Oil/Board | 43½'' × 48½'' | University of Otago Dr T.H. Beaglehole, | |
| | 21. Wellington | 1960 | Oil/Paper | 30%'' × 43%'' | Wellington National Art Gallery | |
| | 22. Wellington XII | 1959 | Oil/Canvas | 58¼'' × 36¾'' | Auckland City Art Gallery | |
| | 0 · 4 · | | | | | 7 7 |
| | 23. Orange Painting | 1967 | Acrylic & | 60½'' × 72½'' | The artist | |
| | 24. Red Painting | 1967 | Metallic/Canvas Acrylic/Canvas | 60'' x 72'' | The artist | |
| England 1960-1962 | 25. Painting, Green and Ochre | 1962 | Oil | 28½'' × 40'' | The artist | Centre Gallery, Wellington 1963 |
| ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,, | 26. Painting with relief element No. 6 | 1962 | Enamel on Wood | 48'' x 48¼'' | The artist | Centre Gallery, Wellington 1963 Group show, Christchurch 1965 |
| Wellington | 27. Red Abstract | 1963 | Oil/Canvas | 30" × 18" | Colin Peebles | Group show, Christchurch 1965 |
| 1963-1964 Linear Series 1965-1969 | 28. Painting No. 16 | 1967 | Acrylic/Canvas | 60'' × 65½'' | The artist | Bonython Gallery, Sydney 1968 Barry Lett Galleries, |
| | 29. Painting No. 3 | 1969 | Acrylic/Canvas | 64'' × 60'' | The artist | 1967 Barry Lett Galleries, |
| | 30. Painting No. 17 | 1967 | Oil/Canvas | 85" high | The artist | 1969 Barry Lett Galleries, |
| | | | | | | 1967 Bonython Gallery, 1968 |
| Canterbury Period | 31. Painting No. 1 | 1966 | Acrylic/Canvas | 60¼'' × 64¼'' | The artist | Barry Lett Galleries, 1967 Bonython Gallery, 1968 |
| | 32. Painting No. 19 | 1967 | Acrylic/Canvas | 60'' × 64¼'' | The artist | Barry Lett Galleries, 1967 |
| | 33. Painting No. 6 Diptych | 1969 | Acrylic & Metallic/Canvas | Diptych 64%" x 72%" each panel | The artist | Barry Lett Galleries, 1969 |
| | 34. Painting No 3 | 1968 | Acrylic/Metallic Canvas | 64¼'' × 64¼'' | The artist | |
| | 35. Painting Canterbury E | 1968 | Acrylic/Canvas | 64¼'' × 64¼'' | Mrs D.C. Peebles | |
| | 36. Painting Canterbury No. 2 | 1969 | Acrylic/Canvas | 84'' x 30'' | The artist | Smithsonian Institute & other galleries, U.S.A. |
| | 37. Painting Canterbury No. 1 | 1969 | Acrylic/Canvas | 84'' x 30'' | The artist | Smithsonian Institute & other galleries, U.S.A. |
| /81 | 38. Orange Painting 39. Painting No. 9 | 1968 1969 | Acrylic/Metallic Acrylic/Canvas | 60½" x 72½" 48" x 48" (2 panels) 84" x 16½" | Mrs D.C. Peebles Mrs D.C. Peebles | Barry Lett Galleries, 1969 C.S.A. Gallery Christchurch |
| | 40. Painting No. 6 | 1969 | Acrylic/Metallic/ | (2 panels) 87½'' x 68½'' | The artist | 1970 C.S.A. Gallery 1970 |
| | 41. Painting No. 7 42. Painting F | 1970 1972 | Canvas Acrylic/Canvas Acrylic/Canvas | 60" x 72" 60" x 60" | The artist The artist | Barry Lett Galleries, 1972 |
| | | | | | | C.S.A. Gallery, 1973 |

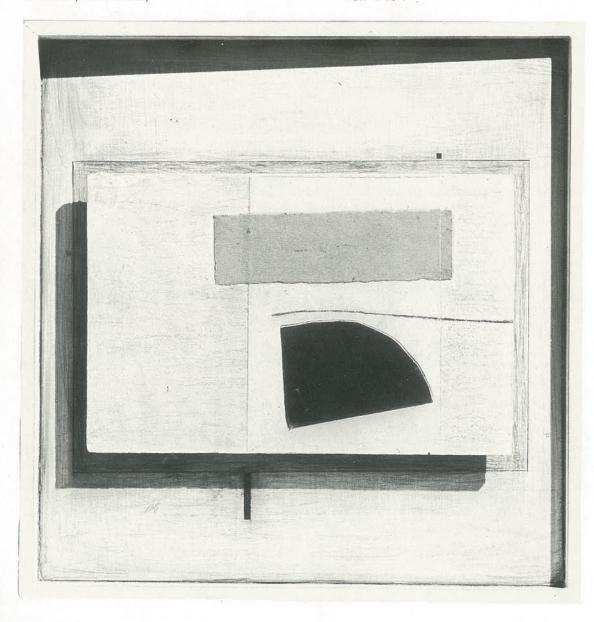
| Period | Title | Year | Medium | Dimensions | Owner | Where Previously Exhibited |
|----------------|--|--------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
| | 43. Painting H | 1972 | Acrylic/Canvas | 60" × 60" | The artist | C.S.A. Galleries, |
| | 44. Painting No. 6 45. Narrow Blue Painting Version 2 | 1971 1972 | Acrylic/Canvas Acrylic/Canvas/ Wood | 33¼'' × 40¼'' 72'' × 4'' | The artist The artist | 1973 |
| | FREE-STANDING STR | UCTURES | | | | |
| | Title | Year | Medium | Dimensions | Owner | Where Previously Exhibited |
| | 46. Red form | 1963 | Painted Wood | 9½" × 15" | Mrs D.C. Peebles | Barry Lett Galleries, |
| | 47. Red Forms— Two Pieces | 1963 | Painted Wood | 12"x 12" & 10" x 10" | Mr & Mrs O.R. Barron, Christchurch | 1967 |
| | TWO Fieces | | | 10 × 10 | Christonarch | |
| | RELIEFS | | | | | |
| Period | Title | Year | Medium | Dimensions | Owner | Where Previously Exhibited |
| United Kingdom | 48. Relief | 1961 | Linoleum/Wood | 11¾" × 13¾" | Mrs D.C. Peebles | Aldeburgh Festival, England 1962 |
| | 49. Relief Drawing | 1962 | Wood/Chalk | 16%'' × 16" | John Peebles | England 1962 |
| | 50. Relief Painting | 1962 | /Collage Elements Oil/Canvas | 48'' × 36'' | The artist | Centre Gallery, |
| Christchurch | No. 11 51. Relief | 1965 | Composition | 34¼" × 30" | The artist | Wellington 1963 Bett Duncan Gallery, |
| | Construction 52. Relief Painting | 1966 | Board/Linoleum Oil/Composition | 48'' × 48'' | Auckland City | Wellington Barry Lett Galleries, |
| | 53. Relief Construction | 1966 | Board Composition Board & | 43¼" × 36¾" | Art Gallery Barry Lett Galleries | 1966 Barry Lett Galleries, 1966 |
| | 54. Relief D | 1967/72 | Natural Wood Oil/Pencil | 25¼" × 20¾" | The artist | |
| | 55. Relief | 1970 | /Wood Painted /Natural Wood | 14¼" × 16½" | The artist | |
| | | | /Natural Wood | | | |
| | 1 | | | | · · | · · |
| • | 56. Relief H | 1972 | Painted /Natural Wood | 19¼'' × 17½'' | Mrs D.C. Peebles | |
| | 57. Relief I | 1972 | Wood/Plastic /Oil | 36" x 36" | The artist | C.S.A. Gallery, 1973 |
| | DRAWINGS | | | | | |
| Dool and | | | Maddina | Dimensions | 0 | Where Previously Exhibited |
| Period 1953 | Title 58. Figure | Year 1953 | Medium Charcoal/ | 11" x 4%" | Owner The artist | Architectural Centre, |
| 1954 | 59. Figure | | /Watercolour | 13¾" × 9" | The artist | 1954 |
| 1954 | 60. Figures- | 1954 1954 | Charcoal | 8¼" x 11½" | The artist | |
| 1963 | Fishermen 61. 5 drawings | 1963 | Charcoal/Pencil | 29½" × 21¾" | The artist | |
| 1963 | towards paintings 62. Drawing No. 10 | 1963 | Oil/Acrylic | 15½'' x 14¼'' | The artist | |
| 1967 | 63. Figure in Movement | 1967 | /Charcoal Acrylic | 6½'' × 6½'' | John Peebles | |
| 1000 | Series, No. 3 64. Seated Figure | | 12.1% | 61/11 - 71/11 | T1 | |
| 1968 1968 | 65. Figure reading | 1968 1968 | Ink Charcoal | 6¼'' × 7½'' 13¾'' × 11'' | The artist The artist | |
| 1970 | 66. Figure in the studio | 1970 | Ink | 12" × 16%" | The artist | |
| 1970 | 67. Studio interior | 1970 | Ink | 12½" x 16" | Colin Peebles | |
| 1971 | 68. Wellington 69. Drawing 1972 | 1971 | Ink | 14½'' × 12¾'' 18¼'' × 15½'' | The artist Mrs D.C. Peebles | |
| 1972 1959 | No. 7 70. Abstract No. 1, | 1972 1959 | Acrylic/Chalk Charcoal | 29¾" x 21½" | The artist | |
| 1959 | Wellington Series 71. Abstract No. 2, | 1959 | Charcoal | 29¾" × 21½" | Mrs D.C. Peebles | |
| 1909 | Wellington Series | 1909 | Criarcoai | 25/4 X 21/2 | Wils D.C. Feebles | |
| | SMALL WORKS | | | | | |
| | Title | Year | Medium | Dimensions | Owner | Where Previously Exhibited |
| | 72. Painting 1968 | 1968 | Acrylic/Canvas | 14" × 14" | Mrs D.C. Peebles | |
| | 73. Painting 1969 74. Painting 1969 | 1969 1969 | Acrylic/Canvas Acrylic/Canvas | 14¼" × 14¼" 12¼" × 16¼" | The artist Karen Peebles | |
| | 75. Painting 1970 | 1970 | Acrylic/Canvas | 14¼" × 14½" | The artist | |
| | 76. Painting 1971 | 1971 | Acrylic/Canvas | 14¼" × 14¼" | The artist | |
| | 77. Painting 1970 78. Painting 1972 | 1970 1972 | Acrylic/Canvas Acrylic | 16" x 12" 17½" x 16" | Karen Peebles The artist | |
| | 70. Fainting 1972 | 1312 | /Chalk/Canvas | 17/2 X 10 | THE artist | |
| | | | | | | |

WORKS IN PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Auckland City Art Gallery
National Art Gallery
McDougall Art Gallery
Victoria University
Mona Edgar Collection, Dunedin
Canterbury Society of Arts
Canterbury Public Library

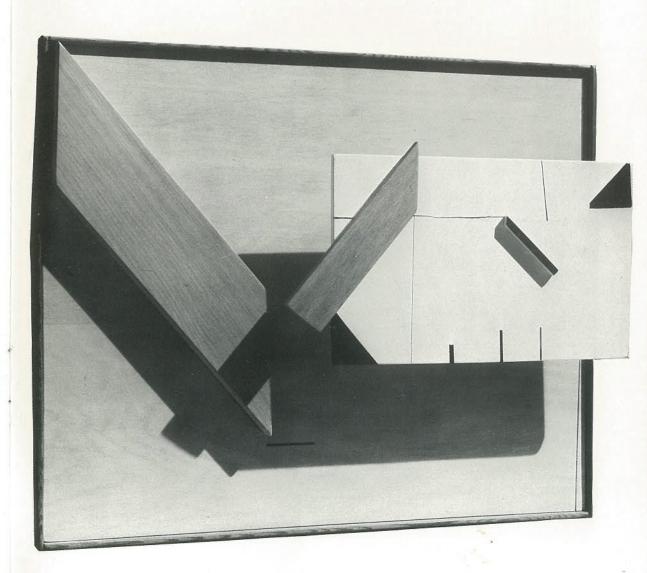
No. 49

'Relief Drawing', 1962, Wood, Chalk, Collage, 16%'' x 16".

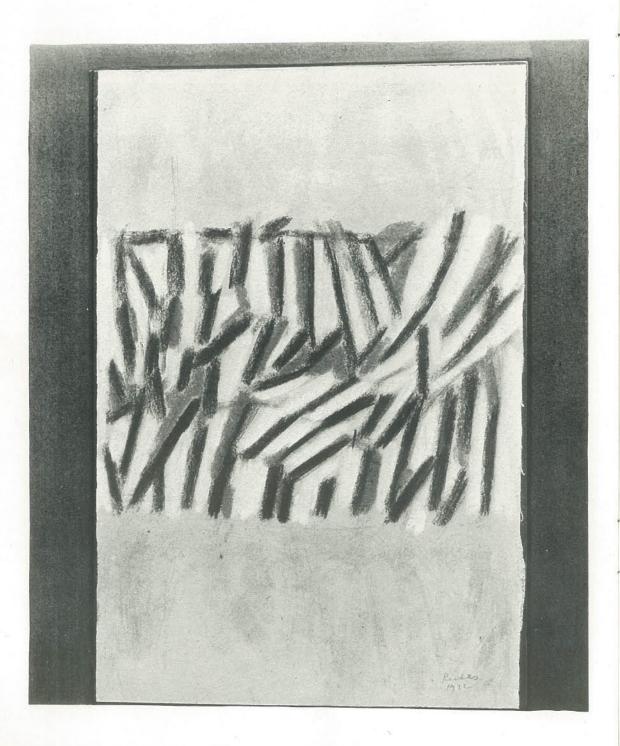


No. 55,

'Relief', 1970 Painted & Natural Wood, 14%'' x 16½'',



No 69.
'Drawing' 1972 Chalk/Acrylic, 18%" x 15%",



No. 30 'Painting-Linear Series 17', 1967 Oil/Canvas,



Exhibitions in New Zealand

| 1948-51 | Annual N.Z. Academy of Fine Arts exhibition. | | | | | |
|---------|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1954 | One-man show, Wellington Centre Gallery. | | | | | |
| 1958 | Two-man exhibition (with M.N. Day), Wellington. | | | | | |
| 1959 | Wellington Festival Exhibition of Contemporary Painting. | | | | | |
| | Eight New Zealand Painters III — arranged and toured by Auckland Art Gallery. | | | | | |
| 1960 | Contemporary New Zealand Painting & Sculpture, arranged and toured by Auckland Art Gallery. | | | | | |
| | New Zealand Abstract Paintings, Wellington. | | | | | |
| 1961 | Painting from the Pacific, Auckland Art Gallery. | | | | | |
| 1963 | Contemporary New Zealand Painting, arranged and toured by Auckland Art Gallery. | | | | | |
| 1964 | Exhibited with 'The Group', Christchurch. | | | | | |
| | Contemporary New Zealand Painting, arranged and toured by Auckland Art Gallery. | | | | | |
| 1965 | Exhibited with 'The Group', Christchurch. | | | | | |
| | Contemporary New Zealand Painting, arranged and toured by Auckland Art Gallery. | | | | | |
| 1966 | Hay's Prize, exhibition, Christchurch. | | | | | |
| | 20/20 Vision exhibition, Christchurch. | | | | | |
| | Five 20/20 Painters, Auckland. | | | | | |
| | Exhibited with 'The Group', Christchurch. | | | | | |
| 1968 | 20/20 print exhibition, Christchurch. | | | | | |
| | Ten years of New Zealand Painting, arranged by Auckland Art Gallery. | | | | | |
| 1969 | Guest artist New Zealand Academy of Fine Arts, special exhibition. | | | | | |
| 1970 | Two-man exhibition (with Edward Francis), Christchurch. | | | | | |
| | Royal Visit Exhibition, New Zealand. | | | | | |
| | Art of the Sixties, Auckland. | | | | | |
| | Kim Wright Collection, Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth, N.Z. | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

| 1971 | Ten big paintings Exhibition, arranged and toured by Auckland Art Gallery. | | | | |
|---------|---|--|--|--|--|
| | Ten New Zealand Artists, Suter Gallery, Nelson, N.Z. | | | | |
| | Paintings from the Victoria University, Wellington, at the N.Z. Academy of Fine Arts. | | | | |
| 1972 | One-man show, Barry Lett Galleries, Auckland (August). | | | | |
| 1973 | One-man show, C.S.A. Gallery, Christchurch (August). | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | Exhibitions overseas | | | | |
| 1953 | Now South Wales Art Society, Australia | | | | |
| | New South Wales Art Society, Australia. | | | | |
| 1961 | Fore Street Gallery, St. Ives, England. | | | | |
| | Penwith Art Society, St. Ives, England. | | | | |
| 1962 | The fifteenth Aldeburgh Festival of Music and Arts, England. | | | | |
| | Commonwealth Art Today, London. | | | | |
| | London Group, England. | | | | |
| 1964-65 | New Zealand Contemporary paintings & ceramics, Japan, Malaysia, India. | | | | |
| 1965 | Contemporary Painting in New Zealand, London. | | | | |
| 1966 | Brandeis University, Washington D.C., U.S.A. | | | | |
| 1968 | 5 New Zealand Artists, Bonython Art Gallery, Sydney, Australia. | | | | |
| 1969 | Smithsonian Institute, Washington D.C., U.S.A. | | | | |
| 1970 | Expo 70, Japan. | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

Awards

Philip Musket Award for Landscape, Australia, 1953.
Fellowship Award of N.Z. Art Societies, 1960-62.
Merit Award, Hay's Prize, 1966.

Dowse Art Gallery Lower Hutt, December 1973

Design: Lindsay Missen Setting: Armadillo Typesetting Printing: Kel Aiken Print