

# Shrine

## Brooklyn Nairn

'Shrine' is an installation including a collection of ceramics that connect to a story being told within an acrylic landscape painting. This artwork represents me, people who I am close to and the places I love. The purpose behind this collection is to visually illustrate the memories of unforgettable summers where I have spent long beautiful days at the beach with my family. The location of this painting was taken from a recent family vacation to Victor Harbor. This became my focal point to designing my final ceramics and landscape painting.

From the start, I was interested in developing my skills with clay. This interest led me to investigate clay artist's Jennifer McCurdy and Garbo, who utilise different techniques to create their ceramic sculptures. They inspired me to experiment with various techniques such as wheel throwing, pinch pots, and a variety of glazes. I have decided to include shells as they are a typical object found scattered through the sand at the beach. The glazed shells represent water and the many sunsets I've watched growing up. I created gradients from deep blue to light blue to represent water, and warm red to light yellow to imitate sunsets. The ceramic bowl follows a similar colour palette as the larger blue shell. The curves surrounding the walls of the bowl create the appearance of waves forming. Both the ceramic shell and bowl are holding various seashells that have been collected with my siblings throughout my childhood. The seashells carry personal meaning and bring more visual interest to the collection. Octopi adapt to their surroundings by changing their skin. I implemented the ceramic octopus to symbolise transformation, it resembles the many times I've had to adapt to new situations such as starting school or my first job. The octopus was glazed with a colour called *Robin's Egg*. Robin's egg created a beautiful replica of the appearance of metachrosis, juxtaposing delicate baby blue speckles against a warm umber.

My final painting was inspired by Australian Impressionist artist Arthur Streeton. Throughout this artwork I focused on capturing movement through the waves and also capturing the light and darkness on the rocks. This was a challenge for me as it was difficult to differentiate shadows on darker areas and rocks. I overcame this by using various dark browns to add more warmth to the painting but also avoid using too many grey tones.

My final artwork was highly successful in capturing memories made with my family at the beach. This was demonstrated through displaying a visually clear message through symbols such as the shells collected from my childhood contained within ceramics resembling linking to these memories. Although this artwork does not look realistic or an exact replica of the reference image, I was able to capture and replicate all elements to capture the atmosphere of the original image. This painting was successful with capturing movement through the water and capturing the light and dark areas through the rocks through the use of multiple directional brushstrokes. Overall, these collections of ceramics and painting were able to capture the beauty and atmosphere the beach holds.