

| McATAMNEY GALLERY AND DESIGN STORE

Media Release
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MADELINE MORTIAUX

PLEASE DON'T ABANDON ME

As for many Cantabrians, the Christchurch earthquake proved to be a turning point in the life and work of Artist Madeline Mortiaux.

She was studying Fine Arts when the February quake struck and was compelled to head straight into town to help- where she stayed for the next eight hours. Although devastating to Madeline, she took what she could from the disaster and built a foundation of works that portrayed the quakes through her eyes.

The resulting body of works "please don't abandon me" will be at Geraldine's McAtamney Gallery from June 7.

"My art is an interpretation of things I have become a part of, a representation of my memories and it is a recording of history through my eyes". "I want my works to recognize how traumatic the Canterbury earthquakes were for me and others, but the bold colours show strength and support for Christchurch. To stay here!"

She has contrasted the rawness of buildings and broken lines of the city with bright colours, using the shapes and forms to create works that are abstract but inspired by those original photographs.

"when I was taking the photographs I knew I wanted to record these thing that would never been seen again".

These works are fearless and have an urban energy and positive vibe despite the subject matter. "I was more interested in representing an historic moment in time through shapes rather than the gloom surrounding it all" she says of these works.

Madeline is a multi-media artist whose works incorporate gesso relief, screen printing and paint and this is her first exhibition.

MADELINE MORTIAUX AT THE MCATAMNEY GALLERY AND DESIGN STORE JUNE 7–JULY 5