

An aerial photograph of a rugged, rocky coastline. The terrain is a mix of dark, shadowed rocks and lighter, sandy or pebbly areas. The sea is visible in the upper right corner. A semi-transparent grey rectangular box is centered over the image, containing white text. In the bottom left corner, there is a handwritten label 'BM 16' in black ink.

# FROM ROCKEN END TO BINNEL

*Pots by Molly Attrill | Paintings and Drawings by Bridget Macdonald*

The Clayden Gallery, Quay Arts, Newport Harbour, Isle of Wight  
8 April – 1 May 2017

BM 16

# FROM ROCKEN END TO BINNEL

*This short stretch of coastline on the southerly tip of the Isle of Wight has a magic of its own*

My sister and I were born at Knowles Farm, under St Catherine's Lighthouse, and the cliffs, landslip and beaches became our childhood playground. At 6 or 7 our grandfather took us beachcombing at Rocken End where we picked up green glass fishing floats. Later we played on the rusting hulk of the wrecked Dutch coaster Volkerak, one of the last shipwrecks on this notorious coast. We spent all of our holidays swimming at Castlehaven and Puckaster, or roaming the landslip. Looking East from the cliffs by the lighthouse you can see the headland at Binnel where I now have my pottery studio. Here I use the inherent characteristics of different clays, glazes, oxides and firing schedules in making my pots. Decoration is based on observational sketches, using techniques including brushwork, wax resist and sgraffito. For this show I have also been experimenting with wood-ash glazes coloured with clay from the local cliffs.

*Molly Attrill*

This is the first time that Molly and I have exhibited together. We have both built up long careers in our respective fields and now the time seems right to explore our shared inheritance. Molly describes how we roamed around the cliffs and landslip. I also recall long winter evenings: the sound of the sea roaring below, sometimes the boom and grunt of the lighthouse foghorn and always the lighthouse beam flickering in a constant rhythm. There was no television, no car and nowhere to go, so we listened to the wireless (interrupted by staccato Morse code from Niton Ship to Shore Radio) and that is when we both drew and painted. I now live and work in Malvern in Worcestershire but the Island retains its hold over my imagination and I often return. St Catherine's Lighthouse, the wind swept pine tree at its gate and the constantly renewed population of magpies, crows and grazing cattle have been recurring motifs in my work over the last 20 years. In this exhibition I am showing new lighthouse paintings and a sequence of tiny ink drawings which are as much about memory as the present day.

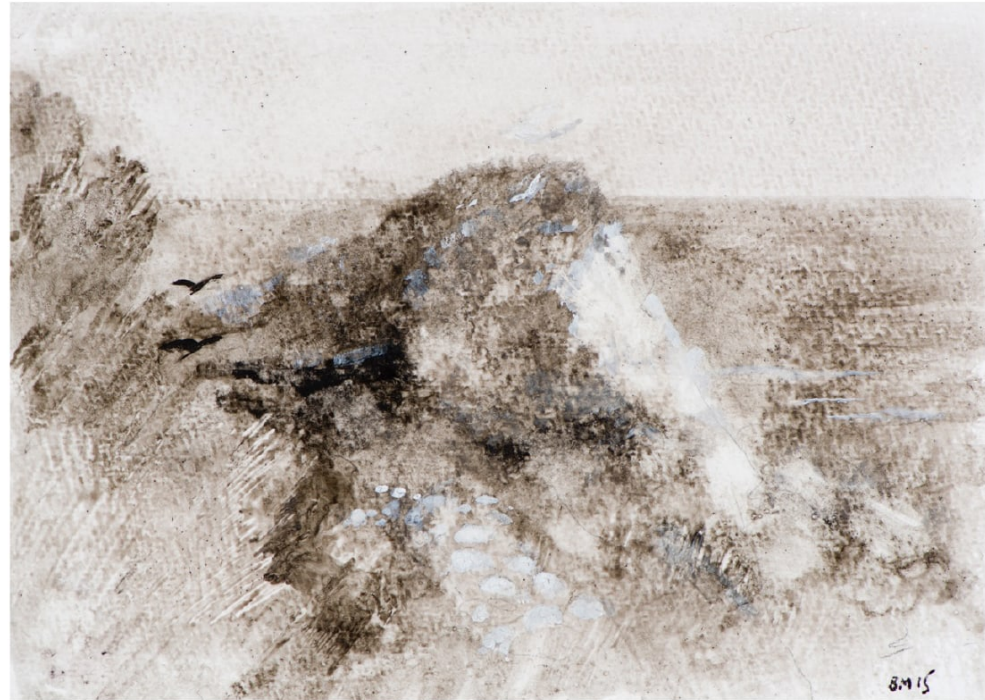
*Bridget Macdonald*



## MOLLY ATTRILL

Molly Attrill was apprenticed to Michael Leach and then studied ceramics at West Surrey College of Art from 1974 to 1977. She worked in France and Canada as a journeyman potter before returning to the Island and establishing her pottery at Mersley Barn, in 1982. Since 2014 she has been based at Binnel Studios, St Lawrence, near Ventnor.

Further information at [www.mollyattrillpottery.weebly.com](http://www.mollyattrillpottery.weebly.com)



## BRIDGET MACDONALD

Bridget Macdonald studied Fine Art at Stourbridge College of Art and the School of Art and Design at Wolverhampton Polytechnic from 1983 to 1987. She has exhibited regularly with Art First Contemporary Art in London since its inception and has had major solo exhibitions at Wolverhampton Art Gallery, Worcester City Art Gallery and Quay Arts. Her work is held in the collections of Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Wolverhampton Art Gallery, Worcester City Art Gallery, the House of Lords at 1 Millbank and in many private and corporate collections.

Further information at [www.bridgetmacdonald.co.uk](http://www.bridgetmacdonald.co.uk)





OPENING PARTY  
Saturday, 8th April  
2:00pm – 4:00pm

Exhibition runs from  
8 April – 1 May 2017

QUAY ARTS  
Newport Harbour  
Isle of Wight  
PO30 5BD  
01983 822490

Open Monday to Saturday  
10:00am – 5:00pm



*Photography: Steve Thearle and Luke Unsworth. Design: DMD, Hereford. Print: ARRC Print, Truro.*