

CHARLENE VICKERS

DIVINERS : HEALING

June 10th - August 19th, 2023

Opening June 10th, 2-5pm

Vickers new series of *Diviners* drawings (an ongoing series that began in 2010), bring rhythmic and shimmering abstractions together with the hint of figuration, grounding the works to place. They index energy, spirit and breath, and highlight Vickers' engagement with a broad spectrum of concerns, spanning meditations on power, protection, kinship, and healing. Presented together, the works on view reflect the intimacy and insistence of Vickers' practice, speaking expansively across time, territory and tradition.

Alongside *The Diviners Drawings* is the sculpture *Big Blue Smudge* (2021). This vessel-like sculpture is exemplary of Vickers' engagement with what she terms cultural gestures, manifesting connections to ancestral motifs, materials and practices throughout her work. Building form here through processes such as binding, braiding, beading, and sewing, Vickers has painted the resulting compositions with both a series of expressive marks and in blocks of varying blues. Evoking natural elements like sky and water alongside material forms such as Wedgwood china, these latter colours nod in part to the artist's longtime reflections on cultural frameworks of beauty and value.