Advent Panels, Saint Georges Anglican Church Thames

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Artist Mary Valiant's 1990s Advent Panels depicting birds and animals, flora and fauna of the Coromandel Peninsula, are being strengthened prior to being incorporated in a framework on the Church Organ panelling in Saint Georges Thames. Part of the liturgical setting for the church's Advent season, the four panels build into a picture as each of the four *Advent Candles* is installed on the Sundays of Advent, the Sundays leading up to Christmas Day.

Created in the early 90s as a 'one-off' set building week by week, the panels have been re-worked several times and now represent an original work that transposes a typically Northern hemisphere action into a Summer Southern hemisphere bush scene as the picture is revealed week by week.

Storage for the panels which hadn't originally been intended to be kept year by year, had always been trickly. The current plan is to install a permanent 'picture frame' on the organ casing panels so that this significant work of art can be on display and protected all year round.