



Abalones are a sea creature housed in an abalone shell. New Zealand abalones are eaten and the shell has an luminous quality that is treasured.

Our gorgeous Studios Kids learnt about the Maori Tiki in Nephrite jade in 2018, where the eyes of sculptured amulet (good luck) had dazzling abalone shells for eye shapes.

The New Zealand the abalone often is used to *reflect the feeling* of the **stars of whetu** (star clusters, star matter, comets) as an beautiful omen - An *omen* is a calling card and very spiritual "alignment recognition". The 'eyes' represent that of the onlooking **ancestors**.

The New Zealander Paua Shell is the native abalone (*Haliotis iris*) and are known for their iridescent nature (dominant blues and greens along with pearl-like purples and pink colours).

Paua shells are often recognised as "strengtheners". They naturally have a "pairing" nature that lend themselves to the ideas of 'coupling', 'connecting' and at Sienna Art Space they are harmonisers integrated into parts of the house. I appreciate the pairing of shishas with the beautiful luminosity of Paua in moonlight, and as a blessing coming from waterscapes.

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