In *The Sound of the Sea* lithographs, wild and infuriated seas personify human rage and ecological grief. Psychologists have recognized that the impact of long term climate change on the environment is effecting people with symptoms of despair and mourning. Climate induced stress caused by natural disasters, extinctions and environmental changes, has produced a profound sense of bereavement in some individuals, and is now being recognized as a mental health disorder. It has been observed that depression and anger are two main avenues for dealing with emotional pain, and that the latter can be a catalyst for action.

In that regard, making *The Sound of the Sea* lithographs, reflects my furor about human induced climate impacts on fragile coastlines everywhere. Rising seas, and more frequent and violent storms threaten to erase coastal cultural heritage. Surging tides claw away at fragile shores, eroding delicate natural barriers and destroying lives. But yet, there is still pitifully inadequate remedial action in the face of the gargantuan climate crisis. No wonder some of us are so sad and others are very angry!

This series of lithographs was generated from copious sketches that I made at the water’s edge in Hawaii during a winter storm. In the printmaking studio, after drawing directly on a limestone block with a grease pencil, etching it with acid, applying ink, and printing them on a hand press, I hand colored the four smaller prints and numbered them in an edition of eight.

Blasted with frothing, turbulent seas, *My Teacher’s Voice* speaks in black and white and *My Teacher’s Face* is printed in color. With *Storm Surge*, the surf assaults the lava outcrops, and menaces gentle green plants tenuously gripping the sand. I felt, then, that all of us were lost in the fury, and long for solace. In *The Way Home*, I layered a Polynesian Stick Chart, an ancient ocean navigation aide, over the white-capped crests to help us find our way. But, aren’t we already home, complacently sitting in our foolishly fouled nest?

@June Julian, *Winter Seas*, Stone Lithograph, Hand Colored, 4 in. X 6 in. 2008, Ed. 8
June Julian
*The Sound of the Sea*

@June Julian, *Storm Surge*, Stone Lithograph, Hand Colored, 4 in. X 6 in. 2009, Ed. 8

June Julian
*The Sound of the Sea*

List of Works