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Wrens, Wee Stones, Winter caring and assemblage  
by Laura Travis installation collaboration with Char  
Getty in the window at AS220, December 3-21,  
1995

AS220

Laura

Char

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**Wrens, Wee Stones, Winter**  
carving and assemblage by Laura Travis  
installation collaboration with Char Getty  
in the window at AS220, December 3- 21, 1995

1. **Saint at the Well** local soapstone, Scottish heather, wool, wood \$125
2. **Janus Head** Vermont soapstone \$95
3. **Horse Goddess** local soapstone \$75
4. **Waltz: Ladies' Choice** slate, soapstone, gilding \$95
5. **Triskele** alabaster NFS; similar commissions undertaken
6. **Give Us A Penny To Bury The Wren** Assemblage \$60
7. **Please To See the King** Assemblage \$60
8. **Triskele** slate \$50
9. **The Desert, Mourne High Cross** West Rutland, Vt. marble \$75
10. **Pilgrim** alabaster \$150
11. **Sun Wheel Cross** slate \$100 similar commissions undertaken
12. **Triskele standing stone** slate NFS; similar commissions undertaken
13. **View of solstice stone, Mystery Hill, New Hampshire** watercolor \$75
14. **Protectress** alabaster \$75

Thank you to Char for the invaluable installation, and all the boxes and shelves, and to friends and family who take walks with their eyes on the ground looking for rocks for me.

After twenty years of traditional Irish dancing my feet finally gave out. My guess is you'll notice a carry-over on this wall. The wren boxes are about one of the strangest winter rituals to survive into the modern era, still practiced on December 26 in several places in the British Isles and Ireland. Two traditional songs of the season may help explain:

"The wren, the wren, the king of all birds, on St. Stephen's Day was caught in the furze  
Though he is small, his family is great; open the door and give us a treat."

"Joy, health, love and peace be all here in this place;  
By your leave we will sing concerning our King.  
Our King is well dressed in silks of the best, in ribbons so rare, no King can compare  
We have travelled many miles over hedges and stiles in search of our King, unto you we bring  
We have powder and shot to conquer the lot, we have cannon and ball to conquer them all  
Bold Christmas is past, Twelfth Night is the last; we bid you adieu, great joy to the New."

