



# Performing live at Mt Messenger

Artist Tom Mutch of New Plymouth with some of the dissected shapes of a "Meditation" image which are to be placed above Mt Messenger tunnel at 9am this morning. The shapes are part of an elaborate two-day performance piece called "Meditation and Mt Messenger". At the same time as the shapes are placed on the mountain a group of carvers will begin shaping the original meditation image in wood at the Govett Brewster Art Gallery in New Plymouth.

Sounds of vehicles passing through the tunnel will be transmitted by radio to the carvers. Vehicles will be stopped and encouraged to visit the gallery to experience the other half of the artwork.

"What I'm trying to do is point out that a surface to work on doesn't necessarily have to be a square or oblong, it can be time or distance," says the artist.

His work also contains a criticism of the placement of industry in Taranaki. He believes many environmentally pleasing sites have been ruined by ugly and polluting industrial developments.

This is suggested by the scattered, or unintelligent, nature of the pieces above the tunnel, which is the gateway to Taranaki. When the "Meditation" or intelligent, image is complete the "unintelligent" one will be removed. This is expected to be at 4pm tomorrow.