

As stated in the title of the show these discrete objects which appear to be small rock formations are in fact rat bait stations. These particular bait stations were stolen from the grounds of St. Patrick's church in Melbourne. This show is the continuation of a series of bait station works and shows by the artist, however slightly anomalous in its incidental ornamentation.. In the secular world these objects are mostly unadorned utilitarian death devices (black boxes), which are cabled or bolted in rodent prone areas of a site. On the grounds of the church they appear, scattered and untethered, as a camouflaged simulation of nature (obfuscating their deadly function). The artist was able to enter the grounds with a bin bag and extract them en masse without any friction. A second excursion to the site marked a kind of karmic shift after which the artist drunkenly fell over; the first time hitting his head on a keg, the second breaking his Oma's hand painted porcelain heart shaped trinket box... As a baptised Roman Catholic, the artist is considering whether it may be prudent to attend confession. One wonders who, if anyone, has noticed the missing bait stations... or if their absence will only be noted once the infestation takes root.

Zac Segbedzi



Sandro Botticelli

St Jerome in Penitence, 1490-92

Tempera on panel, 21 x 269 cm (entire predella)

Galleria degli Uffizi, Florence

This is the fourth scene on the single panel predella of the San Marco Altarpiece.

Scantily clad in a red cloak, St Jerome is kneeling as a penitent on a bare rock and is holding a stone in his hand in order to castigate himself. The book lying next to him refers to his translation of the Bible, the red cardinal's hat hanging from a branch refers to his sacred office.

Source: Web Gallery of Art