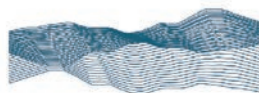




art is a living thing

NZ PACIFIC STUDIO
ARTISTS' RESIDENCY CENTRE



We extend a warm welcome to ART IS A LIVING THING on the occasion of celebrating 15 years of NZ Pacific Studio operating the historic Normandell homestead as a creative arts residency. Hundreds of artists, from New Zealand and abroad, have been able to make use of the facility to develop their practice, relishing the peace and quiet at Mount Bruce, and thriving in the cross-cultural and multidisciplinary dialogue. The resident artists inspire each other as well as the community through workshops, concerts, exhibitions, lectures and more. It is the intention of the NZPS Board to continue our work and strengthen our unique position in the creative arts landscape of New Zealand as an independent residency centre. The last two years alone have seen a significant growth in our small non-profit organisation, both in terms of its residency programme as well as in its community outreach. Everything we do is made possible through our artists, partners, volunteers, donors, and funders, and we are thankful for everyone's participation.

Jean McCombie, Masterton | Educator, NZPS Chair since 2015



There's something almost magical that happens when artists come into the realm of NZPS and install their creativity in its rooms. I've continually seen it and experienced it. Poetry collections, books, plays, films, video artworks, sound art, music, programmes, and exhibitions have all had their genesis, germane development, or completion within the precious space provided by this residency programme. And all have gone out to different networks of audiences and communities at the centre of which is the generative hub of NZPS with many people giving—to make time for others, to make time for art in all its forms: art with its rhizoidal nature that expands and continues tendril-like in many different places in many different ways. As Governments become more and more stretched, the Arts fall more and more to a community of patrons, sponsors and workers. There have to be places outside the frame of workaday obligations and the turn of the wheels of the system. Creation requires space.

Jodie Dalgleish, Luxembourg | Artist, Curator, NZPS Director 2013-2015

Cover L to R (details): Arie Hellendoorn *Slice Variation 5*, Adi Brown *Out of Body Experience I*, Kirsty Lillico *Concrete Utopia*, Suze van der Beek *Cut Glass*. This page L to R (details): Bevan Shaw *untitled*, Jane Zusters *New Pacific Series*, Paul Reuther *Farmhouse, Umbria*, William Harroff Ferguson: *Leering Blue Cop*.

Right from the start, I imagined NZ Pacific Studio as a community project. My role was just to provide the initial spark – and all the funds I could find.

Born in Wellington and reared on a pig farm in Signal Hill, Dunedin, I sailed away from New Zealand in 1964 to begin postgraduate studies in German literature, and later living in London, Saarbrücken, and Liverpool. During my first return visit to Dunedin, in 1981, I was saddened to realize I had lost touch with my homeland. Then, a few months later, I heard Sir Michael Tippett address the new graduates of the University of Liverpool: “Go away, see the world, build a career – but always remember you have an obligation to give back one day. When that day arrives, don’t do it in a boring way, be original!”

NZ Pacific Studio was started as my way of ‘giving back’. In 2001 I took the risk of becoming a hermitage builder. My model of a ‘little house of learning’ blended traditions from East and West, inspired by poems of Po Chu’i and Ema Saiko and the monastic lives of St. Hilda and St. Columba. Normandell – the 1911 home of a clockmaker complete with a soaring loft for a workshop and a giant safe – was converted into a residency for artists. New windows and doors added light and warmth, old rimu floors gleamed again. A cottage and garage were renovated for studios, and the wilderness and front gardens lovingly tended.

There have been many challenges, but we have overcome them and thrived because of many wonderful people who have seen the value of our vision and nurtured and expanded it. Thank you, everyone.

Dr. Kay Flavell, California | Author, Academic, Founding Director, 2001-2013



Jean McCombie



Jodie Dalgleish



Kay Flavell
Co-owner, Normandell



Ian & Lynette Dewes
Co-owners, Normandell

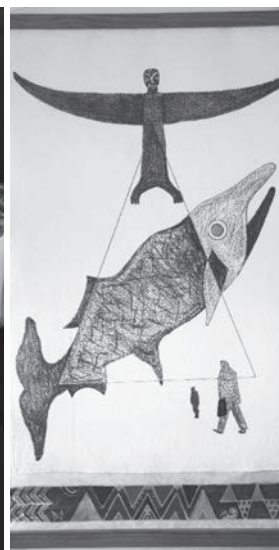
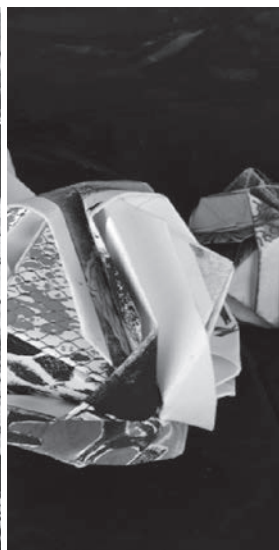
NZPS BOARD MEMBERS 2016 Jean McCombie, Chair | Keith Hunt, Deputy Chair
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FOUNDING MEMBERS 2001 Amy Berk | Margery Blackman | Don Bowker | Jeanette Brunton
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NZ Pacific Studio is pleased to present

Laura Amtower, USA
Charlotte Andrew, ENG/NZ
Michèle Bachmann, Switzerland
Denise Batchelor, NZ
Max Bellamy, NZ
Amy Berk, USA
Nancy Berlin, USA
Anna Borrie, NZ
Adi Brown, NZ
Kyle Browne, USA
Talysha Bujold-Abu, Canada
Tina Butterfield, USA

Rosalind Derby, NZ
Rita Dibert, NZ
Sarah Dill, USA
Susan diRende, USA
Adele Earnshaw, NZ
Lynley Edmeades, NZ
Sibylle Eimermacher, Netherlands
Tracy Farr, NZ
Justine Fletcher, NZ
John Bevan Ford (1930-2005), NZ
Biddy Fraser-Davies, NZ
Janis Freegard, NZ



Jona Byron, Australia
Karen Cappèl, NZ
Leo Cappèl, NZ
Melanie Carter, USA/Egypt
Emma Chalmers, NZ
Mary Lai Shan Chan, Hong Kong
Catherine (Kate) Coolahan, NZ
Andy Cox, USA
Shelagh Duckham-Cox, NZ
Lorna Crane, Australia
Karen Curry, Canada
Jodie Dalglish, NZ/Luxembourg
Andree De Latour, NZ
Nicola Dench, NZ

Terra Fuller, USA
Annelise Gelman, NZ/Germany
Elizabeth Gertsakis, Australia
Ingrid Gottlieb, NZ
Gerard Harris, Canada
William Harroff, USA
Michele Hawkins, Australia
Evan Haynes, NZ
Arie Hellendoorn, NZ
Robbin Henderson, USA
Ya-wen Ho, NZ
Brooke Holve, USA
Marian Hulshof, Netherlands
Holly Jackson, NZ

works by the following artists

Mark Johnsen, USA
Charlotte Johnson, USA
Rose Kirkup, NZ
Nadia Narelle Kliendanze, Australia
Phil Kueffer, Switzerland
Anne Lamborn, USA
Kendra Larson, USA
James LeCuyer, USA
Rebecca (Bicky) Lee, NZ
Veronika Licher, Germany
Kirsty Lillico, NZ
Liu Xiaoxuan, China

Jessica Persaud, USA
Connah Podmore, NZ
Marie E. Potter, NZ
Marina Pruefer, Germany
Lorraine Rastorfer, NZ
Paul Reuther, USA
Pippa Sanderson, NZ
Kristin Maria Sharp, USA
Bevan Shaw, NZ
Elizabeth Sher, USA
Robert Silvey, USA
Madeleine Slavick, USA/Hong Kong/NZ



Anastasia Lobkovski, Finland
Luo Hui, China/Canada/NZ
Mark Manning, NZ/USA
David Marden (1956-2012), NZ
Zoë Meager, NZ
Barbara Millman, USA
Kate Minnock, Ireland
Yukari Nikawa, Japan
Ong Si Hui, Singapore
Ten Opaki School students, NZ
(with Jessica Persaud)
Turi Park, NZ
Kedron Parker, NZ
Elaine Pawlowicz, USA

Stefanie Smith, Canada
Gaye Sutton, NZ
Anne Taylor, NZ
Mike Ting, NZ
Kathryn Van Beek, NZ
Suze Van Der Beek, Australia
Adam Von Penfold, NZ
Hemi Walker, NZ
Marie Weichman, USA
Tracy White, NZ
Annabel Wilson, NZ
Rachel Wilson, USA
Zheng Danyi, China/Hong Kong
Jane Zusters, NZ

A Tangible Sanctuary

Art is a Living Thing presents a diversity of creativity and experience, with a medley of work from 100 NZ Pacific Studio artists from around the world. Paintings. Photography. Sculpture. Literature. Printmaking. Drawings. Drama. Fibre art. Artist book. Installation. On the main stage wall, a 2.5-hour audio-visual projection, and live performances on the opening and closing weekends.

The exhibition speaks of the tangible freedom at the year-round residency centre in the hills of the Wairarapa. That sense of purpose, even euphoria, when one is creating, that sense of the whole. Anything can happen. Maybe a revolution, evolution.

Artists experience more than the expected tracts of time and space during their residencies. They experience a tangible sanctuary, a solidarity with the other residents, and maybe a reassurance from the house itself, with its native timber floors and doors



that grow warmer by the year.

The gallery for this 15-year retrospective is another sanctuary: it was once a church at the corner of State Highway Two and Lincoln Road in Masterton. Today, a McDonald's stands there. Today, the artist Robin White, Patron of Aratoi Museum, lives and works near that intersection. At a recent panel discussion on the Kermadecs Ocean Sanctuary, she said, with her mana, that she also considers Aratoi Museum a sanctuary, a space to be protected, a place for connection and understanding among peoples, and I, sitting in the front row on that important afternoon, concurred.

Now the church-gallery is designed to reflect our 1911 villa. The altar-stage area symbolises the home's interior; an eight-wall 'pavilion' in the main floor area represents the formal front garden of buxus hedge, and in the vestibule, Kedron Parker's *Sanctuary*, viewers sit below her intimate self-portrait taken at the Studio (right), listen to a soundscape of Mount Bruce birdsong, and reflect on the art, seen through glass.



Within the body of the nave-gallery, four-metre-long pianola rolls, 607 pendants for Wairarapa's 607 suffragettes, three floating hydrangea, a pair of painted and chalked jeans at once rivery, cloud-like, tree-like and human. Many drawn lines, fine, black and abstract, red India-inked, architectural, pearlescent, and almost fluorescent. Many papery things: a hat of tapa, poppies of flax, white paper cubes, monoprints, linoprints, the floating ink of Suminagashi. We hear English, Chinese, Japanese, in letterpress, books, zines, song, story, poem. We speed up in some of the music, *Slow Down* in others, and have film silence: a steer's tail swishes, soundlessly, for a minute and three seconds.

Art is a living thing, many living things, in many living scapes: felted tui and felted hands, hand-drawn animated bears, fern tree, *Seals, Kowhai, Albatross, The Sheep, Lavender Fields, 41 Hinemoa Street, Terra, Concrete Utopia, Farmhouse, Umbria*, a skyscape influenced by Simone de Beauvoir, landscapes at Mount Bruce, *Wall, 8:25pm* and a series of photomontages of the Studio and the neighbouring Pukaha Mount Bruce – another sanctuary, for native birds.

Art is a Living Thing includes images from the very first project at the residency centre in 2001: a 48-hour Bed-in-for-Peace, in response to 9/11. Also art against violence of all kinds. A sanctuary need not be calm. When we are safe, we can be brave, braver.

We are thankful to the artists, and to the many people who volunteered many hours to make this exhibition happen. We are thankful to Trust House for the core sponsorship, Aratoi Museum for expert support, the National Library for donating frames, A J Hunter for constructing the audio-visual loop, Pete Nikolaison and Printcraft for assisting with costs, Anne Taylor for graphic design, Mark Manning for curatorial support, Jane Zusters for her generosity, and to the artist who made the pavilion, lovingly and anonymously.

Madeleine Slavick, Wairarapa | Author and Photographer
Community Programme Manager, NZ Pacific Studio

New Zealand Pacific Studio Artists' Residency Centre
marks its 15th year in 2016 with this exhibition
at Aratoi Wairarapa Museum of Art & History
Masterton, New Zealand
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