

HERE'S TO SOME GOLDEN WEATHER

The summer break and festive period is a popular time to reflect and consider new directions. As it happens, exploring new perspectives on the past and present is a recurring theme of this summer's exhibitions at Te Uru.

Every year, Te Uru hosts the *Portage Ceramic Awards*, New Zealand's most celebrated event for artists working with clay. This year's winning piece is a deconstructed teapot by Richard Stratton, which finds new forms from the artist's research into 18th century techniques. Awards judge Emma Bugden describes it as, "a teapot steeped in history, juggling an eclectic blend of craft techniques."

Alongside the awards exhibition, we have *Leading Ladies*, which shines new light on a generation of female artists who established themselves as the pioneers of studio pottery in New Zealand during the arts and craft era of the early 20th century. Also looking at feminist histories, McCahon House alumnus Louise Menzies has created an exhibition for Te Uru of new works that are inspired by the archives of renowned feminist writer, Germaine Greer.

Another exhibition not to be missed is *Kushana Bush: The Burning Hours*, the exclusive Auckland showing of a touring exhibition from the Dunedin Public Art Gallery, highlighting recent work by this acclaimed artist. Bush's influences are eclectic, with references to illuminated manuscripts, Persian miniatures, European art history, modern life and, of course, there are ceramics too, all depicted in exquisite detail with gouache on paper.

That's just the tip of the iceberg (ice cream?), we'll have new exhibitions opening in February and there is no shortage of events, activities and talks to keep you occupied. Most are detailed in this newsletter with new listings appearing regularly on our website or Facebook page.

Andrew Clifford
Director | Kaitohu

Elizabeth Lissaman



LEADING LADIES

The arts and crafts movement in the early twentieth century was a vital moment in the education and uptake of ceramics in Aotearoa New Zealand. Though most histories of New Zealand studio pottery begin with the Anglo-Oriental movement in the mid-twentieth century – which features the emergence of key ceramic figures – the earlier arts and crafts movement holds many examples of sophisticated and serious pottery, often made by women. This exhibition looks at the work of five key female potters working in the early twentieth century with the aim of understanding how their contexts enabled their work and shaped the directions their practices took.

Curated by Moyra Elliott, with work by Briar Gardner, Elizabeth Matheson, Minnie F. White, Olive Jones and Elizabeth Lissaman.

7 October 2017 – 28 January 2018

Christine de Pisan lecturing men



LOUISE MENZIES: GORGON MALKIN WITCH

Louise Menzies offers us objects, images and situations that explore the past and present through attention to the way they are already represented. For this exhibition, Menzies delves into feminist histories, via the Germaine Greer Archive held at the University of Melbourne.

Of particular interest to Menzies are the notecards Greer made while writing her bestselling feminist publication *The Female Eunuch* (1970). Her choice of notecards – here we are offered only eight out of hundreds within the greater collection – look to explicitly focus our attention on the gendered operation of language. Digitally reproduced and set within sheets of handmade paper, the notecards hover between their original status as printed ephemera and a contemporary landscape still troubled by the politics of reproduction. Greer's reference to the writing of Christine de Pisan is further translated via a 14th century illustration, printed as a silk scarf. This exhibition follows the artist's residency at the McCahon House in 2016.

14 October 2017 – 28 January 2018

Andrea du Chatenier, *Untitled (blue tower)*



PORTAGE CERAMIC AWARDS

As an annual update on the state of ceramic practices in Aotearoa, the Portage Ceramic Awards provides insights on current directions and future possibilities. Established in 2001, the awards are a hallmark event for the New Zealand ceramics community, showcasing some of the best contemporary work, and serving as a platform for dialogue about developments in the ceramics field.

Whanganui-based curator and writer, Emma Bugden, was the 2017 judge and selected finalists and winners for this year's event. Bugden was previously Senior Curator at The Dowse Art Museum, where she curated many ceramics exhibitions with a distinctive perspective across the art and craft sectors.

This year's exhibition has 54 works, selected by Bugden from a total of 216 entries. Selecting a New Zealand-based judge for the first time has added renewed interest in what goes into the judging process and what type of exhibition comes from it. "Most of all, I was interested in what a piece might tell me about itself and what the maker was trying to communicate," says Bugden. "Perhaps you'll agree, perhaps you'll be incensed by my take, but please, have an opinion."

10 November 2017 – 11 February 2018



THE BURNING HOURS

KUSHANA BUSH

Kushana Bush. *Going to Water*, 2016. Gouache and pencil on paper



Kushana Bush (b. 1983) inhabits a singular position within contemporary New Zealand art. Reaching across history, culture and society, her meticulously detailed compositions, multi-ethnic characters and open-ended narratives combine to create a unique visual language. It is an approach that has attracted significant attention for this Dunedin-based artist, drawing audiences into the complex choreography of her world.

The Burning Hours focuses on works made between 2014-2016, showing audiences what happens when Bush pushes her compositional limits and uses the entire surface of the paper. This recent body of work is rich with detail – each surface, of gouache and gold, is filled with references to illuminated manuscripts, Persian miniatures, European art history and modern life. These disparate sources bind Bush's works to

both the past and the present; the historical and the contemporary. Human interactions, humour, ambiguity, dramatic tension and intimate scale are her tools to draw viewers into a private conversation and, in some cases, a spiritual space.

With her source material extending from thirteenth-century manuscripts to twentieth-century painters (including Stanley Spencer), Bush is interested how religious themes blend with secular narratives, often manifesting in ritualistic violence. This interest is permeated by Bush's enquiry into grand narrative constructions, resulting in a series of works that examines what spirituality, ritual and community might mean in a contemporary world.

25 November 2017 – 18 February 2018

Imogen Taylor



POCKET HISTORIES

Modernism, a slippery art historical trajectory to describe, could most simply be understood as a path away from representation. As a philosophy, though, modernism could also be thought of as a committed desire to break with tradition in order to herald in new ideas and encourage individual freedom.

Pocket Histories brings together artists who are interested in both understandings. In this exhibition – developed in collaboration between artist and McCahon House alumnus Imogen Taylor and curator Ioana Gordon-Smith – artists sample pockets of modernism to re-evaluate our understandings of ‘high’ or ‘good’ art, as well as alternative principles for living. Pulling upon various threads of modernist histories – from the influence of the decorative arts to utopian ideals – the works share not only an interest in geometry but also the potential of anachronism as a strategy for recalling alternative positions that are possible in the here and now.

Artists include Vita Cochran, Imogen Taylor and Isobel Thom.

10 February – 13 May 2018

From Scratch, Global Hockets. Photo: Max Osbourne



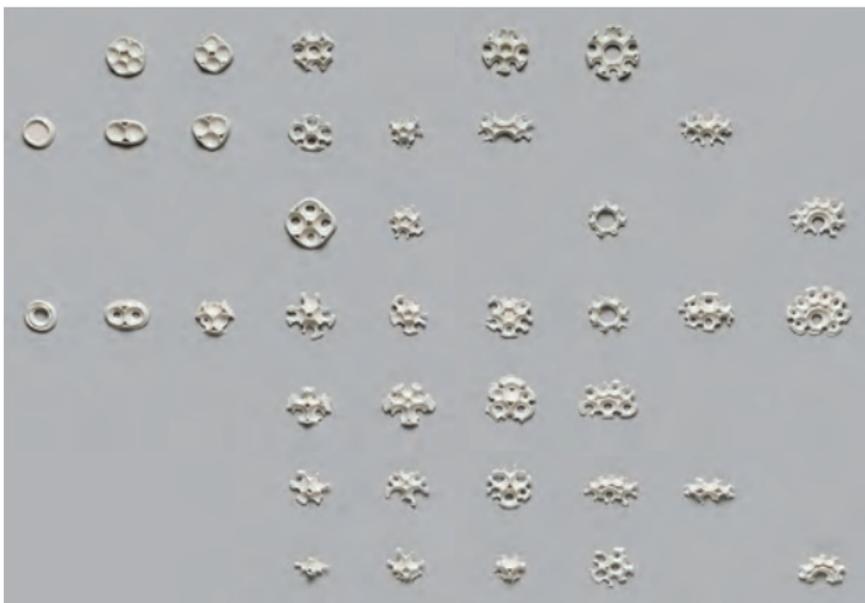
FROM SCRATCH: 546 MOONS

Auckland Arts Festival and Te Uru Waitākere Contemporary Gallery present an interactive survey exhibition on the sonic innovation and invented instruments of renowned avant-garde ensemble From Scratch, including six performances by the latest incarnation of the group.

Formed in 1974, From Scratch have performed to wide acclaim around the world with their distinctive invented instruments – 546 moon cycles and still spinning! Their timeless works span art, music, performance and film, inspired by an egalitarian approach to working, and with strong connections to the sounds, cycles and geological rhythms of their home in Aotearoa and the Pacific. The exhibition will include examples of their classic instruments and brand new sonic sculptures, film and photography, drawings and ephemera – a sensory feast for eyes, ears, arms and feet.

The group's much-anticipated return includes a number of performances, which will take place on 9, 10, 11, 23, 24 and 25 March at 8pm. Tickets are available via the Auckland Arts Festival website.

3 March – 27 May 2018



SMALL SPACE: SUMMER

Small Space follows on from the Curiosity Cabinet programme at Lopdell House Gallery and the Curiosity Corner programme at Te Uru. Using the landing of the floating staircase behind Gallery One, the space is dedicated to and supports contemporary jewellery and object-making practices.

Sharon Fitness: Finding Jewelleryness

Sharon Fitness explores the concept of 'jewelleryness' through moving image. *Finding Jewelleryness* includes instructional videos that share her love of wearing readymades alongside a selection of wearable screens. Sharon aims to anthropomorphise jewellery, asking the viewer what their jewellery thinks about being jewellery, and about the world in general. Sharon Fitness is a jeweller, living and working near Auckland, who believes in saving the world one brooch at a time.

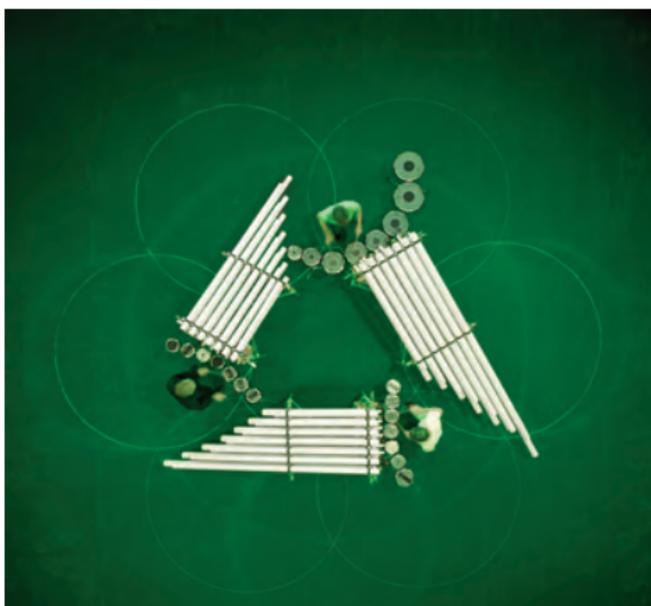
24 November 2017 – 23 January 2018

Manon van Kouswijk: Ornamental Residue

Ornamental Residue originates from a study into the typology of brooches. For this series, Melbourne-based jeweller Manon van Kouswijk creates and extends iconic brooch forms and motifs from the history of jewellery. By casting these forms into hand-built clay moulds, the resultant shapes become abstractions of her original motifs, creating jewellery from the residue of her processes.

23 January – 10 March 2018

From Scratch, Gung Ho



EVENTS

THICK CINEMA: CIRCUIT COMMISSIONS 2017

Thick Cinema is a cinema screening of five new works by contemporary New Zealand artists; Fiona Amundsen, John Di Stefano, Sam Hamilton, Kim Pieters and Joyce Campbell. Curated by Mercedes Vicente and commissioned by CIRCUIT Artist Film and Video Aotearoa New Zealand with the support of Creative New Zealand.

Tuesday 12 December, 7pm - free

The Theatre, Lopdell House, 418 Titirangi Rd

LEADING LADIES: WIKIPEDIATHON

Courtney Johnston, Director of the Dowse Art Museum, leads a free workshop in getting artists better represented online through Wikipedia.

Sunday 21 January, 12-4pm

FLOORTALK: KUSHANA BUSH:

THE BURNING HOURS

Curator, writer and musician, Balamohan Shingade responds to *The Burning Hours* with a free exhibition tour.

Sunday 18 February, 2pm

FROM SCRATCH: HEART'HEART

The much-anticipated return of From Scratch includes HEART'HEART, a performance series fuelled with fresh directions and surprises.

9, 10, 11, 23, 24, 25 March, 8pm



TERM 1 WORKSHOPS

PRIMARY AND INTERMEDIATE

Instruments From Scratch

Explore intriguing instruments made by the innovative and experimental New Zealand band From Scratch. From Scratch, active since the 1970s, use music, movement and video to create dynamic live performances that often comment on our political history. We will have our senses activated by vibrational sounds from the *From Scratch: 546 Moons* exhibition and view large-scale experimental instruments, which double as sculptural installations. Using that as inspiration, we will create our very own percussion instruments. There may even be a few opportunities to meet some of these talented musicians! (Yrs. 1-8, art, music, technology, history)

Clay Alphabet

Be inspired by the exhibition *Index: Martin Poppelwell*. Working with paintings, drawings and ceramics, Poppelwell has created his own version of an alphabet that incorporates te reo Māori and his own playful interpretations of what a letter could symbolise visually. During this workshop, we will learn about some of the different ways stories can be told using symbols and illustrations and explore how we can express our ideas through words, alphabets and visual language. We will brainstorm possibilities with 3D clay, then develop our ideas further using mixed media drawing to create a finished artwork. (Please note this workshop is very adaptable to suit your focus themes). (Yrs. 1-8, English, te reo Māori, technology, history and art)



Guided gallery visit

View a range of contemporary artworks spread across five unique gallery spaces. Students will be encouraged to interpret different artworks, considering key ideas, materials and techniques.

Te Uru and McCahon House Museum tandem visits

Students have the opportunity to view contemporary art at Te Uru followed by a tour of McCahon House in French Bay. With the cottage only a five-minute drive from the gallery, why not visit both at once?

Early childhood

We now provide gallery visits and workshops tailored to meet the needs of the preschool years. Take a tour of an appropriate exhibition followed by a hands-on workshop in our Learning Centre.

Bookings and further information

09 8178087 X 204 or education@teuru.org.nz

Primary and Intermediate Teachers' preview

Come and see what exhibitions and workshop Te Uru has on offer in 2018. Enjoy a complimentary glass of wine and nibbles after a curator's tour of the major exhibition *From Scratch: 546 Moons*. Each attending school will receive a free copy of *Len Castle - Making the Molecules Dance* publication, valued at \$90.

Tuesday, 27 March, 4-5.30pm - free

RSVP to education@teuru.org.nz by 15 March

EDUCATORS ART DEVELOPMENT

Educators Art Development is a series of open, arts-intensive classes designed to assist in the up-skilling of early childhood through to primary school teachers, as well as other art educators in specialist areas. The aim of these workshops is to help you engage with your students in a more confident exploration of the arts.

Fabric Forest

Investigate the potential of working on fabric while you create a small, mixed media flag with a New Zealand flora and fauna theme. You will learn mixed media techniques and develop a sense of depth and textures using pastel layering along with fabric collaging. We will use pens, pastels and paint to bring a forest scene to life, complete with interesting collage details.

Tuesday 13 March, 5-7pm

Learning Centre | \$25 per session



STUDIO WORKSHOPS

We now offer art workshops for adults during the day, providing a place to experiment and test a range of different media in a creative, supportive environment.

Mixed Media Casting

This class will introduce you to the process of making and casting a small one-part plaster mold. beginning with sculpting clay, you'll learn to create a form that can be cast in plaster and replicated using paper casting techniques. You will cultivate clay-modelling skills and develop a better understanding of 2D and 3D observational skills to realise your concepts. We will paint and varnish works to finish. Please note we will be using modelling clay that will not be fired in a kiln.

Fridays 10am – 1pm, 23 February – 6 April,
please note no class on Easter Friday

Weekend workshop: Pop-up Magic

Come and meet Phillip Fickling, a Paper Engineer who creates extraordinary pop-up books and sculptures. You might be familiar with his pop-up books *SWELL: The Art of Judy Millar* written by Trish Gribben and *The House That Wonky Built* illustrated by Katz Cowley. He is highly skilled at creating incredible feats in card that bring book illustrations to life. When Phillip was young, he started building flying saucers, submarines and Star Wars spacecraft in paper. 30 years later, he was asked to design and illustrate the Star Wars Mega Model Book! Join us in an inspiring workshop where you will draw, colour, cut and then paste sheets of pre printed-paper together to make your very own special pop-up card. Ambitious makers can combine several pop-ups to make their own book!

Saturday 17 March, 1-3pm

\$25 includes materials | Suitable children aged 6-12 years

STUDIO WORKSHOPS FOR CHILDREN - AFTER SCHOOL

Wild Jungle Birds

Join our exciting after-school workshop series for children. Over six weeks, students will develop their drawing and mixed media techniques by creating a unique, layered painting of a wild bird in a magical forest. We will focus on building skills that will enhance composition, perspective and colour balance. Students will use recycled coloured paper pulps to build up specific details on their birds and create a special boarder to surround their vibrant paintings.

Wednesdays 3.30-5pm, 28 February – 4 April

children aged 6-8 years

Thursdays 3.30-5pm, 1 March – 5 April

Suitable for children aged 8-12 years

Six sessions \$120 includes materials

Tutor: Jodi Meadows

Mini Mondays

Join us on Monday afternoons during the school term for an art activity that only takes an hour. Each week we'll have a different project that will challenge and inspire. Sometimes we'll explore the gallery and other days we'll create a special, mini artwork to take home. The focus will be on experimentation and exploration of different media.

Mondays 26 February – 9 April

(please note no class on Easter Monday)

Each session is \$10 | Suitable children aged 6-10 years
limited spaces - bookings essential.

Bookings and further information

09 8178087 X 201 or info@teuru.org.nz



FREE FAMILY ACTIVITIES

“Art is the song sung by my heart”

The terms outsider, insider and mainstream art are not in the vocabulary of the group of art makers with intellectual disabilities from A Supported Life’s ‘two4nine’ creative space in West Auckland. Their art is a direct, delightful and provocative visual expression in paint, thread and clay of their unique view of the world they inhabitant. These art makers are unclassifiable, other than the category of pure joy and attainment of personal aspirations. Each individual artist has been mentored by professionals in technique but not in expression as part of a retrospective exhibition.

A Supported Life works with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Social Development to support people with moderate to mild learning disabilities through supported accommodation, lifestyle planning and development. They teach a range of skills to suit the diverse needs and aspirations of the people they support. Two4nine is a creative space in Henderson that has evolved over the last few years with a strong focus on the arts.

Free summer drop-in activity:

Be inspired by the talented artists from the two4nine exhibition then contribute a special hand drawn image to add to our ever-growing collaborative wall.

2 December 2017 – 1 February 2018

Index: Martín Poppelwell

This idiosyncratic look at the alphabet uses images and icons that Poppelwell has built up over years. *INDEX*, an exhibition toured by Hastings City Art Gallery, is best understood as a catalogue of Poppelwell’s personal vocabulary. The motifs present have previously appeared in different guises, but here they are revisited in a brand new line up working across ceramics, painting and drawing. *INDEX* is a study of meaning developed in a conversation between visual language, Te Reo Māori and English. Connotation in these works is intended and the viewer is encouraged to see particular associations and connections. In this catalogue of a vocabulary, you will find meaning that may be weighted with history, or have the lightness of the everyday.

10 February – 29 April 2018

Visit our Learning Centre Gallery on level 3 for regularly changing exhibitions and family activities. Ask at reception for a copy of our family gallery trail to enhance your visit.

HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

MYSTICAL TWILIGHT

Monday: Public holiday - no class

Tuesday: Create a mixed media resist painting using cold wax, dyes and paint inspired by Maori twilight myths.

Wednesday: Draw and collage an invented moonlight creature to place onto a magnetic painted shimmering moon.

Thursday: Make a clay bug to place into a tiny hanging bughouse decorated with wildflowers and twisting vines.

Friday: Paint a dusk lit forest onto a fabric flag inhabited by a nocturnal bird or bat, collage special details to complete.

30 January – 2 February, 10am – 1pm

Learning Centre

\$35 per day | Suitable for children aged 6-12 years,
all materials supplied

FOR 5 & 6 YEAR OLDS

Tuesday 23 January: Draw and collage an invented moonlight creature to place onto a magnetic painted shimmering moon.

Thursday 25 January: Paint a dusk lit forest onto a fabric flag inhabited by a nocturnal bird or bat, collage special details to complete.

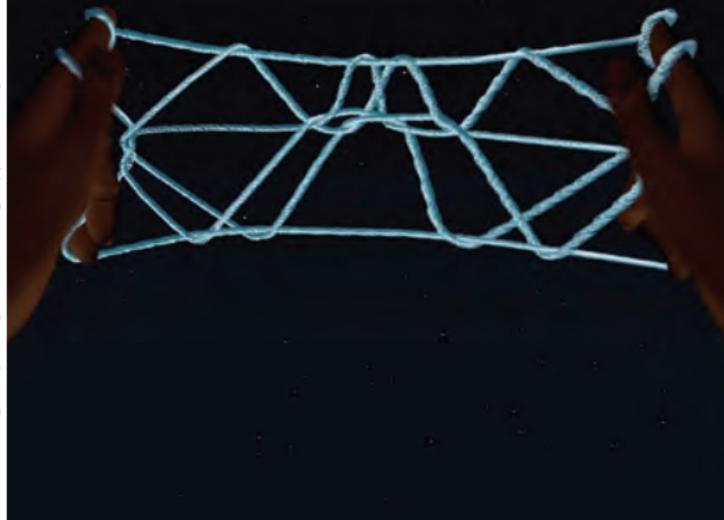
Bookings and further information

09 8178087 X 201 or info@teuru.org.nz



The logo for McCahon House, featuring the text 'McCAHON HOUSE' in white on a red banner-like shape.

Sorawit Songsataya, Coyotes Running Opposite Ways, 2016



MCCAHOON HOUSE NEWS

The first McCahon House resident artist for 2018 is Sorawit Songsataya, whose residency commences on the 9th January. Sorawit will be in residence until the end of March, with a short stint away to attend the opening of a group show and associated programmes at Tensta Konsthall, Sweden. This project is curated by Maria Lind, a visiting curator to Artspace in December 2016. Shortly after completing their McCahon Residency, Sorawit will take up a second residency in Stockholm Sweden. Congratulations Sorawit.

Imogen Taylor's post-residency show, conceived of as a group exhibition, opens at Te Uru on the 10th February 2018. McCahon House Trust will be offering a series of workshops in association with this exhibition, with details to be announced in the near future.

At the time of writing, it is hoped that our inaugural international resident artist Taro Shinoda will exhibit his *Lunar Reflection Transmission Technique* in early 2018. Further details to be posted at www.mccahonhouse.org.nz as they become available.

If you haven't already, subscribe to our newsletter to stay up to date with our programme of events.
www.mccahonhouse.org.nz/SubscribeToNewsletter

House Museum Hours:

Wednesday–Sunday, 1–4pm (closed public holidays)
Office: 09 817 7200 | www.mccahonhouse.org.nz

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY

Become a Te Uru member and get more involved with a gallery dedicated to presenting contemporary art through a diverse programme of exhibitions and events.

JOIN TODAY TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING BENEFITS

- invitations to exhibition previews and events
- quarterly newsletters
- 10% discount from the Gallery Shop (excludes magazines and cards)
- free entry to the Portage Ceramic Awards competition

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Please add me to your email newsletter

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- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|---|------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student* | \$20 | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior/Concession* | \$20 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$40 | <input type="checkbox"/> Couple/Family | \$55 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Member | \$500 | | |

*ID CARD NO.

PAYMENT DETAILS

cheque enclosed, payable to Te Uru
or charge my Visa Mastercard AMEX

CARD NUMBER

NAME ON CARD

EXPIRY DATE

CARDHOLDER'S SIGNATURE

Return with payment to Te Uru
PO Box 60109, Titirangi, Auckland 0642

PAY ONLINE teuru.org.nz/index.cfm/support/membership

QUERIES info@teuru.org.nz

Te Uru Waitakere Contemporary Gallery
Incorporated is a registered charity -
CC41215



Contact us

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PO Box 60109
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Auckland 0642

teuru.org.nz

Visit us

Monday–Sunday
10am to 4.30pm

420 Titirangi Road
Titirangi
Auckland

Closed Christmas Day,
Easter Friday and
ANZAC morning.

Waitākere Ranges
Local Board
Auckland Council



LOPEL

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