

The background of the entire page is a close-up photograph of pink flowers, likely gerberas, with vibrant pink petals and darker pink centers. The flowers are arranged in a dense, overlapping pattern, creating a rich, textured background.

# Sarjeant Quarterly



volume **56**

March - May 2015



## From the Senior Curator

by Greg Anderson

2015 has already started off as being another busy year for the Sarjeant with a number of public and private events being held at the Gallery. Chief among these was the annual celebration of our 1000 Stars initiative, made possible by Anne Pattillo. For those unaware of this wonderful fundraiser; it is an opportunity for 1000 people to donate \$1000 over the space of four years (as little as \$5 per week), which will culminate in a grand total of \$1 million that will be used for the Sarjeant Gallery Redevelopment Project. Anne's company *pattillo* sponsors this celebration each year, which recognizes the contribution made by these people and its importance to the Project over all. As ever, we are very thankful for her support and enormously grateful for the commitment made by our Stars.

I'd like also to take the opportunity to introduce a new member of the Sarjeant team. On 26 January we were joined by Teresa Toy, who has taken up the position of Gallery Operations Manager. This role oversees the Sarjeant's Front of House operation; our shop retail area and general non-exhibition business, such as scheduling building maintenance etc, across the four sites we currently inhabit. It is a very busy role and, if you should happen to see her whizzing by in the process of her daily duties, do stop her and say hello.



Cover: Peter Peryer, *Mandala*, 2003

## Members' News

Libby Wood President  
and Raewyne Johnson

A warm welcome to new Gallery Members Albert Sword, Leon Beutrais, Helen Frances, Doug Davidson, Karen Kitson, Paul & Estelle Collins

**The Gallery is pleased to acknowledge the following as Corporate Members and Corporate Sponsors:**  
**ASB Bank, Bryce Smith & Associates Ltd., Central City Pharmacy, ComputerCare NZ Ltd, Forbo Flooring Systems, Kensington Swan, Mars Pet Care, Meteor Design & Print and OPD, NZME, Richard Millward & Associates, Nicola Williams, Pamela M J Williams, pattillo Ltd., Te Reo Irirangi O Wanganui – AWA FM, Wanganui Chronicle, Whanganui UCOL – Creative Programmes**

We value the support of our Corporate Members and Sponsors and encourage you to utilise their services whenever possible.

On Tuesday 10 February we were pleased to welcome into the Gallery the statue of Herewini Whakarua. This statue is normally positioned on top of the Memorial at Pakaitore (Moutoa Gardens) and has been removed for a major restoration project that will see the memorial fully strengthened for ANZAC Day commemorations this year. The monument was erected to mark the loss of life of seventeen local Maori men who never returned from the First World War and was modelled on Herewini Whakarua who was from Waitotara. The statue is a unique addition to the Dunedin Public Art Gallery touring exhibition ANZAC by renowned photographer, Laurence Aberhart which features images of memorials from New Zealand and Australia. This is a rare opportunity to view a wonderful piece of craftsmanship that has such a strong local story attached to it. Both the statue and the exhibition will be on view until 8 March.



On February 28 we open 2014 Tylee resident Richard Orjis's exhibition *Garden Cities of Tomorrow* and a survey (1997-2014) of Whanganui potter, Rick Rudd who has made an invaluable contribution to the Gallery and to the local arts community.

The other major drawcard of our Autumn season of exhibitions is *A Careful Eye* by Peter Peryer, this survey exhibition organized by the Dowse Art Museum is a timely recognition of one of New Zealand's finest photographers, whose work features prominently in our collection.

This month we also farewell our current artist-in-residence at Tylee Cottage, Cat Auburn and look forward to the arrival of the next resident, Auckland-based photographer, Roberta Thornley.

This year has certainly started at pace and we look forward to greeting you for your next visit to 38 Taupo Quay.

Greetings to all our members.  
Welcome to a new year at the Sarjeant.

I hope you have had a great time over the summer with friends and family and that you brought some of them along to experience an exhibition or event at the Gallery. We find this is a highlight for both national and international visitors to our city.

The Gallery staff have a variety of great exhibitions, talks & events planned and look forward to welcoming our members to these.

Art Fix resumes on the 2nd Thursday of each month with the first talk being 12 March. These are held at 2pm in our Gallery above the i-Site. This is an enjoyable way to look at, and learn about art. Everyone is welcome – please bring your friends.

Do consider a gift of Gallery Membership as a way of nurturing someone's interest in art. Membership vouchers are available from reception, as are gift vouchers to spend in the Gallery's shop. The shop has new stock arriving regularly and is looking forward to expanding its range of goods. Gallery Members and Thousand Stars Members receive a 10% discount so don't forget to mention that you are a Member.

We look forward to meeting up with you all over the coming months.

# Thousand Stars News

by Vivien Lindsay

Front row from left:  
Jay Rerekura, Sandy Nepia,  
Anne Pattillo and Mayor Annette Main



## THANK OUR LOVELY STARS!

A highlight of the Sarjeant calendar is the annual party which brings together those who have signed up to the 1000 STARS fundraising initiative. As in previous years, the event was sponsored by Wellington philanthropist Anne Pattillo who has committed \$50,000 over five years towards the project to strengthen and extend the Sarjeant Gallery at Queen's Park.

We continue to be impressed at the versatility of our smart interim space at Taupo Quay and the occasion on Friday 30 January was no exception. A big crowd, delectable refreshments, colourful entertainment and a smattering of sparkly party frocks were the order of the evening, appropriate given it was Anne Patillo's birthday!

During her speech, Anne reminded us that the benefits of a redeveloped Gallery will not be limited to this community; that the redevelopment will function as a taonga for the whole of Aotearoa/NZ and that the real rewards will be acknowledged when the new Sarjeant delivers to the young people in the future. "Membership of the STARS programme needs to reflect the beneficiaries of the future so they too may have a sense of pride and ownership when the Sarjeant development is completed". In a show of leadership, Anne announced that she

had just signed up her four grandchildren and her niece as individual STARS and invited those present to follow suit.

Last, but not least, she announced that this year she would be donating \$5,000 over and above her normal contribution to go towards fundraising activities, in particular the 1000 STARS. To date, the initiative has successfully raised in excess of \$100,000 and a number of STARS have already fulfilled their commitment having reached and/or exceeded their individual \$1,000 target. However if we are going to reach the \$1million goal, it is imperative that we grow our numbers.

For those of you who are already STARS, your support is enormously valued by all involved in this project and we look forward to keeping you updated as we meet future milestones. Please encourage your friends and colleagues to sign up also. For more information contact Vivien Lindsay, Sarjeant Gallery Project Administrator on (06) 349 318 or email [vivien.lindsay@sarjeant.org.nz](mailto:vivien.lindsay@sarjeant.org.nz) or pick up a "Help Support Our Sarjeant" brochure at the Sarjeant on the Quay.

Images. Su Hendeles





# Richard Orjis

28 February – 24 May, 2015

Richard Orjis was artist-in-residence at Tylee Cottage for five months in 2014. Orjis was born in Whanganui and left at the age of six, he has fond memories of growing up on Durie Hill in a pole house that his parents built. He also associates his early childhood as a time when he discovered the magic of a garden, and plants have been a recurring theme in his work.

Orjis's sees the act of gardening as being inherently optimistic and during his time in Whanganui the community was debating the proposed removal of plane trees on Taupo Quay. Being witness to this reminded Orjis of the power of trees and the natural environment to people's wellbeing and sense of place.

Research conducted during his residency lead Orjis to the original plans for Durie Hill which was designed by renowned architect Samuel Hurst Seager as one of the first garden suburbs in New Zealand. Hurst Seager intended the suburb to be built as one development, however two world wars and the Depression intervened and the suburb developed much more slowly. However Hurst Seager's vision can still be seen in the layout of the streets and another point of difference is the fact that the

suburb is home to the only passenger lift of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere ascending and descending within the hill itself. The ideas of building communities through shared spaces and working with the natural environment are conversations that still continue to have currency today and with contemporary artists as well. Even more so as we occupy a world where social media is making us reassess ideas of community, belonging and real and virtual spaces.

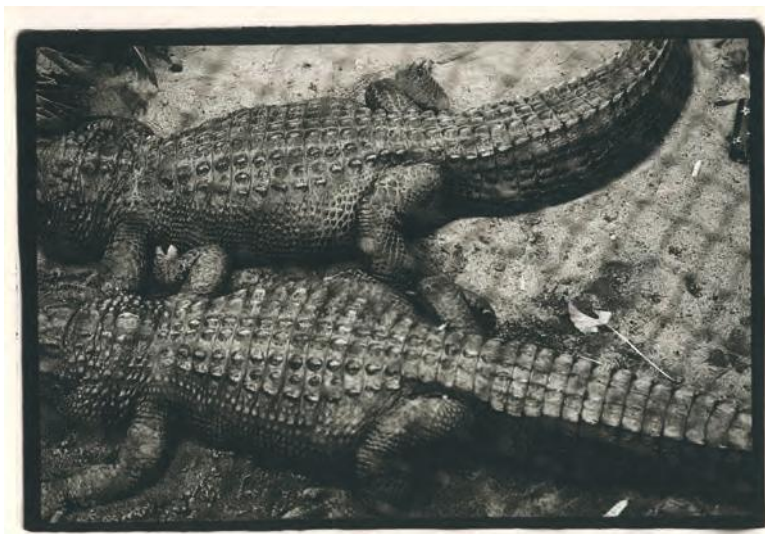
The exhibition is indicative of the diversity of Orjis's practice over the last decade, although known for his photography, the exhibition features imagery that is specifically connected to Whanganui. Flowers sourced from a Durie Hill garden, ceramics made by Orjis as a member of the Wanganui Potters Society and a raft which pays homage to the raft races that took place on the Whanganui River for many years. Also featured is a large scale banner that was inspired by a circular diagram for a garden suburb in an 1898 publication by British urban planner Ebenezer Howard.

Spending five months in Whanganui allowed Orjis to engage with aspects of the town's history that are not very well known and through his research also reminds us that the town in many ways was ahead of its time, with civic amenities like the Durie Hill Elevator and the Sarjeant Gallery both opening in 1919.

Greg Donson  
Curator & Public Programmes Manager







# PETER PERYER

## A CAREFUL EYE

14 March – 21 June, 2015

Over the past 40 years Peter Peryer has played the role of an observer, drawing attention to the corners, curves and patterns often overlooked in everyday life. More a selection than a survey, *Peter Peryer: A Careful Eye* reveals the compositions and themes Peryer has returned to throughout his career. The exhibition invites you to contemplate how Peryer captures the mystery in objects and scenes that people often take for granted—and the narratives and stories that can be found in them.

More than an exhibition, the arrangement of photographs becomes like a reunion, where family members are brought together and their similarities discovered. Each image becomes a part of the wider gene pool, where certain characteristics are repeated but never quite the same.

The clusters of photographs highlight contrasting forms, the play between what is manufactured and what is natural, and the recurring visual notes that inform Peryer's work. They emphasise his unique personal viewpoint, constantly providing snippets of a bigger picture. In this way, his images also offer clues that encourage us to move beyond his chosen subject and beneath the surface of our own everyday experiences.

Peryer has a long association with the Sarjeant Gallery Te Whare o Rehua Whanganui, with major solo exhibitions in 1985 and 1997. We are delighted to host this significant exhibition of his work.

*Peter Peryer: A Careful Eye* is a touring exhibition from The Dowse Art Museum and was curated by Sian van Dyk. The exhibition is accompanied by a catalogue that includes essays by Sian van Dyk and Jim Barr. The catalogue was generously supported by Creative New Zealand and the Charnwood Trust.

**Top left:** Peter Peryer, *Veil*, 2012. Digital print.  
**Top right:** Peter Peryer, *Alligators*, 1981. Gelatine silver print.  
**Middle left:** Peter Peryer, *Fans*, Fiji, 2013. Digital print.  
**Left:** Peter Peryer, *Camellia*, 2010. Digital print.  
 All images courtesy of the artist.







Ten Green Bottles, 2012

# Rick Rudd

## Beyond True to Form

28 February – 7 June, 2015  
31 Taupo Quay

Rick Rudd has had a long association with the Sarjeant Gallery Te Whare o Rehua Whanganui, our collection holds no less than 47 of his astounding works. The relationship between Rudd and the Gallery was cemented by the major 1997 exhibition of his work: *True to Form*. However that exhibition was eighteen years ago and Rudd has created a large body of work since the show's completion.

As the title *Beyond True to Form* suggests, this exhibition covers Rudd's career from 1997 to 2014 and serves as a companion to *True to Form*. In keeping with the structure of the first exhibition this show reveals the major influences and progressions that have affected Rudd's work during the last eighteen years.

In this exhibition we see the rise of the Rick Rudd Teapot, the injection of vibrant colours and a turn to the figurative. But throughout it all Rudd has maintained his loyalty to form. As absurd as his work becomes, the ghost of the form's original function is always present. Each *Bottle* has an opening and each *Teapot* has a handle, spout and lid.

The Sarjeant Gallery is proud to showcase the work of this talented Whanganui potter and the exhibition will be accompanied by a publication that will be for sale at Sarjeant on the Quay, 38 Taupo Quay.



Bowl, 2010

Teapot, 2000



Tea in the 'Garden', 2014





# The Transmogrifier Collection: New furniture by Katy Wallace

21 March – 3 May, 2015

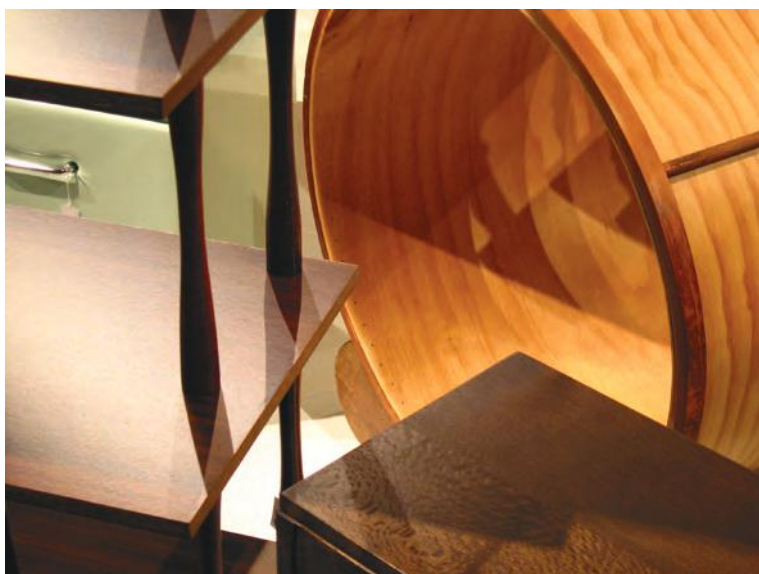
Katy Wallace has been designing furniture for twenty years. In this time she has been involved in commercial furniture development and production, contract design, and more recently handmade one-off design. Katy has taught design at both Unitec and AUT University. Almost seven years ago Katy and her partner left their Auckland base and moved to Gisborne where they were able to buy a half acre property with a house and numerous vented sheds that were built in the 1960s to grow mushrooms. It here they set up their studios and since 2009 Katy's mechanical alter ego, the Transmogrifier Machine has had a home.

Through this 'machine' Katy presents an array of found items of unloved and discarded furniture, often sourced locally, that have undergone transformation under Katy's careful and attentive eye. Familiar forms are reanimated and modified, making the furniture new again, moving items from the op-shop to the gallery floor to be seen in a whole new light. Katy makes original, usable and collectible pieces giving these overlooked items new value.

In a consumerist world where buying new, rather than repurposing is the norm, Katy demonstrates that even the most dowdy and unassuming item of furniture can be made new again through the hands of a skilled maker who throws in a healthy dose of wit and whimsy for good measure.



The Transmogrifier Collection has been seen at Tairāwhiti Museum in Gisborne, MTG in Napier and Objectspace in Auckland, the Sarjeant Gallery is the final venue for the collection and in May 2015 pieces from the collection will be available through Art + Object Auction House. More information can be found at : <https://www.facebook.com/TheTransmogrifierMachine> and <http://www.katywallace.co.nz/>.



## COMING UP

ALEXIS NEAL

Pura Te Manihera McGregor  
"Whenua Ki Te Whenua"

30 May to 23 August, 2015

This post Tylee Cottage body of mixed media work by Alexis Neal pays homage to Pura Te Manihera McGregor (Whanganui, 1855 – 1920).

CAT AUBURN

The Horses Stayed Behind

20 June to 20 September, 2015

Commemorating the thousands of horses who left New Zealand for WWI and never returned, this post Tylee Cottage residency exhibition includes horse hair donated from across New Zealand that has been made into Victorian style mourning rosettes.



# ALEXIS NEAL

30 May to 23 August, 2015

*Pura Te Manihera McGregor*

*"Whenua Ki Te Whenua"*



**Sarjeant**  
**On the Quay**

  
**Sarjeant Gallery**  
**Te Whare o Rehua**  
**Whanganui**

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New Zealand

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[www.sarjeant.org.nz](http://www.sarjeant.org.nz)

Sarjeant Gallery is a cultural facility of the Whanganui District Council