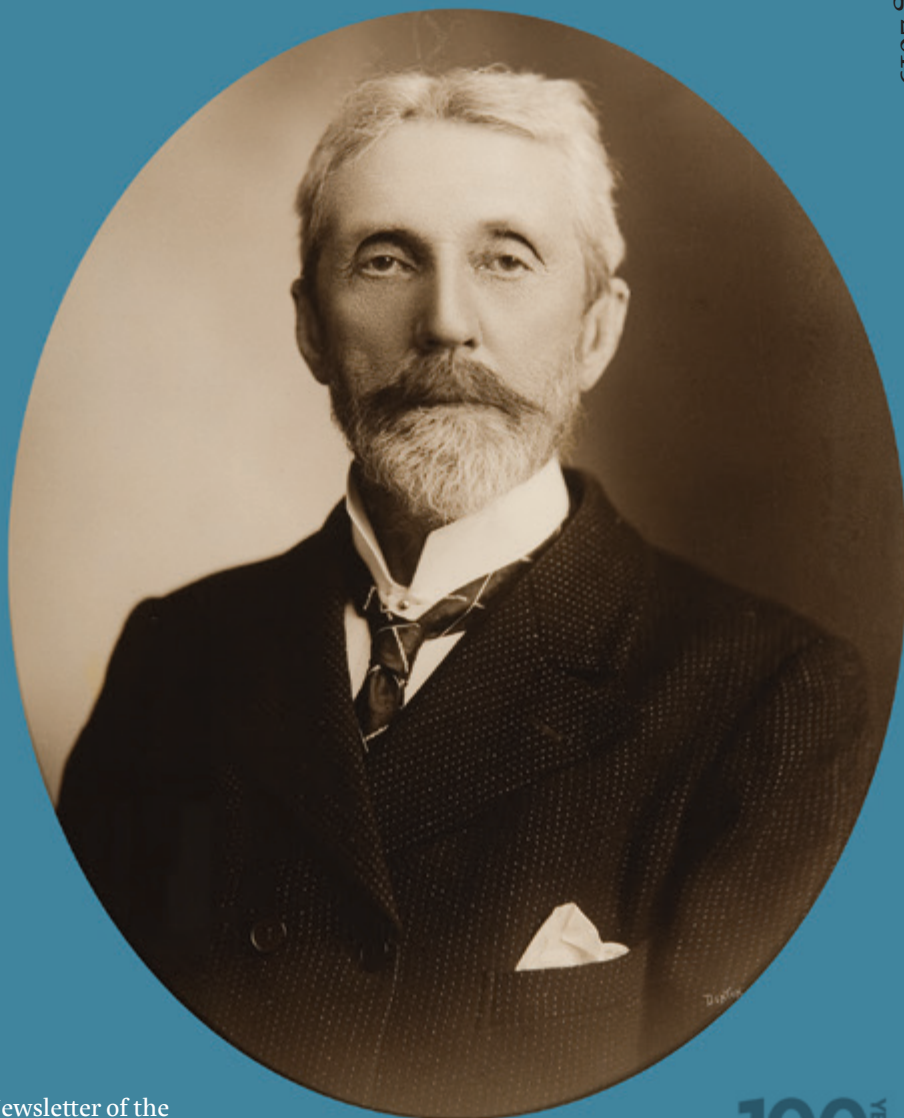


Sarjeant Quarterly 73

Spring 2019



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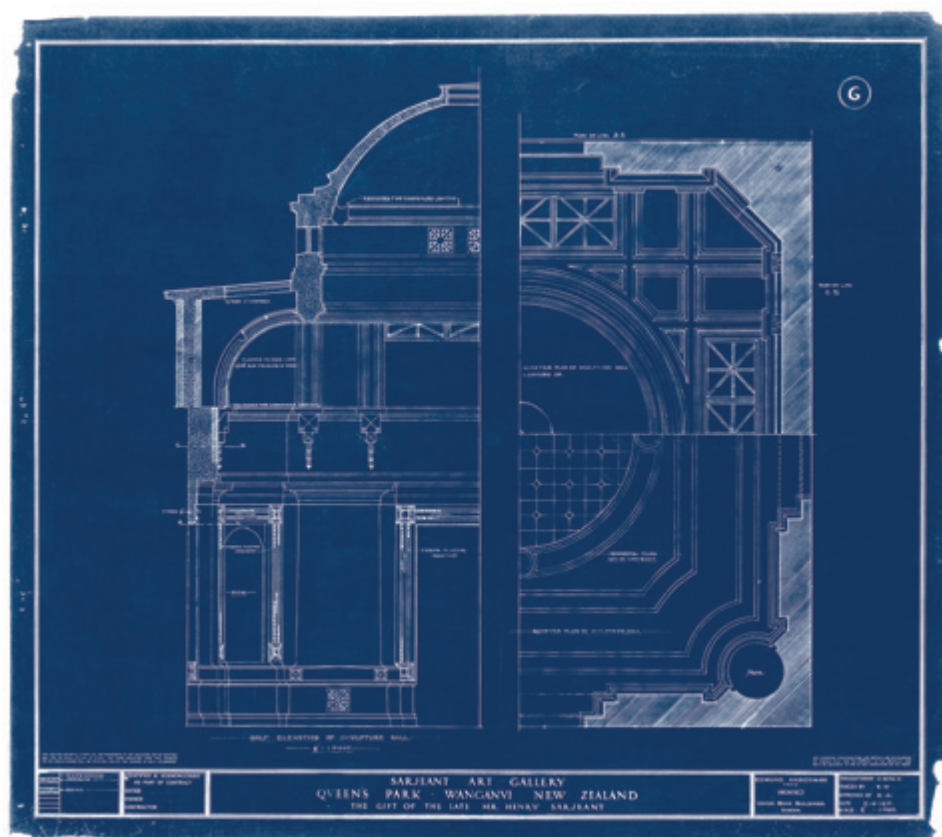
100 YEARS
For Love of Truth & Beauty
1919–2019

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FRONT COVER: Frank Denton, *Portrait of Henry Sarjeant* c1889. Collection of the Sarjeant Gallery, Te Whare o Rehua Whanganui. 1994/99/1

BELOW: Architectural blueprint showing detail of the Sarjeant Gallery's central dome.



From the Director

This coming season will stand out as one of the seminal moments in the history of the Gallery. On 6th September Sarjeant Gallery Te Whare o Rehua Whanganui will have been open to the public for 100 years.

Throughout a most tumultuous century the Gallery has reflected the changing tastes and trends in art and culture and the coming years will provide fertile ground for artists and curators to develop works and exhibitions undreamt of even in the recent past. To facilitate these changes and cope with future demands on the Gallery and its resources, our building redevelopment project is in full swing. Expected to commence in the last quarter of this year from September onwards, our strengthening renewal and extension will provide a future-proofed facility and a blank canvas for local, national and international creatives.

In celebration of our centenary and in conjunction with Whanganui Heritage Month, the Sarjeant is hosting more than a dozen events of different types. From gallery talks and building tours to musical interludes, a formal public ceremony on the Gallery steps at Pukenua Queen's Park, a significant exhibition opening and the unveiling of an extraordinary gift from the Friends of the Sarjeant, the months of August and September will be very full.

In addition to this exciting occasion we continue business as usual with our Spring series of exhibitions commencing with a special centennial show: *Turn of a Century*, an extended run of Wi Taepa's excellent exhibition *Retrospect*; and Julia Holden's *Her Indoors*. The Gallery shop is soon to stock a new range of Sarjeant-branded merchandise to coincide with our centenary celebrations and the next limited edition run of ten *For the Love of Truth and Beauty* prints by Catherine Macdonald, is shortly to be available in store and online.

The coming weeks offer a wonderful array of activities, exhibitions, concerts and events sure to attract people with all types of interests. We look forward to seeing our regular visitors and we certainly would love to welcome any newcomers keen to enjoy and explore what the Sarjeant has to offer.—**GREG ANDERSON**



Tylee News

We're delighted that Annie Mackenzie who has just finished her five month residency at Tylee Cottage will stay on in Whanganui until the end of the year where she'll continue working on the new body of work created for her post residency exhibition at the Sarjeant in 2020. Annie's time at Tylee has been extremely productive and she has made great connections with the local Craft Fibre group and has hosted other affiliated Craft Fibre groups from the Manawatū and Waikanae.

Another returnee is Julia Holden who was in residence late last year. Holden has been in Whanganui painting up a storm as she works on a series of portraits of local women for her exhibition *Her Indoors* featuring as part of our Spring season of exhibitions.

Auckland-based photographer Marie Shannon is in residence for three months at Tylee from August to early November. Shannon's practice traverses photography and film and has recently been surveyed in an exhibition titled 'Rooms found only in the home' developed and toured nationally by the Dunedin Public Art Gallery. We welcome Marie to Whanganui and we look forward to seeing what comes from her time at Tylee Cottage.

—**GREG DONSON**, *Curator & Public Programmes Manager*

ABOVE: Marie Shannon, *Sunday Afternoon* 1985.
Collection of the Sarjeant Gallery Te Whare o Rehua
Whanganui. 1985/23/1

Gallery News

Michael McKeagg is our new gallery photographer and he has hit the ground running, photographing the collection works which are then uploaded to the Vernon database and Explore the Collection and working on marketing design with Jaki and Raewyne. Originally from Palmerston North Michael has relocated to Whanganui from Wellington for the job and has quickly settled in with the team and made the studio his own. Recently Michael went on a 'knowledge exchange' program to Auckland Art Gallery where he met with the photographers and learnt that our methods of operation and standards are on a par with theirs.

You might have met our new Front of House team members by now. As casuals, Simon Stubbs and Lola Murray Camden will be helping out in the shop and at events so do say hello when you next drop by. We are very pleased to welcome new staff members who offer their fresh views, interesting new ideas and energy. Welcome Michael, Simon and Lola!

At the time of writing Assistant Curator Jessica Kidd has just gone off on maternity leave and we wish her and partner Costas every happiness in their new adventure as parents. Keep an eye on the Sarjeant's facebook page for any 'little' announcements in that regard!

The Sarjeant shop is now online—so do see what's in store via the shop button on sarjeant.org.nz

And finally we would like to congratulate the Chairman of the Sarjeant Trust, Nicola Williams on her Queen's Birthday Honour. Nicola was made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to arts governance. Congratulations Nicola! Also to be congratulated is Sarjeant Gallery Friend Don McCallum, who was awarded the NZIA Enduring Architecture Award for his own home which is here in Whanganui.—**JAKI ARTHUR**, *Relationships Officer*



LEFT TO RIGHT: Gallery Assistants Lola Murray Camden, Simon Stubbs and Gallery Photographer Michael McKeagg at Auckland Art Gallery.



LEFT: An artist impression by Warren and Mahoney showing the new Te Pataka o Tairua adjoining the original Sarjeant Gallery.

RIGHT: Project Director Gaye Batty reviews detailed design documentation.

Redevelopment news

It's August already and I am pleased to report that the project is in on track for construction to commence in September/October of this year.

We have worked through the completion of the detailed design phase of the project which takes us beyond earlier design or quantity surveys to ensure all design and build decisions are the best and most cost effective available. This involved a lot of complex background work and site visits by structural engineers, stone masonry experts, heritage specialists and architects Warren and Mahoney. Videos are being made of each of the visits so the community can experience some of the design decisions through the eyes of these experts and master craftspeople. The team has received a lot of positive feedback about the videos available on our website which are an essential part of documenting the redevelopment journey.

Expressions of interest have been invited from prospective construction partners nationwide and we have entered the tendering phase of the project wherein the best pre-selected construction companies have been requested to submit a price for the redevelopment (RFP). As well as presenting a price, each

tenderer has been asked to demonstrate their capacity and delivery performance for a range of non-price attributes to ensure we receive best value.

In order to secure the most competitive tender price, the updated cost estimate for the redevelopment needs to remain confidential although we do know that the Manawatu/Whanganui region is currently experiencing an increase in the number of large infrastructure projects including defence projects at Ohakea and Linton and expect this may impact on the availability of capable tradespeople. An estimated 230 - 290 construction related jobs will be required for the entire project redevelopment.

One of the unique features of the Queen's Park gallery is its naturally lit exhibition spaces enabled by a number of strategically located skylights. The necessary addition of steel framing and a roof diaphragm has presented a challenge for the design team to integrate the seismic solution with the skylights. New heating and ventilation equipment also needs to find a place on the roof and inside the building sprinkler systems, CCTV and security cameras must all be aesthetically proportioned and designed. —**GAYE BATTY**, *Project Director*

Turn of a Century: New perspectives on 100 years of collecting and exhibiting

7 SEPTEMBER, 2019 — 9 FEBRUARY, 2020

'It is my desire that works of art shall be purchased or acquired on account of their intrinsic value as work of high art only and not because they are specimens of local or colonial art so that the said gallery shall be furnished with works of the highest art in all branches as a means of inspiration for ourselves and those who come after us.' —HENRY SARJEANT

One hundred years after this visionary statement the Sarjeant is at a significant turning point in its history. As it moves into its second century the magnificent gallery that bears Henry Sarjeant's name is about to be transformed from an early twentieth century example of neo-classical architecture into a truly twenty first century building. For those who are familiar with the building, the experience of visiting it is as much about being inspired by architecture, light, symmetry and space as it is about seeing the best of historical and contemporary art exhibited in our ever-changing exhibition programme.

Since 2014 when the gallery transferred operations to its temporary site at 38 Taupō Quay, the Pukenua Queens Park building has been vacant and earlier this year gallery staff completely emptied the site of all that remained —crates, plinths, archives, the detritus of a century's worth of occupation. With any project of this scale it's easy to show the memorable parts and why wouldn't we? The building is beautiful. But what of the back spaces, the workings of the building - heating systems, ducts, skylights, wall linings and late additions to the building that will be removed in the redevelopment project?

For this exhibition we have invited ten artists working in the media of photography and sculpture, (many of whom have had an association with the gallery) to respond to the empty building. Photographers Adrienne Martyn, Neil Pardington, Andrew Ross and Roberta Thornley have captured images

that are both familiar—the beautiful light and architecture of the empty spaces alongside the unexpected—a spiral staircase, a roof hatch and the internal structures of the skylights.

Annie Mackenzie, Regan Gentry and Glen Hayward have all incorporated now superfluous parts of the building and its operation into their works, having 'upcycled' the junk of the building into intriguing new sculptural works. Included in the exhibition is a chandelier created by glass artists, Jim Dennison and Leanne Williams of the Crystal Chain Gang. This is a truly unique work as all of the components that make up the chandelier have been modelled on the intricate plaster details from the building's interior. Peter Trevelyan whose exhibition 'Delineate' was on view over Winter has created a site specific sculpture that will be installed on the exterior of the historic building.

In conversation and contrast to these newly commissioned pieces are historical and contemporary works that show the breadth and complexity of a collection that spans over four centuries of European and New Zealand art history and is one that we think befits Henry's original vision.

—**GREG DONSON**, *Curator & Public Programmes Manager*



LEFT: **Gavin Hurley**, *Boy with Henry Sarjeant's moustache*, 2016. Collection of the Sarjeant Gallery Te Whare a Rehua Whanganui, 2016/7/1 RIGHT: **Richard Orjis**, *Flower Idol (Floros)*, 2006. Collection of the Sarjeant Gallery Te Whare a Rehua Whanganui, 2015/6/1



Julia Holden: *Her Indoors*

28 SEPTEMBER, 2019–2 FEBRUARY, 2020

During her time at Tylee Cottage, painter Julia Holden made a series of five portraits that featured people from the community reimagined as portraits from the gallery's collection and these were included in our exhibition marking the 125th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage, late last year. This series continued Holden's uniquely performative technique, where each portrait was created by literally transforming her subjects into the painting by applying wet paint to the sitter's skin and clothing. The record of this performance is a photograph, thereby making her process a unique blend of performance, painting and photography.

For her post-residency exhibition Holden has taken quite a different approach and created an expansive new body of work titled *Her Indoors*. This series further explores the theme of women's suffrage but more so as it presents a snapshot of what it means to be a woman now, 125 years after that remarkable achievement. For the series Holden has painted portraits in oils of local women who she met as well as other friends who visited her at Tylee Cottage during her time in Whanganui. The participants range in age from their late teens to in their 70s and each of the subjects were photographed by Holden in the studio at the cottage, hence each of the portraits have the same background and distinctive green day bed.

A selection of portraits of Whanganui women from *Her Indoors*, by Julia Holden.

Generously supported by



Through chatting with her subjects and recording their stories and making audio recordings Holden has created a time-capsule of women in Whanganui at this time. Holden's title for the show *Her Indoors* references the expectations of traditionally feminine domestic roles, and specifically how she and other women work, indoors with domestic and working lives intertwining. Through the series Holden also wants to speak to the subjects own 'indoors' in the sense of their interior creative lives through audio recordings.

We are very grateful to Creative New Zealand who supported Holden's residency at Tylee Cottage via the Toi Uru Kahikatea funding stream. In addition the artist was successful in securing further financial assistance from Creative New Zealand via a pool of funding that was available to support projects that marked the 125th Anniversary of women's suffrage in New Zealand.

As has been the case with Holden's work to date, this project is testament to an artist who has an innovative approach to her craft that combines that of a skilled painter and story teller. We'd like to congratulate Holden on a stunning new body of work and thank all of the participants in the project and Creative New Zealand for their generous support. —**GREG DONSON**, *Curator & Public Programmes Manager*

Centenary Celebrations

The Sarjeant Gallery will be celebrating its 100th year with a number of activities on Friday 6 September and Saturday 7 September and also, will be a key player in the inaugural Whanganui Heritage Month with a range of events, talks and tours focusing on the history of the Gallery, its collection and Whanganui through the eyes of artists over the decades.

First up will be a public ceremony on Friday 6 September at 3pm to which everyone is invited. It will be held on the steps of the old Gallery at Pukenua Queen's Park and will include speeches, a grand birthday cake in the shape of the Gallery and a dual choir performance from Schola Sacra and the Wanganui Community Choir. Sarjeant Gallery director Greg Anderson says "the whole community is invited to join us on the steps of the Sarjeant Gallery at Pukenua Queen's Park to celebrate the one hundred year anniversary of the Sarjeant Gallery being open. It is a momentous occasion and as such we would

like to properly recognise it."

On Saturday 7 September the gallery will open the *Turn of a Century* exhibition at Sarjeant on the Quay which is a perspective on the Sarjeant's one hundred years of collecting and exhibiting and in which the Friends Centenary Chandelier will appear for the first time. This chandelier will be presented to the gallery as a 100th birthday present from the Friends of the Sarjeant Gallery and ultimately will prominently hang in the redeveloped building when it reopens.

On Saturday 7 September there will be a multitude of things to do and see as the Sarjeant celebrates its big birthday. The River City Big Band will be at the River Traders Market from 10.30 to 11.30am and the Mayor will give a speech at 11am. Curator and Public Programmes Manager Greg Donson will lead a free talk with the artists featured in *Turn of a Century*, and there will be free family day activities at Sarjeant on the Quay with artist demonstrations, family and kids' activities, musical performances and a photo booth.



ABOVE: Nigel Brown, *Sarjeant Gallery* 1993. Collection of the Sarjeant Gallery Te Whare o Rehua Whanganui, 2002/25/1.

On the evening of Saturday 7th September there will be the Sarjeant's 100th Birthday Concert at the Whanganui Musicians Club, formerly the Savage Club. Kicking off at 7.30pm the concert will feature the Wanganui Ukulele Orchestra and the skiffle band Hot Potato. Tickets can be purchased at Sarjeant on the Quay.

The centenary events and more are all listed in the last page of this issue and on the Sarjeant's website, facebook and in the Whanganui Heritage Month brochure.

—JAKI ARTHUR, *Relationships Officer*



EXHIBITIONS

Spring season at 38 Taupō Quay

Turn of a Century

7 SEPTEMBER 2019–9 FEBRUARY 2020
To mark the gallery's 100th anniversary this exhibition brings together a selection of historical and contemporary works from the gallery's collection alongside newly commissioned pieces by ten innovative artists.

Julia Holden: *Her Indoors*

28 SEPTEMBER 2019–2 FEBRUARY 2019
A suite of over forty new painted portraits by inter-disciplinary artist Julia Holden. These combine to form a singular collective portrait of the women Holden met whilst artist in residence at Tylee Cottage.

at 31 Taupō Quay

Wi Taepa: *Retrospect*

Extended season to 24 November
The largest survey of Taepa's work to date, *Retrospect* looks back at over thirty years of art practice, focusing on the five major series he has created throughout his career. Curated by Reuben Friend, Director at Pataka Art + Museum. Supported by Creative NZ and the Blumhardt Foundation.

EVENTS & TALKS

All events are free and are at 38 Taupō Quay unless otherwise stated. Purchase all tickets from Sarjeant on the Quay or by phoning 349 0506.

Walking Tour: The Sarjeant's Whanganui

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 1, 10.30AM
Meet at the Whanganui Regional Museum's Archive. Sites significant to Henry and Ellen Sarjeant including interiors of Sarjeant Gallery and Sarjeant House. Tickets \$15

Art Fix: Robert McLeod

THURSDAY 5 SEPTEMBER, 2PM
Tom Turner will discuss Rob McLeod's exhibition drawn from the Gallery's Permanent Collection.

Public Ceremony: 100th Birthday

of the Sarjeant Gallery
FRIDAY 6 SEPTEMBER, 3PM
Ceremony outside the Gallery in Pukenuamu Queen's Park. Speeches, birthday cake and choir performances.

Exhibition Opening: *Turn of a Century*

FRIDAY 6 SEPTEMBER, 6–8PM
Please RSVP.

Floor Talk: *Turn of a Century*

SATURDAY 7 SEPTEMBER, 10.45AM–12PM
Curator & Public Programmes Manager Greg Donson in conversation with artists who have work in the exhibition.

River City Big Band at the Markets

SATURDAY 7 SEPTEMBER, 10.30–11.30AM
Enjoy the music and hear Mayor Hamish McDouall speak at 11am.

Sarjeant's 100th Birthday Family Day

SATURDAY 7 SEPTEMBER, 10.30–4.30PM
Join the gallery team at Sarjeant on the Quay for a day of art, music, talks, demonstrations and family activities.

The Sarjeant's 100th Birthday Concert

SATURDAY 7 SEPTEMBER, 7.30PM
AT THE WHANGANUI MUSICIAN'S CLUB
Celebrate with the *Wanganui Ukulele Orchestra* and skiffle band *Hot Potato*. Tickets \$15 Cash bar & refreshments.

Talk: *In Praise of the Sarjeant*

WEDNESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER, 7PM AT THE DAVIS LECTURE THEATRE, WATT STREET
Conservation architect Chris Cochran talks about the design of the Sarjeant Gallery at Pukenuamu Queen's Park. Tickets \$15. Refreshments provided.

Latin America & Spain Film Festival Celebration

SATURDAY 14 SEPTEMBER, 7PM
AT THE WHANGANUI MUSICIAN'S CLUB
An evening of Latin themed music, dance and refreshments.

Book Launch: *Scented*, Laurence

Fearnley
THURSDAY 26 SEPTEMBER, 7PM
In association with the Whanganui Literary Festival author Laurence Fearnley talks about and launches her latest novel *Scented*. Tickets: \$15/\$12

Exhibition Opening:

Julia Holden *Her Indoors*
FRIDAY 27 SEPTEMBER, 5–7PM

Artist Talk: Julia Holden *Her Indoors*

SATURDAY 28 SEPTEMBER, 11AM
Join Curator & Public Programmes Manager Greg Donson and Julia Holden as they discuss her post-Tylee residency exhibition.

Talk: *Words in Art*

SUNDAY 29 SEPTEMBER, 4.30–5.30PM
Curator of Collections Jennifer Taylor Moore will follow the trail of words and letters through the Sarjeant's Permanent Collection in association with the Whanganui Literary Festival. Free, bookings essential.

Artist Talk: Marie Shannon

TUESDAY 8 OCTOBER, 7.30PM
Current artist in residence Marie Shannon will discuss her past and present practice and her residency project.

Art Fix: *Turn of a Century*

THURSDAY 10 OCTOBER, 2PM
Curator & Public Programmes Manager Greg Donson will lead an investigative tour of the exhibition *Turn of a Century*.

Musicians for the Sarjeant concert:

Deborah Wai Kapohe, Donald Trott and Ingrid Culliford.
SUNDAY 13 OCTOBER, 4.30PM
AT FRANK BAR + EATERY.
Easy listening, with waiata from Inia Te Wiata's song book and songs from our favourite musicals. Tickets: \$20/\$15. Bar available.

Talk: Sue Wooton

THURSDAY 17 OCTOBER, 7.30PM
A poetry finalist in the 2018 Ockham NZ Book Awards, writer Sue Wooton will talk about her work. Tickets \$15/\$12

Speaker for the Sarjeant: *The United Arab Emirates – Is it utopia in the desert?*

SUNDAY 27 OCTOBER, 4.30PM
A presentation by Dr Robert Pech PhD, a New Zealander with 13 years' experience in the UAE. Tickets \$12/\$10

Concert: Missy Raines Trio




SUNDAY 3 NOVEMBER, 4.30PM
AT THE WHANGANUI MUSICIANS CLUB
From Nashville Tennessee, Missy Raines presents bluegrass, jazz and Americana music. Pre-sales \$20, door \$25. Cash bar.

Art Fix: Julia Holden

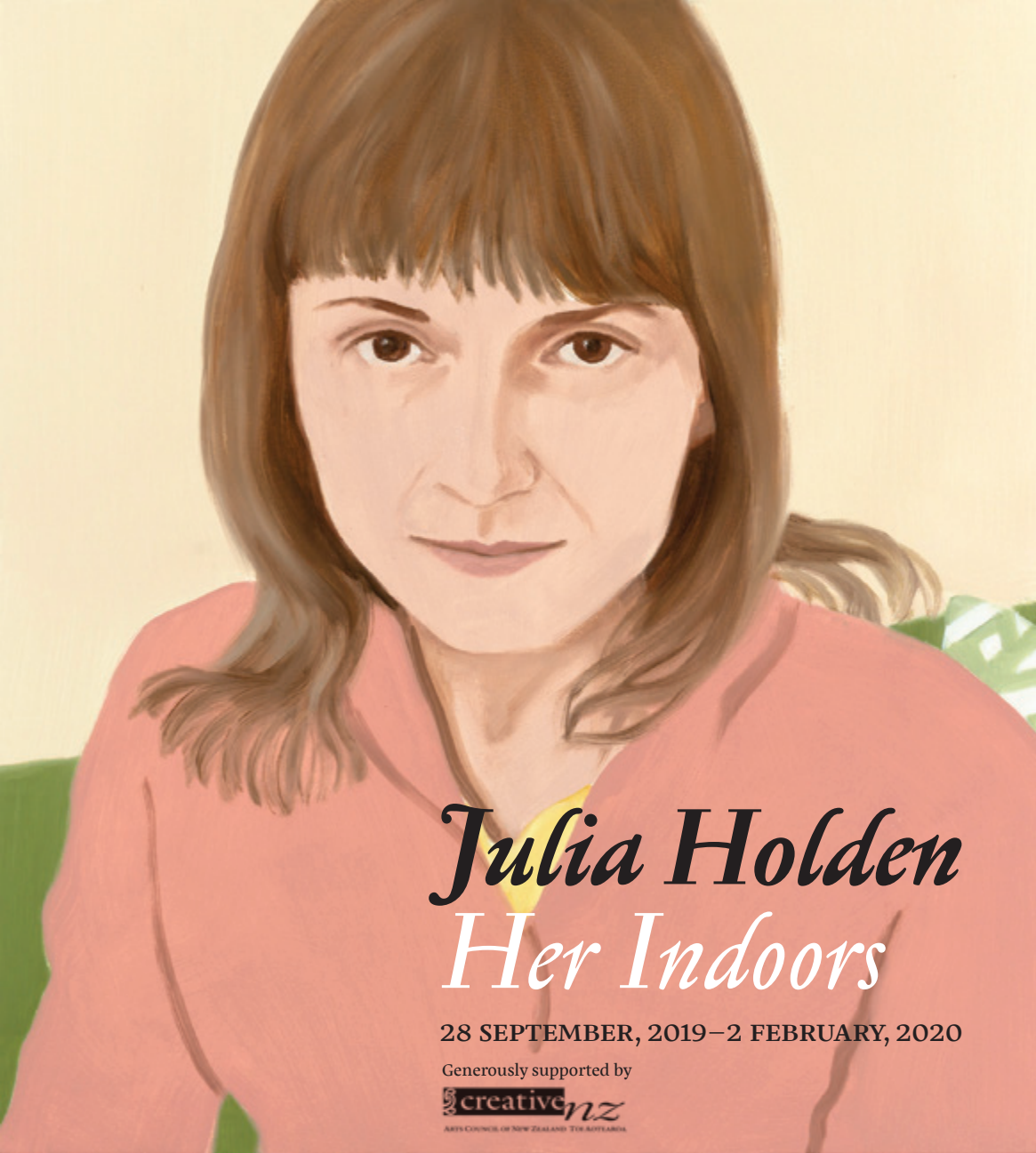
THURSDAY 14 NOVEMBER AT 2PM
Curator and Public Programmes Manager Greg Donson will talk about Julia Holden's exhibition *Her Indoors*.

Muka Youth Prints

SATURDAY 16 NOVEMBER, 10.30–4.30PM
Visitors under 19 only. Prints \$70. Works to be paid for and collected on the day.

 www.facebook.com/SarjeantGallery
 [sarjeantgallery](https://twitter.com/sarjeantgallery)
 [@sarjeantgallery](https://www.instagram.com/sarjeantgallery)

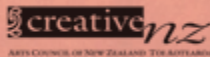
For more information & to keep up to date with news & events visit: sarjeant.org.nz



Julia Holden *Her Indoors*

28 SEPTEMBER, 2019–2 FEBRUARY, 2020

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ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND / TE Kaitiaki



Sarjeant Gallery
Te Whare o Rehua
Whanganui

Sarjeant
On the Quay

38 Taupō Quay
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New Zealand

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Sarjeant Gallery is a cultural facility of the Whanganui District Council