



Theatre Country

Until 14 May

This exhibition pivots around artist and designer Cecelia Kumeroa (Te Ātihaunui-a-Pāparāngi) and environmental scientist Dr. Billy van Uitregt's (Ngā Rauru, Te Ātihaunui-a-Pāparāngi, Tuhoe, Dutch) collaborative moving image work – *Dawn Chorus* (2022). Their work uses the sounds of birds recorded at Bushy Park Tarapuruhi by Dr. van Uitregt which were then visually animated by Kumeroa. It's a work that speaks very specifically to Whanganui and to a future where native birds are flourishing, singing all the time. This exhibition also includes works from the Sarjeant Gallery's permanent collection by Gabrielle Belz (Ngāpuhi, Te Ātiawa) and Matt Pine (Te Āti Haunui-a-Pāparāngi, Te Ātiawa, Ngāti Tūwharetoa) speaking to the loss of habitat and increasingly precarious status birds occupy within Aotearoa.



Gabrielle Belz
Nga Manu Tangitangi

Hands-on practical sessions: *(the practical sessions below also work & link with the Aves exhibition)*

Metal repousse birds! Yrs. 1 - 13

Using aluminium pie plates students will use the technique of metal repoussé to create their artwork. We will focus on Aotearoa's native birds, adding texture, feathers and other details. Curriculum links: *Visual Arts*.



Sample

In the shadow of birds -Yrs. 3 -13

Students will view and discuss the exhibition and how birds have been impacted by people and why some of our birds have become extinct. We will learn about silhouettes and create our own native bird silhouettes on a colourful background inspired by the video work *Dawn Chorus*.



Sample

Years 9-13 this session will have a stronger focus on ecology and the effects that colonisation has had on our native birds. Students can go on to create their own work in response to what they have learnt. The mediums available for students to work in can be printmaking, painting, clay or drawing – you choose.

Note: this session ideally needs 2 or more hours to give students enough time to make and finish. Curriculum links: *Visual Arts, Science –The Living World, Social Sciences*

Printmaking -Yrs. 1 -13

Students will make their own print using ezi-kut board and a ball-point pen. After inking up their board they will print it using our printing press making multiple copies. Curriculum links: *Visual Arts, Science –The Living World*



Sample

Aves: Sculptural Work from the Collection

Until 14 May

This exhibition, displayed in conjunction with *Theatre Country* showcases sculptural and installation works from the Sarjeant Gallery's collection and focuses on birds. Messages communicated by these works include the loss of native habitats and extinction of native species in New Zealand, efforts to preserve what remains, and the principle of Kaitiakitanga (guardianship and protection).

Hands-on practical sessions: *(the practical sessions below also work & link with the Theatre Country exhibition)*

Clay birds -Yrs. 0 -13

Students will view the exhibition before making their own bird using clay. They will learn simple clay building techniques and focus on shape and can add texture and detail if they wish to.



Warren Viscoe
Taxidermist

Years 9-13 This is a great session to look at how art can convey ideas in a three dimensional form bringing stories and themes to life. Students can explore the medium of clay to create a 3D response to what they have seen and discussed. This session can range from 90-120 minutes. Curriculum links: *Visual Arts, Science –The Living World*.



Sample

Bird feeders -Yrs. 0 -13

Using the pinch pot technique students will create a small clay bowl that will form part of a bird feeder. Once they have finished their bowl they will assemble the hanging device that their bowl will hang from using cord and a key ring. Back at school they will be able to attach the hanging device to the bowl after it has been fired at the gallery. Curriculum links: *Visual Arts, Science –The Living World, Technology*.



Sample

Education Programmes are **FREE!**

*Exhibition tours are available and sessions do not have to include a practical component.
Teacher requests are welcome.*



*Zahra Killeen Chance photographed by
Solomon Mortimer, 2021*

The Sun Sets Beneath the Ocean: Zahra Killeen-Chance and Solomon Mortimer

Until - 30 June

Photographer Solomon Mortimer and choreographic artist Zahra Killeen-Chance were artists in residence at Tylee Cottage in Whanganui in 2021. Their time here was in the midst of the COVID 19 pandemic and soon after arriving the country was placed into lockdown. This meant that a large amount of their time was spent in the confines of their new home, so the duo who have been making video and photographic works together since 2012, had the parameters of their project mapped out for them. The cottage provided the back drop for an intimate photographic and video exploration of the spaces of the cottage and the family inhabiting it.

Hands-on practical sessions:

Moving the body and using props -Yrs. 0 -13

This session will involve students working together to create a moving artwork using themselves and/or objects to respond to this exhibition. There will be an emphasis on how to use their bodies to respond to an emotion. We will go through a range of body movements to see how we move as individuals and as a group. We will explore how we interact within a space, how decorating or dressing the body using a range of available props and objects can portray an idea. Please bring a phone or device to document the students creative responses.

Years 9-13 This is an interesting exhibition for students to see how photography, performance and choreography can intertwine together to create an intriguing body of work. It will be especially useful for those students who are interested in performance/drama/dance and/or photography.

Curriculum links: *The Arts; Visual Arts, Dance, Drama.*

He Tohu Tena Pea It is perhaps a sign

27 May – 30 June

To celebrate Puanga the Gallery is working with Te Awa Rere Tonu – Whanganui Māori Visual Arts Collective to bring together an exciting group exhibition of new work made by Whanganui artists. The works will be inspired by the phrase *He Tohu Tena Pea* that is often used to verbalise acknowledgement when one feels something they are witnessing is a sign that something is about to happen, is happening or has already happened. Tohu are often environmental indicators developed and used by Māori to signal, monitor and forecast changes in the natural environment. Puanga is one of those indicators, signalling the ending of one phase and a clear movement into a new, prompting us to start preparing for the cold, to come together in wananga to rest, reflect and prepare for the new phase. The exhibition will feature a broad range of works in a variety of media including painting, printmaking, photography and sculpture.



Hands-on practical sessions:

Design a symbol -Yrs. 4 -13

We will discuss how different artists in this exhibition have signalled change in their work. Students will brainstorm a range of ideas that can be used to indicate that something is moving, growing, metamorphising and is no longer what it was before creating their own symbol that talks about change.

This practical component can be in any of the following media- relief printing, painting, clay or screen printing.

Curriculum links: *Visual Arts*

Clay Stars Yrs. 1+

After being inspired by the exhibition students will make their own clay star to hang on a wall. We will focus on adding texture and pattern to their finished star.

Curriculum links: *Visual Arts*



Sample

Woven string stars Yrs. 1+

These woven string stars allow for students to explore a range of possible designs, they will use multiple coloured pieces of string and be as complicated in their design as they wish. You could make Puanga or make all the stars of Matariki!

Curriculum links: *Visual Arts*

Paper Puff Stars - Yrs. 3+

Students will learn how to make puff stars out of a strip of coloured paper, they can make as many as they like.

Curriculum links: *Visual Arts*



Sample



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Sarjeant Gallery is a cultural facility of the Whanganui District Council