

Bulletin



THE ROBERT McDOUGALL ART GALLERY

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Christchurch City Council



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White Camellias A Century of Art Making by Canterbury Women

3 June - 19 September

In association with Trust Bank Canterbury and the 1993 Suffrage Centennial Trust, Whakatu Wahine, the Gallery presents **White Camellias - A Century of Art Making by Canterbury Women**, a retrospective exhibition of work by women artists who have contributed to the development of Canterbury's art since 1893. The exhibition will assess the work of both well-known and lesser known Canterbury women artists. Artists such as Rata Lovell Smith, Olivia Spencer Bower, Rita Angus, Louise Henderson, Margaret Stoddart, and Ngaio Marsh are included among the historical artists, while Julia Morison, Tiffany Thornley, Doris Lusk,

Daisy Osborn. *From My Garden, White Camellias*
c1950 oil on canvas
(collection of the Robert McDougall Art Gallery,
presented by the artist 1953)

Linda James and Allie Eagle are some names from the contemporary part of the exhibition. These works are drawn from both the Gallery's own collection and a number of private lenders.

Rather than presenting a simple biographical view of each artist, **White Camellias** will assess the social issues surrounding the production of women's art and the themes which appear through the art of the last 100 years. This will provide a context for assessing the development of Canterbury art and the role of women in that development. The exhibition will be accompanied by a publication.

**Women's Lives
Art by Canterbury Women
1993**

1 July - 15 August

As an interesting contrast to the historically based exhibition, **Women's Lives** is an invited show of approximately seventy Canterbury women artists who are currently living and working in the region. **Women's Lives** has invited a group of women from a variety of different backgrounds, cultures, techniques and mediums to submit a work on paper which interprets the theme of 'Women's Lives' in Canterbury in 1993.

Despite the huge diversity of media in the exhibition, which will include painters, sculptors, printmakers, photographers, and fibre artists, all works submitted to the **Women's Lives** exhibition will be framed and hung in an identical way. When the exhibition closes the works will be gifted to the gallery to form an independent archive and record of the Suffrage Centennial. **Women's Lives** is also sponsored by Trust Bank Canterbury and the 1993 Suffrage Centennial Trust, Whakatu Wahine.

Pacific Women's Festival

3 July - 18 July

The Pacific Women's Festival presents two weeks of workshops and installation work by a group of women from the Pacific Island region, in association with Kidsfest and midterm break. Aimed at introducing children to the richness of Polynesian women's art making, traditional crafts of the Pacific region will be on display in the Gallery's Centre Court. The audience will be given the opportunity to participate in a variety of daily events.

White Camellias Art History Conference

Mona Vale Homestead

5 and 6 July 1993

In association with the **White Camellias** exhibition, the Gallery is hosting an Art History Conference, 5 and 6 July at the Mona Vale Homestead.

The focus for the conference will be women's practise in the discipline of art history, including both contemporary and historical perspectives. Speakers include Anne Kirker, author of *New Zealand Women Artists* (1986, 1992) and Curator of Prints, Drawings and Photography at Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane; Alexa Johnston, Principal Curator Auckland City Art Gallery; and Julie King, Jillian Cassidy and Pamela Gerrish Nunn of the University of Canterbury.

The conference will include a wide variety of contributions from art educators, artists, academics and art professionals and is open for anyone to attend. Registration forms are available from the Gallery Shop. Registration closes 10 June.

Recent Acquisitions

- Jacques Callot
12 Etchings from **La Noblesse series**, c1620-1623
- Robin White
5 Woodblocks from **Nei Tein goes for a Walk**, 1992
presented to the Gallery by the Christchurch Civic Trust, 1993
- Alan R. Pearson
Neil Roberts, 1988, Pencil Sketch,
Presented by the Artist, 1993
- Jason Greig
The King and eye, charcoal drawing
- Ralph Hotere
La Cruz, 1992, Lithograph and Woodblock 16/18
- Ralph Hotere
Untitled, 1992, Lithograph and Woodblock 12/18
- William Cumming
Land/Shift, 1992, mixed media
- Chrystabel Aitken
Untitled (Bull), 1985, Bronze
- Anton Parsons
Free to a good playground, 1992, mixed media
- Stanley Palmer
J'accuse!, 1985, Lithograph and screenprint
gifted by the artist



Edward Lucie-Smith Public Lecture
Over 160 people attended the Edward Lucie-Smith public lecture at the Annex in April on *Art Since 1970*.

Recent Acquisitions

3 June - 4 July

During June there will be an installation

of recent acquisitions from the gallery's permanent collection in the Print Room and Centre North Gallery.



The Bending Palm and In Search of Go(ld) Openings
1 - Cr David Cox with Mark Lander beneath the palm trees in Centre Court



2 - Morgan Jones, Jonathan Smart in Centre North

Albert McCarthy
1993 Trust Bank Canterbury
Artist in Residence



The 1993 Trust Bank Canterbury Artist In Residence Award was taken up in April by Manawatu artist, Albert McCarthy.

McCarthy brings with him to the residency, an established national reputation for painting, sculpture and installation. He is an artist whose work is stylistically diverse and difficult to summarise under the title of one artistic medium. Broadly his work is a combination of minimalist, international modernism drawing from international figures such as Mondrian, integrated with New Zealand and Pacific motifs and styles influenced in part by national figures such as Cliff Whiting, Ralph Hotere and Colin McCahon. Stylistically his work has been described as 'reflecting the best of post-modernism painting and sculpture and adapting an international style to the motifs and cultural functions native to New Zealand'.

McCarthy uses natural materials, particularly native timbers throughout his work. He couples these with contemporary materials such as laser tile roofing to

create a range of works which contrast starkly in colour, texture and tradition. His work is equally successful in small scale two dimensional wall painting or painted sculpture, as it is in large scale installation environments. Possibly the greatest strengths of McCarthy's work is its ability to harmoniously integrate the best of these diverse styles.

In recent years McCarthy has begun to exhibit internationally. In 1989 a solo exhibition of his work toured public galleries throughout California and he was part of a group show of contemporary Maori artists which toured North America. In 1992 to coincide with the Americas Cup races in San Diego, McCarthy was part of *Te Waka Toi*, a second touring exhibition of contemporary works which travelled to Phoenix, Chicago, Seattle and Hawaii. Locally, McCarthy's work was last seen in Christchurch in 1991 as part of a School of Fine Arts retrospective exhibition of past and present Maori students. Nationally McCarthy's work featured in *Hit Parade*, *Contemporary art from the Paris Family Collection* at the Wellington City Art Gallery over the summer period and McCarthy was included in the Sarjeant Gallery's *Contemporary New Zealand Artists Update* last year. McCarthy is currently preparing for a solo exhibition at the Manawatu Art Gallery.

One of McCarthy's projects throughout his residency will be to prepare for a solo exhibition at the Hogarth Gallery in Sydney later this year, as well as for an exhibition at the McDougall Art Annex early next year.

The Trust Bank Canterbury Artist in Residence Award is supported by Trust Bank Canterbury, The Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council of New Zealand, the Arts Centre of Christchurch Trust and the Robert McDougall Art Gallery.

Homage and Appropriation
Ian Scott Paintings 1986-1989

27 May - 27 June 1993

Appropriation is the borrowing and recycling of imagery from past artworks, the immediate environment and the artificial media environment. **Homage and Appropriation - Ian Scott Paintings 1986 - 1989** at the Annex from 27 May, is an exhibition of two series of paintings by New Zealand artist Ian Scott, which examines his use of appropriation.

Ian Scott is an artist who has made a number of stylistic switches during his artistic career. He is probably best known for his early 'Lattice' works (of which

there are two in the Gallery's permanent collection), but has changed his style of art as international trends have moved and developed. Scott has focussed on the postmodern activity of appropriation since the mid 1980s.

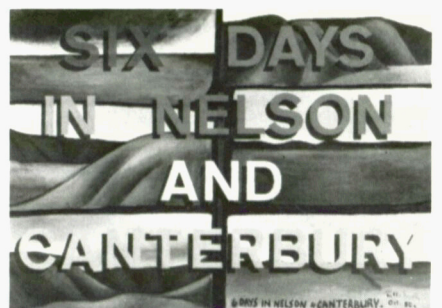
The *Signuriter Series*, juxtapositions of the iconographic New Zealand landscape with superimpositions of shop window like text and the *Painters Series*, a play on the devices used by photographers when portraying artists standing the artist in front of a work, are the two series of works which make up this exhibition. The works on display will be among some of the biggest art works ever created in New Zealand.

Coming Events

- May 27 **Homage and Appropriation - Ian Scott Paintings 1986-1989** open at the Annex
- June 2 Artwatch 12noon
- White Camellias - A Century of Artmaking by Canterbury Women opens to the public
- Recent Acquisitions opens to the public
- 5 Saturday Club 10.30am
- 9 Wednesday Club 10.30am
- 12 Continuing Club 10.30am
- 16 **Speaker of the Month** - 10.30am Gwen Wilton will speak on her experiences in Egypt. Main Gallery.
- 17 Kilmarnock Club 10.30am
- 27 **Homage and Appropriation** closes at the Annex
- July 1 **Women's Lives - Art by Canterbury Women 1993** opens at the Annex
- 3 Saturday Club 10.30am
- 4 **Recent Acquisitions** closes to the public
- 5/6 **White Camellias Art History Conference**, Mona Vale Homestead
- 7 Wednesday Club 10.30am
Artwatch 12noon and 5pm
- 10 Continuing Club 10.30am
- 21 **Speaker of the Month** - 10.30am Anna Crighton will speak on the Christchurch City Council projects for 1993 Suffrage Centennial Year. Main Gallery.
- 22 Kilmarnock Club 10.30am



Ian Scott *Rita Angus* acrylic on canvas (collection of the artist)



Ian Scott *Six Days in Nelson and Canterbury* acrylic on canvas (collection of the artist)

Friends of the Robert McDougall Art Gallery

President—Hilary Langer 348 3982
Vice President—John Small 379 2185
Treasurer—Chris Brocket 355 7133
Secretary—Ann Watt Answerphone—379 4055



New Members

Geoffrey Broker	Denise Burrow	Philippa Dobson
Mrs H Moeze	A. Simpson	Mrs M Moore
Margaret Duncan	Glenn Price	Mr D Burrige
Philippa Bates	Melanie Aldridge	Marcel Gieson
Mary Miller	Mrs P Jordan	
Life Members - Mr and Mrs G.M.Bain		

Loc Art

Art at the Hospital

Only original works of art are purchased for display. Marcy Craigie explained to Friends at the LocArt visit. Some, such as those for children's units, are selected with particular kinds of patients in mind; most however, are lent to different locations from a varied pool of works.

Because of the strong interest in this visit, June Goldstein has arranged for two more. The next is **Monday 2 August at 11.50am** starting at the riverside entrance. Please book (or cancel) by the answerphone 379-4055. The other visit will be on **23 November**, with the same arrangements.

Speaker of the Month

June: On **16 June** Gwen Wilton will speak on her experiences in Egypt, first from the viewpoint of a tourist and then with the insight of a resident.

Venue: **Main Gallery** at 10.30am.

July: On **July 21** Anna Crighton, Registrar of the Robert McDougall Art Gallery who was a member of the Christchurch City Council Women's Suffrage Sub-committee, will talk on art projects by women to commemorate 100 years of women's suffrage.

Venue: **Main Gallery** at 10.30am.

Jude Rae's Two Topics

On 17 March Friends heard about the South Island Art Project and its aims of networking and increasing dialogue and support for contemporary visual arts. Two events are planned for later this year: a three day event in Dunedin relating art to communities and issues south of Waitaki, and the project called Re-Visions in Christchurch, providing a focus for the Suffrage Centennial.

Jude had begun her presentation, with an illustrated talk about her own art. Her philosophical and personal attitudes were subtly expressed in her depiction of draperies, some separately, others in sequence or in pattern and in her use of words. Christian, gender and political elements were expressed in six pieces in red draperies, Jude also spoke of the influences on her of Beckett and some French feminists.

A Treat from Marilyn Webb

Barry Cleavin's generous introduction to Marilyn Webb on 21 April was fully justified. Despite restrictions of space and sound, she conveyed lightly but with conviction the impulses that inform her *Heartland - Prints and Pastels* currently on display. Few artists in New Zealand depict comparable depths of sympathy with our land and of anger at the threats and despoliation it suffers. Marilyn's interest in ancient runes and medieval manuscripts is clearly evident in several works. The audience was fascinated.

Autumn Trip

Led by Julie King, with Anna Wilson assisting, this was another satisfying day out, again organised by Hilary Langer. First stop was on the Summit Road where we could look out over both the harbour and the plains as Julie recalled the expectations and attitudes of the early Pakeha settlers to these contrasting landforms. On to Godley House at Diamond Harbour for her informative commentary on the many slides she has assembled in her research on Margaret Stoddart.

After lunch a local historian explained the background and structural features of the Stoddart house, and allowed the group to examine the interior and a number of family artefacts. On the return journey Anna, a committee member and the daughter of Evelyn Page, introduced the group to Waitahuna, her childhood home, still perfectly preserved.



Evelyn and Frederick Page's house, Waitahuna at Governor's Bay

Artwatch

Wednesday 2 June: Aboriginal and Maori Art 12 noon, Main Gallery.

Wednesday 7 July: Frances Hodgkins 12 noon and 5pm, Main Gallery.

AGM - Your committee for 1993

President: Hilary Langer; Vice President: John Small; Secretary: Ann Watt; Treasurer: Chris Brocket; Committee: Barry Cleavin, Philippa Dobson, June Goldstein, Alice Langely, Dick Lucas, Mark Stocker, Kerry Sullivan, Robyn Ussher, Anna Wilson. (John Coley as Director is an ex officio member and Penelope Jackson is our liaison with the gallery).

First Scholarship Winner

At the AGM Hilary Langer presented a \$200 book token to Glenn Price, the winner of the Friends' scholarship in art history for 1992. No award was made in Fine Arts.



Hilary Langer, Gwen Wilton, Lady Isaac and John Coley in front of the newly restored stained glass window



John Coley, Lady Hay and David Stock discuss Robin Whites prints presented to the gallery by the Christchurch Civic Trust