

PRESIDENTS COMMENT

"... art is one of the enrichments of life, not an addition to life"
Vincent O'Sullivan, at the Auckland Writers' and Readers' Week, 2011.

Waikato Society of Arts enriched the lives of those Hamilton people who visited the Christchurch Quake Photo Exhibition at the Hamilton City Council Reception Lounge this month. Maggie Hillock the Christchurch woman who contacted WSA after reading about us in the Waikato Times suggested that "someone" might organize an exhibition of the photographs that were taken of the February 22 earthquake and had not been seen. A visit to the Waikato Times (Fairfax Group), and the Hamilton Mayor's office for a venue, wonderful people donating food, drink, airfares and accommodation for our guest speaker from Christchurch, Hamilton East and Fairfield Rotary adding to our WSA volunteer list and it all happened.... and the exhibition made several thousands to send to the Christchurch Mayor's fund. Well done WSA, well done Peter Drury and the team of photojournalists from Fairfax. We are hopeful that this exhibition will now tour New Zealand and we have ambitions for it in our High Commissions overseas.



And next month to pastures new – encouraging participation in the Business Art Awards, preparing for our National Youth Awards, Creativity Squared, continuing education art lectures on Thursdays at the University, etc. etc. etc. Many of our regular WSA art classes are fully booked. If any member of WSA has any spare time – let us fill it for you in a very enjoyable and enriching way.

And (stop press) our Christchurch Quake Photo Exhibition has raised over \$8000 towards the cause. **Dianne Yates**

A FIRST FOR WSA ?

WSA made it into Hansard. Christchurch MP Brendan Burns mentioned WSA, Fairfax and Hamilton City in the House last week thanking us for the Christchurch Quake Photo Exhibition.

AFTERNOON TEA FOR WSA SENIOR MEMBERS

Your WSA Exec Committee has arranged to have an afternoon tea for our senior members.

This is planned to take place at the Dame Hilda Ross retirement village on June 27th at 2.30 pm.

At the teas a short 30 min DVD about the winner of the NZPPA, John McLean will be shown. John is well known for his series of paintings entitled "The Farmer and his Wife", the last of these was this year's NZPPA prize winner. The DVD is a beautiful documentary telling of the artist's life, his painting, and it shows the beautiful Taranaki coast where McLean lives. Residents at Hilda Ross will also have the opportunity to participate.

RSVP to Eriko 8394481 by 12pm Thursday 23rd June

Members, please note that the 10am session has been cancelled.



COMING AND CURRENT WSA EVENTS

June

Afternoon for WSA Senior members

At the Dame Hilda Ross Retirement village
27 June 2:30pm

Demystifying the Arts

-Some of the Artists Who Sailed with Cook-
At the Academy of Performing Arts
16 June 7-9pm

July

Drypoint and Etching Workshop

– Sunday 3 July - see notice

Westpac/WSA Business Art Award

Exhibition 25-31 July at Westpac branches in Hamilton

August

Youth Art Award Exhibition

14-20 August at Centre Place Hamilton

WHAT'S ON AND COMING

WAIKATO MUSEUM

On at present is "Friendly: Friends Respond to Collection Works" which is a great collection of works selected by the Friends of WAM. Commentaries are provided by members of the Friends and other Waikato artists. If you haven't seen this, don't miss it.

While there pop in to see the Dr Seuss exhibition – something quite different but very good.

There is more here too <http://www.waikatomuseum.co.nz>

ARTSPOST GALLERIES

10 June - 18 July 2011

Fieldays No.8 Wire National Art Award 2011

An exhibition of selected sculpture entries created using iconic No 8 Wire.

22 July - 15 August

WHERE

Maree Glass, Janet Knighton and Frances van Dammen

An exhibition of mixed media works loosely based on the notion of place

INSPIRIT GALLERY - TAMAHERE

Grass Roots

10 June-25 July 2011

Featuring artists Joan Fear, Joan Travaglia, Tanya Finlayson, Santie English, Airdrie Hamilton, Rachel Olsen, Anne Garvey, Carolyn Johns, Ciane Lawrey, Laura Littlejohn & Amber Bold, Marti Wong, James Wright, Cheryl Wright, Ben Clegg and Gene Pospisil.

Proud of its rural pedigree Inspirit Gallery presents 'Grass Roots' a stirring exhibition exploring the backbone of New Zealand, country life.

Timed to coincide with the National Fieldays at Mystery Creek Hamilton, 'Grass Roots' is a reverent expression of the importance the rural community and lifestyle has in our country and to our artists.

Contact Jenny Scown 07 856 3170 or jenny@inspirit.co.nz for further information.

Inspirit Gallery is open on the weekends 10am-4pm Tues-Friday hours vary so please call first or drop in when open sign is out.

BAFFIN ST GALLERY, PIRONGIA

The exhibition in The Persimmon Tree café is 'Far Away Places' with work by various printmakers, with the gallery following a similar theme.

Hilary Ramage
Baffin Street Gallery
Pirongia. 3802

AT THE FRAMING WORKSHOP

practice

works by Lisa Benson

June 3 – 30

120 Silverdale Road, Hamilton
8.30-5.30 weekdays 9-1 Saturdays
ph 07 856 4236

WALLACE GALLERY – MORRINSVILLE

Wallace Collection:

Until June 19th **'Non-Representational Art'**

June 22nd - August 14th **Mary McIntyre 'UNEase'**

Opening preview Weds June 22nd 6:30-8pm, attended by the artist (gold coin entry donation)

Talk by Mary McIntyre Thursday June 23rd 11am (gold coin entry donation, and phone the Gallery in advance to book a place 07 889 7791)

Main Gallery:

Until June 5th **'Colour in Time' by Yvonne Singleton and Ngaire Randall**

June 8th - July 6th Wallace Gallery is proud to present two stunning works

of Environmental Art: **'Stonescape' by Sarah Anderson and 'Fell', an**

exclusive installation by Gaye Jurisich

Opening preview Weds June 8th 6:30-8pm Free Entry, refreshments available.

Community Gallery:

Until June 7th **Morrinsville Lyceum Painting Circle (group exhibition)**

June 8th - 21st **Morrinsville Patchwork Quilters and Embroiderers (group exhibition)**

June 22nd - July 6th **Raewyn Magon (painting)**

Wallace Gallery Morrinsville
167 Thames Street
Morrinsville
Tel 07 889 7791

info@morrinsvillegallery.org.nz

www.morrinsvillegallery.org.nz

Opening Times: Tues-Sun 10am-4pm (closed Mondays)
FREE ENTRY

THE WAIKATO SCULPTURE TRUST – WAITAKARURU, SCOTSMAN VALLEY

Escape 2011 finishes on the 6th June. The Calder and Lawson House of Travel people's choice award will be announced after the exhibition ends.

The 'winter collection' opens on 7th June and the Park remains open every day throughout the winter months. Come and check the change of seasons.

Publications of the last 3 exhibitions are available for purchase from the Waikato Sculpture Trust. These are a stunning record of our exhibitions and a steal at only \$35.00 per copy; contact us at artsadmin@sculpturepark.co.nz for purchase details.

Venue: The Sculpture Park @ Waitakaruru Arboretum - 'The Art Place to be', 207 Scotsman Valley Rd - 15km east of Hamilton.

GREETINGS!

I fill the role of Arts Educator at the Waitakeruru Sculpture Park. My role is to care for our volunteers, a great team of art and park lovers, who do a great job providing assistance to visitors on weekends.

Our team is having a shared morning tea on the 12th of June. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, like to find out more and chat to our volunteers about their experience, please RSVP until the 7th of June, bring a plate and come along. Coffee and tea will be provided.

This is an opportunity to find out informally, what volunteering for the park is all about and what possibilities there will be in the future for volunteers to contribute their special skills to the park. To find out more, phone Sybille Schlumbom Arts Educator Phone 0211735391 07 8562740

ART HISTORY LECTURES

"Demystifying the Arts" NGAHUIA TE AWEKOTUKU

Those of you who chose to give the budget your undivided attention on the 19th May missed out on a magnificent lecture on the art of the ancient Maori. In an engaging talk Ngahuia explained the history of the evolution of Maori art . its seeding, growing, blossoming and turning up to the turn of 1800 when European tools and influences began to take root. Her lecture was well illustrated with examples of pre-European Maori art in ornaments, weapons, fibre, tools. The origins of the different patterns and motifs were explained as well as the different materials used to create art. Most noteworthy were the aesthetics incorporated into utility items from adornments weapons of war to cloaks and the interiors and exteriors of buildings.

Ngahuia touched on sensitive issues such as repatriation of items from collections (both public and private) about the world but acknowledged the role Maori played in the trading of these items, (not an unexpected outcome when a race is fighting for its existence and one preserved Maori skull could fetch ten muskets Ed.). It was interesting to find that a very beautiful cape was swapped, at one stage, for the magnificent waka present in the Auckland Museum.

- *Little snippets from the talk were bats, dogs, fish were used in design*
- *dog (kuri) hair was used in weaving*
- *human bone was used in art eg flutes*
- *hei tiki are always female*

most significant artistic items (weapons, cloaks, ornaments) were personified and given names

Please note that this is the third Thursday of each month.

Dates: Starts on Thursday 19th May 7-9pm
Venue: Academy of Performing Arts (enter via Gate 2B,

Knighton Road)

Fee: \$5 per session or \$25 for all sessions

The next two lectures are:

Thursday, 16 June, 7 pm: John Robson **The Artists Who Sailed with Cook**

Thursday, 21 July, 7pm: Richard Wolfe **Settler Art**

A WSA BLOG !

WSA intends to start an occasional blog as part of a site set up by Arts Waikato. Other art groups will contribute blogs to the site and the contributors will be integrated on the site. There will also be a place where contributors can promote events. Your executive sees this as a good opportunity to promote WSA and the arts in the Waikato. So far, your President Dianne, Executive Committee members Carla Parry and Barry Smith have offered to contribute – and to lighten the burden we'd like to hear from WSA members who would like to contribute. The subject matter can be wide ranging or about specific events or issues – whatever you like within the arts field. If you can help please give Eriko a call at 839 4481 or email wsa@wsa.org.nz

(From my experience editing Art Connections over the last four years I know many of you can write well – give it a go)

CHRISTCHURCH QUAKE ART

Joan Travaglia, who had spent many of her formative years (including her art course at Ilam) in Christchurch, has been moved by the enormity of the Christchurch quake. She has produced linocut prints entitled "To Christchurch With Love" – these are also on sale at the Greenslade Gallery exhibition and ArtsPost, and \$20 of each sale goes to the Red Cross Christchurch Relief Fund.

I'm similarly moved by what I saw when down in Christchurch and wholeheartedly recommend these prints. They are 74 x 95mm, easily posted and not expensive to frame.

**'To Christchurch with Love' Artist: Joan Travaglia.
Artist Price: \$40**



Handmade artist print, A vinylcut printed on Incisioni, an Italian made fine art paper.

The building depicted in this artwork is Christchurch Cathedral, surrounded by leaf patterns. Hovering above the Cathedral is a tree with cloud & bird forms, symbolizing rebirth and hope.

From every print sold, the artist donates \$20 dollars (50%) of sale price, to the Red Cross Christchurch Relief Fund. Contact details: joanmt@wave.co.nz ;07 8509198

SOLARPLATE ETCHING WORKSHOP

Stimulating Solarplate



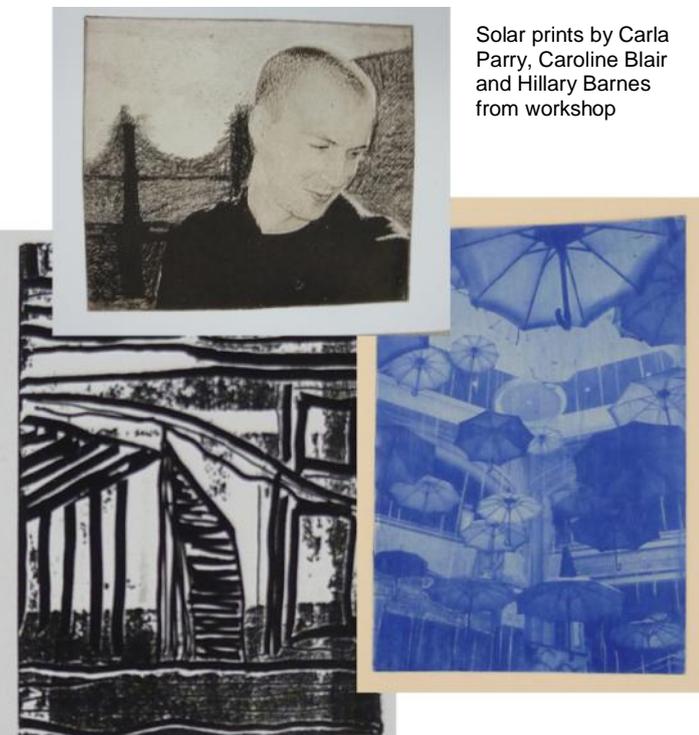
Exciting versatility was the highlight of the Solarplate Printmaking Workshop, held in May for those who missed out on the over-subscribed December workshop. The nine keen participants travelled from Auckland and Te Kuiti, as well as locally, to hear Susan Hurrell Fieldes talk of her experience in the medium, as well as her work with two New York printmakers, in particular Dan Welden, who has done most to develop solarplate.

We made a relief print without a chisel, in a fraction of the time it takes to carve out a woodblock. We created etchings without biting plates in acid. We produced lithographic effects without a specialized lithography stone and press. All of the cutting, etching and carving usually done by gouges, needles or acid was accomplished by light and water.

The great flurry of creativity was kept well-grounded by the stable presence of etching tutor Janice Meadows. When different methods and tools for trimming solarplates were being considered at length, Janice simply said that she used scissors. "Oh Janice!" gasped Susan at this straightforward solution. "You're so practical!"

Solarplate radically reduced the time usually required to labour on plates or woodblocks. For those of us who spend that time in continuing meditation on our work, the creative process was suddenly cranked up ten notches. If it was necessary to be inspired faster, both Susan and Janice had the infectious energy to keep the inspiration flowing.

Dougal Fraser



Solar prints by Carla Parry, Caroline Blair and Hillary Barnes from workshop



ONE DAY DRYPOINT & ETCHING PRINTMAKING WORKSHOP

For Beginner and Experienced Artists

Tutor - Joan Travaglia

10 – 4pm - Sunday 03 July 2011

In the Print Studio Basement of ArtsPost

All materials will be provided eg: zinc & plastic plates, paper, inks, solvents etc

Please bring any tools you own.

Tools will be available to borrow.

You will need:

An image eg photo or drawing.

Help will be given with design.

The fee: \$110. Pay on the day.

All enrolments to:

Anne Kalnins ph 07 839 4481 WSA Art School

Joan Travaglia ph 07 850 9198 – joanmt@wave.co.nz



Piwakawaka NZ
Fantail. handcoloured
drypoint with
embossing

2011 NATIONAL YOUTH ART AWARD

The WSA Youth Art Award which was so successful in 2009 will be repeated this year. It will be held in conjunction with the Spark Festival week and will take place at Centre Place.

Entry forms and image of art need to be at WSA by 31st July

Entries must be delivered to WSA Office on the 10, 11, 12th August and picked up from the show during 21st 22nd August.

Opening 2pm Sunday 14th August – runs to 20th August. This year the artworks will be limited in size 1m in any direction. The number of hung works will be limited to 20.

WAIKATO BUSINESS ART AWARD

Westpac Bank has agreed to sponsor and host this art award with WSA. Entries will be made by specific Waikato businesses who will enter a specific artist from their staff. The entry fee will be \$250, they will receive a blank canvas and a WSA membership. WSA members may be called upon by businesses to act as 'their artist' if they cannot find a suitable artist within their own ranks.

The exhibition (in Westpac Bank premises) will be late July.

FROM THE ART SCHOOL

Over the school holidays we ran our very successful 'Art in the Holiday' programmes. The activities are fun to do, and stretch the children's imagination. The members morning tea was most successful and well attended. Our next one will be in July. (by popular request!)

All classes for the autumn term are underway. We have 24 classes running and attendance is excellent. Next term we hope to offer a new class, Contemporary Mixed Media. More on that when the information comes to hand.

Anne Kalnins

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to WSA member Antonia Luz Ines whose work "Glacial Landscapes" won the 2011 Environmental Art Photographic Challenge convened by the Waikato Sculpture Trust. Like many WSA members she has returned to art after becoming qualified (in her case as a patent attorney) in another area.



Antonia Luz Ines with her work at ArtsPost

CHRISTCHURCH QUAKE PHOTO EXHIBITION OPENING



DAVID LLOYD YOUTH ART COMPETITION

Year 1-8 children - A3 painting

Ten winners for a Gaye Jurisich weekend workshop July 16th & 17th.

Materials sponsored by Davids Emporium. Paintings from the workshop exhibited at David Lloyd Gallery 78 Lake Cres and Wallace Gallery Morrinsville. Entries by June 24th to Kerrie and Wanda at Arts Waikato, 332 Peachgrove Rd, Hamilton by 24th June. Enquiries to kerrie@artswaikato.org.nz or wanda@artswiakato.org.nz

DAPHNE BELL, HAMILTON CITY COUNCILOR ON CREATIVE COMMUNITIES IN HAMILTON



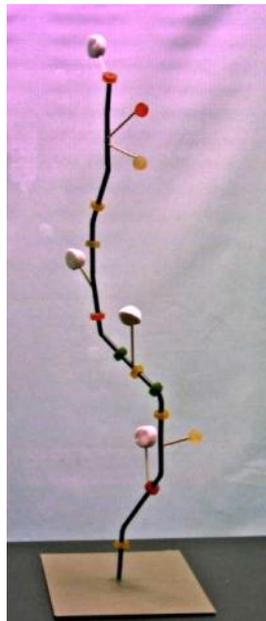
New public art, it seems, is likely to be controversial. The recent announcement of the selection of Neil Miller's work for Garden Place has prompted a flurry of comment in the Waikato Times. Some

correspondents have sensibly suggested that it might be wise to reserve final judgment until the sculpture is in place. It is a large piece which I am looking forward to seeing in place later in the year when, no doubt, there will be further debate.

As a councillor I am pleased that the city now has an Art in Public Places policy supported by a Public Art Plan with a commitment to including a per cent for art funding in major Council projects. This planned and consistent approach should result in memorable art works that will delight, surprise and possibly challenge us. The selection of public art for recommendation to Council is entrusted to the newly-established Public Art Panel.

I am also very pleased to welcome Amanda Watson to Council as our new Strategic Advisor (Arts & Culture). Amanda has a Bachelor of Fine Arts and is a painter. Amanda is the go-to person in Council for arts matters as well as having a policy role. She will oversee the development of an Arts Agenda for the city which will sit underneath the more wide-ranging and aspirational Creativity and Identity Strategy. It will provide a policy framework for Council as we make decisions affecting the arts. Developing the Agenda will be an inclusive process in which we welcome your contribution.

Daphne Bell Chair,
Creative Communities Steering Group



Art imitates art at Imageland: Lance Enevoldsen's miniature of the Garden Place



Amanda Watson

'MESH SCULPTURE HAMILTON'

During the past year an inspired group of individuals from Hamilton business and art have been working with an ambitious goal in mind – to raise funds and commission outstanding contemporary public sculpture for the city of Hamilton. This ambition stemmed from an inspiration of Jon Tanner and Stuart Anderson of Craigs' Investment Partners, a firm that has generously supported the arts in Hamilton.

Inspired by the winning people's choice sculpture at last year's Sculpture in the Park exhibition, an event they sponsored, they approached Nancy Caiger and Kate/Alison Art Consultants to talk about purchasing the sculpture for Hamilton. It was soon obvious that the time was right for more than just an isolated purchase. From this beginning, seed funding was secured and the group of people that now constitute the trust and artistic board of mesh sculpture hamilton were gathered together.

Travel to major cities across the globe like Melbourne, Chicago or New York or nearer home, Wellington and one cannot fail to be moved by the public art works in those cities. **mesh** aims to add Hamilton to the list of art destinations and is excited about the opportunity to help develop Hamilton's arts culture and to be instrumental in bringing major Artworks along our cycleways, our river and throughout our city.

mesh sculpture hamilton was officially launched on 19 April 2011 at the Claudelands Event Centre where the following announcements were made:-

1. Inaugural site.

The proposed sculpture will be sited within the public piazza which borders Heaphy Terrace outside the Claudelands Events Centre, in a space that is highly visible and will often be filled with visitors.

2. The artist whose design proposal has been chosen is Seung Yul Oh.

Originally from Korea, now a New Zealand citizen, Seung Yul Oh is a bright star of contemporary art in New Zealand. Since graduating from Elam School of Fine Arts at the University of Auckland, he has achieved a remarkable number of exhibitions and commissions from prestigious art institutions such as Te Papa, The University of Auckland, Newmarket Sculpture Trust and the Melbourne Art Fair.

For the proposed work the artist has created a design for a sculpture that is playful and interactive. It is conceptually strong and elegant and has a simplicity and scale that responds to the site and its architecture.

3. Founding donor - Brian Perry Community Trust.

Their very generous contribution has allowed **mesh** to work with the artist on refining the design and to obtain structural engineering plans. As these are finalized, the funding will allow **mesh** to complete the project with the aim of unveiling the work later this year.

At the same time, **mesh** is beginning work on the briefs for two other prime sites within Hamilton. These are:

Art Connections

- The site of the old Shell Service Station on Pembroke Street above Hamilton Lake
- Yendell Park - an area with historical significance on the Western River path approaching Cobham Road Bridge.

mesh invites you to help it build this legacy for Hamilton through making a financial contribution. If you are passionate about our city and the arts and have the capacity to do so please consider joining mesh and **Leave your Mark on Hamilton.**

www.meshsculpture.org.nz



Seung Yul Oh

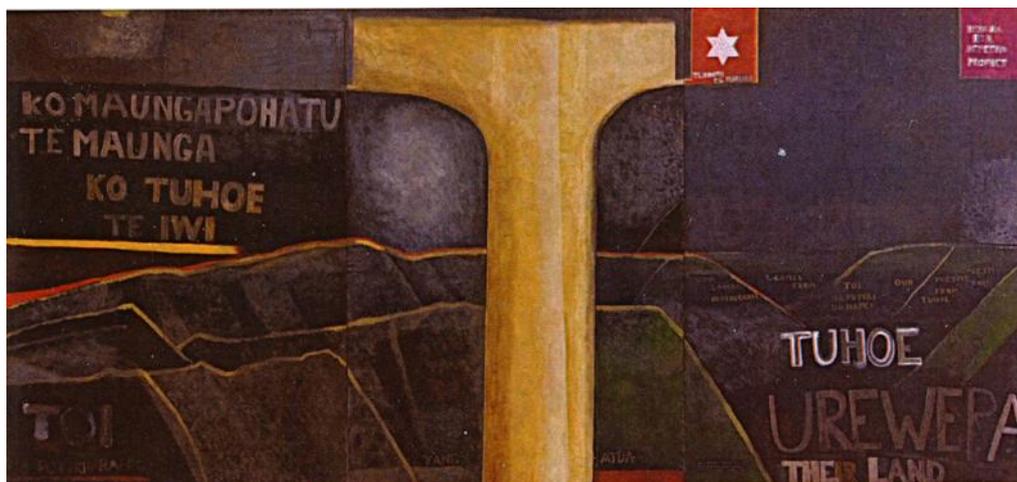
Nancy Caiger

Seung Yul Oh was the winner of our WSA NZPP Award in 2004 (Ed)

"It's comic-book doodle style is certainly offhand – you might even call it punk – but it has attitude. When I saw the work I thought here's someone to watch" Anna Bibby NZPPA Judge 2004

BUS TRIP TO TAURANGA AND MORRINSVILLE

I took a bus trip with the Friends of WAM to the Tauranga Art Gallery and back via the Wallace Gallery in Morrinsville. **The main feature at the Tauranga Gallery (which is an old bank converted and very well done too) was the McCahon triptych known as the "Urewera Mural".** This well publicised work is considered one of the most significant New Zealand visual works of art. It encompasses in time, place and spirit the story of the Tuhoe tribe and their interaction with the land. The canvases have had an exciting and rich history. Before they were even completed as a commission for the Department of Conservation in 1975 there was controversy about the words Colin McCahon had used. Then came the disappearance of the work and its recovery – we should all remember that and the people involved. The work has been very well curated at Tauranga and, having pride of place on the second largest art wall in New Zealand, is well lit and can be seen from many angles. On its own it is worth the trip to



Tauranga. There is an excellent documentary running on the work and life of Colin McCahon – allow 50 mins for this.

Also at the Tauranga Gallery is Mihaia, "the Maori Tank" by Brett Graham. The "Maorification" of a Russian BRDM-2-Scout Car is a stunning work and evokes interesting connections between Maori, the Middle East and Israelites, and conflict. This work is both conceptual and artistic. (– well, that's the way I saw it. Ed.) The work itself is accompanied by projections of a Maori boy wielding a tewhatewha. This work, which to understand needs some introduction, provides as much to dwell upon as any other work I've viewed. Also worth the drive from Hamilton!

Mihaia will only be in the Tauranga Gallery til 12th June - the Colin McCahon until 10th July.

On the way back we visited the Morrinsville Wallace Gallery and were warmly greeted by the very positive Gallery Director, Charlotte Giblin. This gallery has a large Gallery that shows works from the Wallace collection – they are changed every two months – and there are two other galleries, one for Community art and another for exhibitions from Waikato and other regional artists. Charlotte explained that they are planning a major International Art Festival - there may be international musicians present (think Melos Quartet !!) - watch this space. The Wallace Collection selection contained the best received showing yet in the gallery.

This from Charlotte since my visit

"Just to confirm for your WSA members, the Mary McIntyre exhibition 'UNease' (capital U and N) opens here at 6:30pm on Weds 22nd June. Mary is planning to be in attendance at the Opening Preview and then is giving a talk at 11am on Thursday 23rd June. There is a gold coin entry fee for the talk, and please phone in advance to book a seat. The Preview on Weds evening is free entry and refreshments provided. "
Wallace Gallery – Morrinsville – Phone 07 889 7791

Barry Smith (with help from William McCahon and Brett Graham)

Printing of WSA newsletter is supported by



Ulster St. Hamilton



Hamilton

FROM THE EDITOR

This WSA Art Connections Newsletter could not be created without the help of Councillor Daphne Bell, Nancy Caiger, Anne Kalnins, Charlotte Giblin, Dougal Fraser, Janice Meadows, several of our Executive Committee members and other WSA members and, of course, Eriko. Thanks.

And a very special thanks to SHARP who continue to help us substantially with photocopying and to Warehouse Stationary who supply our paper. Please do let them know how grateful we are when you do your buying.

120 Silverdale Rd, Hamilton Monday-Friday 8:30am-5:30pm Saturday 9am-1pm	Contact Sarah: P (07) 856 4236 s.marston@clear.net.nz
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