

# July 2021 Newsletter



Kia Ora Friend,

Thank you to everyone who attended our fundraising event *Dinner á la Art* in June. In the course of the evening we raised over \$6,000 for the Tauranga Art Gallery, which will assist the Gallery in continuing to create exceptional art experiences for residents and visitors to enjoy.

One of those exceptional art experiences has recently opened at the Gallery: *Mānawatia Takatāpui / Defending Plurality* by artist and LGBTQI+ activist Shannon Novak. As well as experiencing this expansive show at the Gallery, you can also explore offsite works at Baycourt, Bayfair, The Incubator Creative Hub, The Kollektive and within Our Place Magazine. We can't wait to see this impressive show come to life! More info below...

**Below you'll also find information on two of our next Friends events. Plus, make sure you save the date for our AGM, which will be held on September 26!**

Your Friends Committee,

Bridget, Sue, Dot, Marama, Emma, Jill, Sam

& new committee member Kathryn (welcome!)



## FRIENDS EVENTS

### **Art in the Afternoon with Doreen McNeill**

Sunday, August 1, 1-3pm

Tauranga Art Gallery, Education Studio

Gold Coin Donation

Join us on the first Sunday in August to watch Friends member and internationally recognised abstract artist, Doreen McNeill, work her magic on paper.



Spaces are limited and available to Friends members only.

RSVP by emailing [friends@artgallery.org.nz](mailto:friends@artgallery.org.nz).



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## A Conversation with Iata Peautolu

Friday, August 27, 5.30-7pm

Tauranga Art Gallery

Later in the month of August, Tauranga Art Gallery Director, Stephen Cleland will be sitting down with Tauranga-based contemporary Polynesian artist Iata Peautolu – and you're invited!

Stephen and Iata will discuss the inspiration behind Iata's work, including his piece *Tama Tu, Tama Ora* – which is currently included in the Kiingi Tuheitia Portraiture Award 2021 exhibition at the New Zealand Portrait Gallery Te Pūkenga Whakaata in Wellington, in which Iata was a finalist.

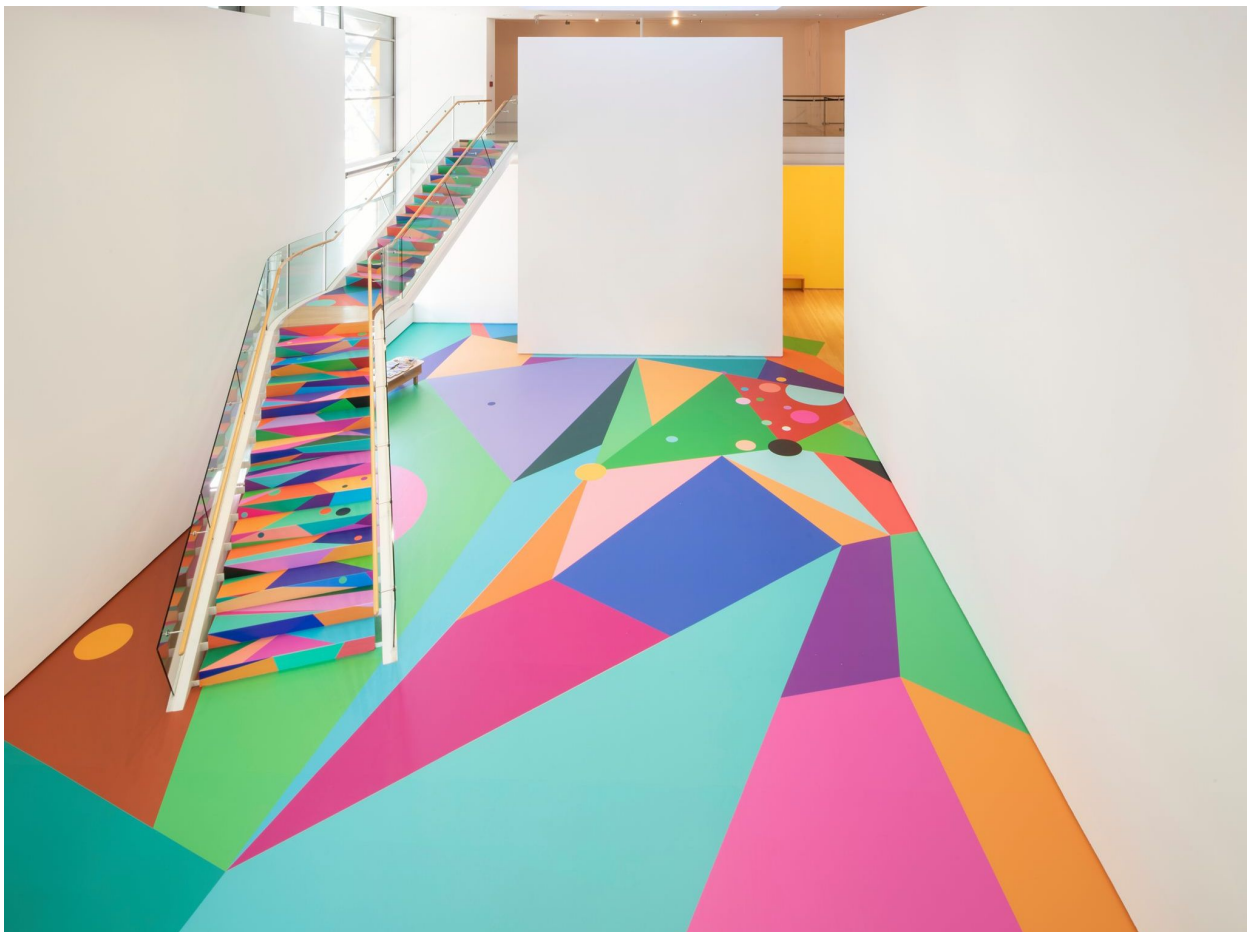


The talk will be preceded by a short video on Iata's practise *SAVG Lines* by OwtkastVisualz (Tauranga videographer and artist Mita Tereremoana Tahata).

\$10 for Friends members and guests.  
Glass of bubbles on arrival and nibbles. Cash bar also available.

RSVP to [friends@artgallery.org.nz](mailto:friends@artgallery.org.nz).

## NEW EXHIBITIONS



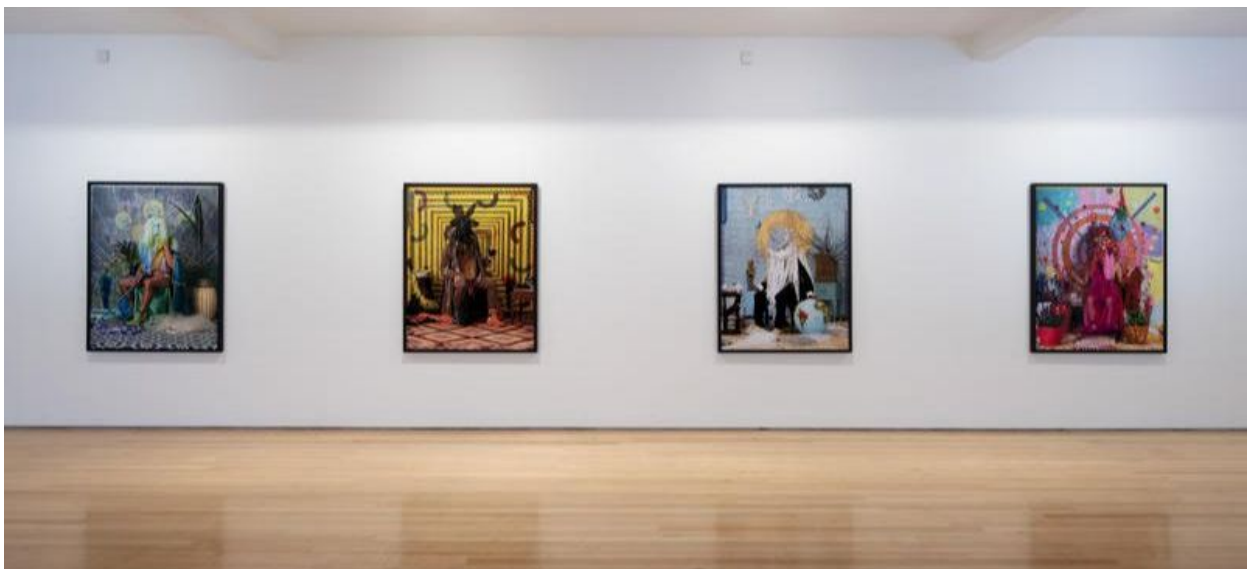
## Mānawatia Takatāpui / Defending Plurality: Shannon Novak

23 July - 10 October 2021

*Mānawatia Takatāpui / Defending Plurality* is an ambitious exhibition developed by artist and activist Shannon Novak for Tauranga Art Gallery. In it, Novak presents an expansive floor-based installation, which spans the ground level atrium and spills into nearby interior and exterior spaces. The visually jarring large-scale artwork is formed from Novak's bold and colourful abstractions and takes cues from the ever-evolving vocabulary of the LGBTQI+ community.

The exhibition spans into the Gallery's Level 2 spaces where Novak takes an artist-curator role, allowing him latitude to both explore his broader interests as an artist and to make space for others in the rainbow community. This section of the exhibition centres a range of LGBTQI+ practitioners from Aotearoa, with a particular focus on rainbow BIPOC that may or may not identify with the LGBTQI+ acronym, including but not limited to Takatāpui and MVPFAFF+. The curated selection of works provides a focused cross-section of leading multi-generational and multi-disciplinary artists, including Paul Darragh, Russ Flatt, Alicia Frankovich, Tanu Gago, Brent Harris, Telly Tuita, Aliyah Winter and Cao Xun.

### [MORE INFO](#)



Top: Shannon Novak, *Mānawatia Takatāpui / Defending Plurality*, 2021.

Bottom: Telly Tuita, *Autumn Famine Winter Conquest War in Spring and Summer Death*, 2021. Images supplied by Tauranga Art Gallery.



# UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

**But wait, there's more coming...**

**In the Wake: Rena 10 years on**

Opening 25 September 2021

[MORE INFO](#)



**Violent Legalities**

Opening 23 October 2021

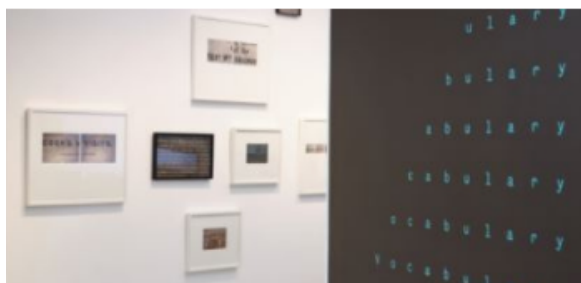
[MORE INFO](#)



**Bruce Connew: A Vocabulary**

Opening 23 October 2021

[MORE INFO](#)



**Darcell Apelu: A Death of Prosperity**

Opening 23 October 2021

[MORE INFO](#)



***Lastly, but not least...***

Congratulations to the winner of the  
BLUNT + Flox Umbrella – new Friends  
member Debbie Clarke!

Thank you to everyone who referred a  
Friend and to everyone who joined!

**Friends Committee:**

**Chair:** Bridget Cummins / Samantha Wilkie

**Treasurer:** Emma Wright

**Fundraising:** Dorothy Forbes

**Memberships:** Sue Speirs

**Events & Social Media:** Jill Andrews

**Secretary & Newsletter:** Marama Mateparae

**Art in the Afternoon Coordinator:** Kathryn Clout

**General email:** [friends@artgallery.org.nz](mailto:friends@artgallery.org.nz)

**Mail address:** Friends of the Tauranga Art Gallery, PO Box 13255, Tauranga, 3141



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You receive this email as you are a Friend of the Tauranga Art Gallery