

Born 1947, Auckland, Aotearoa New Zealand
Lives and works on Waiheke Island, Auckland, New Zealand

School of Industrial Design, Wellington (1966)
Sacred Heart College, Auckland (1961)

Selected solo exhibitions–

2018

Echo's Tree, Two Rooms, Auckland

2016

UNEARTH, The Ceramics Room, Two Rooms, Auckland
SIP – Wine and Social History, Tivoli, Waiheke Island
Dreamsongs of the Lake, NZ Room, Nadene Milne Gallery, Arrowtown

2015

Vowel Dust, Nadene Milne Gallery, Arrowtown

2014

The Tangler Chapter 3, Two Rooms, Auckland

2011

The Tangler Chapter 2, Two Rooms, Auckland
Playing with Fire: Auckland Studio Potters Society Turn 50 Survey Exhibition, Ceramics 1973–1983, Gus Fisher Gallery, Auckland
(publication)

2008

The Tangler Chapter 1, Two Rooms, Auckland

2007

What the Roof Dreamt, City Gallery Wellington
What the Roof Dreamt, Two Rooms, Auckland

2005

A Secret History of the Inkwell, Mark Hutchins Gallery, Wellington

2004

Anecdote of the Jar, Objectspace, Auckland

2002–12

Six solo exhibitions honouring Waiheke social history, Goldwater & Te Whau vineyards, Waiheke Island

2002

Two Up, Campbell Grant Gallery, Christchurch
Twice, Owhanake / Jenny Todd Project, Waiheke Island

2001

The Feather Trade, City Gallery Wellington

2000

Big Aitche, Little Aitche, Gow Langsford Gallery, Auckland

1997

Lachrimae, Gow Langsford Gallery, Auckland

1996

Poppy fields / Wheatfield's, L'Abbaye de les Istres, Champagne, France

1994

13 Stemmata, Gow Langsford Gallery, Auckland

1993

Theatre of Dust, Survey Exhibition 1987–1993, Dowse Art Museum, Lower Hutt

1992

The Gorse King, Robert McDougall Art Gallery, Christchurch

Theatre of Dust, Gow Langsford Gallery, Auckland

Commissioned Drawings, Works on Paper Gallery, Auckland

1989

Both Arms, Gow Langsford Gallery, Auckland

1986

Branches from the Wishing Tree, Dunedin Public Art Gallery; Dowse Art Museum, Lower Hutt & Govett-Brewster Gallery, New Plymouth

1985

Songs of the Gulf, Dowse Art Museum, Lower Hutt

1984

Songs of the Gulf, Auckland City Art Gallery

1981

Porcelain Ceramics, Denis Cohn Gallery, Auckland

1980

Guest exhibitor (with Peter Hawkesby), Auckland Institute and Museum in association with Auckland Studio Potters

1979

New Ceramics, Denis Cohn Gallery, Auckland

1969

Vulcan Gallery, Auckland

Selected group exhibitions

2017

SÉANCE, Headland Sculpture on the Gulf, Waiheke Island

2016

Empire of Dirt, Objectspace, Auckland

HANDBUILT – Made in Clay, Two Rooms, Auckland (curator)

Undreamed of ... 50 years of the Frances Hodgkins Fellowship, Hocken Library, Dunedin & Dunedin Public Art Gallery

2015

Taku Tamaki – Auckland Stories, Auckland War Memorial Museum

The Archive Wine Bar, Headland Sculpture on the Gulf

Five By Five, New Conversations with Clay, Te Uru, Waitakere

2011

The Tangler's Cave, Headland Sculpture on the Gulf, Waiheke Island

2010

Purakau: Myths and Legends, International Poster Project, four Mexican, four Cuban & four New Zealand artists touring art museums in Cuba, Mexico, Spain & New Zealand

2009

Send: 5 artists using text, Two Rooms, Auckland

Diaspora Pluralism and Singularity, touring five New Zealand art museums

2008

Keeping Time, Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetū

Materials and Mentalities, World Archaeology conference, University College, Dublin

Denis O'Connor and friends, Waiheke Community Art Gallery

Interstate Longboards: Artists collaborate with Inhouse Design, Webb's, Auckland

2007

Chandelier, Headland Sculpture on the Gulf
Making Worlds, New Gallery, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki
Afterimage, Two Rooms, Auckland

2005

Main Trunk Lines, National Library Gallery, Wellington
Luncheon under the Ash Tree: The Ian and Elespie Prior Collection, City Gallery Wellington
Into My Hand They Lowered an Island, Headland Sculpture on the Gulf, Waiheke Island

2004

Shapeshifter: Essential New Zealand Sculpture, International Festival of Art, Wellington
Sculpture Project (04), Peter Webb Galleries, Auckland
2 Sculptors, Nadene Milne Gallery, Arrowtown

2003

The Word, Te Wa / The Space, Wanganui

2002

Birds, Arrival and Departures, New Gallery, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki
3 Signs, Goldwater Estate, Waiheke Island

2001

New Acquisitions (The Man in Amen), New Gallery, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki

2000

Time, Death and Narrative, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki
Text and Image, Lopdell House Gallery, Waitakere City

1998

Dream Collectors, Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington & touring to Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki & Robert McDougall Art Gallery, Christchurch
Sunklight (in memoriam), installation, St Georges Presbyterian Church, Auckland

1997

Thinking about Contemporary Art, Centre for Contemporary Art, Christchurch

1995

The Wearing of the Green: The Irish Connection in Recent New Zealand, Auckland City Art Gallery
Objects of Desire, City Gallery Wellington
The Nervous System, Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth & City Gallery Wellington

1994

Man Made World, Auckland City Art Gallery
Three Artists Approaches, Dowse Art Museum, Lower Hutt
The Crane and the Kotuku, New Zealand and Japan, Manawatu Art Gallery, Palmerston North
The Language of the Real, Claybrook Gallery, Auckland

1991

Catholic Taste, George Fraser Gallery, Auckland

1990

Twenty Years 70 x 90: The Govett-Brewster Art Collection, Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth
Art and Organised Labour in New Zealand, City Gallery Wellington & touring

1989

He Kohanga, Auckland City Art Gallery, selected by Kura Rewiri-Thorsen

1988

NZ XI, Auckland City Art Gallery; Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney & Museum of Contemporary Art, Brisbane, Queensland
The Innocent Eye, Dowse Art Museum, Lower Hutt
Public Art – Bonus Art, Wellington City Art Gallery, (Mote Park) Wellington

1987

Four Ceramic Sculptors, Dowse Art Museum, Lower Hutt

1986

Aspects of Recent New Zealand Art: Sculpture 2, Auckland City Art Gallery
New Acquisitions: Eleven Drawings, Hocken Library, Dunedin

1985

Treasures from the Land, organised by the Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC
Four Artists, Bosshard Galleries, Dunedin

1983

New Zealand Ceramics Now, Bishop Suter Art Gallery, Nelson
Invited Auckland Ceramicists, Fisher Gallery, Pakuranga Arts Centre, Manukau

1982

Contemporary New Zealand Treasures to Japan, Dowse Art Museum, Lower Hutt

1981

New Directions in New Zealand Ceramics, Dowse Art Museum, Lower Hutt & Waikato Museum of Art and History, Hamilton

1980

Five by Five: Ceramic Sculpture, Denis Cohn Galleries, Auckland
Fletcher Brownbuilt Award Exhibition, Auckland Institute and Museum

1979

Fletcher Brownbuilt Award Exhibition, Auckland Institute and Museum

1977

Auckland Studio Potters, Auckland Institute and Museum

1976

Four Salt Glaze Potters, Alicat, Auckland

1975

Work in Progress, Alicat, Auckland

Awards & residencies–

Arts Laureate, Sacred Heart College, School of the Imagination (2018)
Blumhardt Foundation, Australian Residency (2016)
Premier Award, Headland Sculpture on the Gulf (2011)
Inaugural recipient, Rathcoola Fellowship, Cork, Ireland (2005)
Editorial and Design Award, Big Aitche, Little Aitche, Best Design Awards (2000)

Studio Residency, Studio of Bill Culbert, Marseille, France (1999)
Moët & Chandon Art Fellowship, Epernay, France (1996)
Writer in residence, Faculty of Architecture and Design, Auckland (1995)
Studio Residency, Workshop of Sem Ghelardini, Pietrasanta, Italy (1988)
Frances Hodgkins Fellowship, Otago University (1985)
Artist in residence, Department of Education (1983)
Studio Residency, Studio of Koie Ryoji, Tokoname, Japan (1982)
Studio Residency, Third Avenue Studios, Berkeley, California (1978)

Selected public and private commissions–

2016
Archive Wine Bar, Mudbrick Vineyard, Waiheke Island, permanent installation: Waiheke Social History Labels

2014

The Nine of Warriors, New Zealand Warriors, commissioned plaque
Mindspaces, The Artist's Studio, documentary film, Rongo Productions
The Archive Wine Bar, Headland Sculpture on the Gulf

2013
Heritage Markers, Milestones - stone plaques, Auckland Council, Papatoetoe, Auckland

2012
Cooper Family: The Talking Wall, The Landing, Purerua Peninsula
Five Works, Bay of Islands

2010
The Tides of Kopu, cartouche & fireplace, Stephens-Lawson Architects
Keelstone, gateway sculpture, Connells Bay Sculpture Park, Waiheke Island

2008
Cover design for *The Lustre Jug*, poems by Bernadette Hall, Victoria University Press, Wellington

2007
Cover design & chapter headings for *Calypso*, poems by Bob Orr, Auckland University Press, Auckland

2006
Tiritiri, Ward 64, Auckland Hospital

2005
My Two Arms The One Length, garden installation, Rathcoola Residency, Cork, Ireland

2004
Wairoa Wand, sculpture, Cheshire Architects, Purerua Peninsula, Bay of Islands
The Stones on My Tongue, documentary film, The Learning Connection
Raupo Rap, Auckland Sculpture Trust, commemorative sculpture for City of Auckland, Viaduct Basin

2003
Maungarei Eavesdrop, courtyard sculpture, University of Auckland, School of Population Health, Architectus Architects

2002
The Raupo Boy, Fogarty birthstone, Auckland

2001
Owhanake Flagstone, threshold sculpture, Stephens-Lawson Architects, Waiheke Island
Lachrimae, Aratoi, foyer sculpture, Wairarapa Museum of Art & History, Masterton

2000
St Augustine, 12-part wall piece for Grey House, Auckland, Stephens-Lawson Architects

1998
Hourglass, Millennium Wall cartouche & lithoprint, Auckland War Memorial Museum
Waitamariki: 3 works, Mitchell-Stout Architects, Bay of Islands
Wine labels, Delamore Estate & Awhitu Vineyards

1997
Rudderstone, sculpture, Wellington Sculpture Trust, Botanical Gardens, Wellington

1996
'Mud Company', commissioned text, Art History Department, Unitec, Auckland
A Brief Description of the Whole World, issue 3, edited by Alan Loney, front and back cover design

1995
Raupo Fan, terrazzo floor piece for Sky City Casino, Auckland, Moller Architects
Bradbury Birthstone Commission, Auckland

1994
The Noon of Stones, sanctuary commission, North Harbour Chapel, Priest Architects, Auckland
Three Stones on my Tongue, Montana Award commission installation, Auckland City Art Gallery
Boundary Masque, sculpture, Crystal House, Auckland, Hood commission
Foundation Stone, Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington
Maru Kaitatea / Meeting House, Takahanga Marae, Kaikoura

1993

City Gallery Wellington, logo design commissioned for gallery relaunch, Saatchi & Saatchi
Dinner Service, Fisher Gallery, Pakuranga

1992

That Stone that led a double-life as a Birdcall, pool installation, sculpture, Mitchell-Stout Architects, Auckland
Two Oars, foyer sculpture, High Court, Wellington

1991

The Gorse King, installation, 33 pieces, Robert McDougall Art Gallery, Christchurch
High Court Triptych, High Court, Auckland
Spoon, Jug, Word, stucco lintels, Granville Architects, Karekare
Cocker headstone, Waipu Cemetery

1990

My Three Arms, sculpture, Acquisition Review, Auckland City Art Gallery
Hook Line & Sinker, foyer sculpture, Auckland Regional Council Headquarters
Aotea cartouche, Aotea Centre, Auckland

1989

Mote Park, sculpture, Wellington City Council, Wellington
The Limelight Carvings, sculpture, Athfield Architects, Lake District, Otago

1988

The Birdman and the Engineer, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney

1987

Whakatipua lintel, Beaven Architects, Otago

Selected publications–

Priscilla Pitts & Andrea Hotere, *Undreamed of ... 50 years of the Frances Hodgkins Fellowship*, Otago University Press, Dunedin, 2017
Denis O'Connor, Moyra Elliott & Martin Poppelwell, *Empire of Dirt: Writing about Ceramics*, Objectspace, Auckland, 2016
Xavier Mead (ed), *Pūrākau / Myths and Legends / Mitos y Leyendas*, Clouds, Auckland, 2011
Denis O'Connor, with essays by Lara Strongman & Gregory O'Brien, *What the roof dreamt*, Aitche Books, Waiheke, 2007
Luit Bieringa & Damian Skinner, *Luncheon under the Ash Tree: The Ian and Elespie Prior Collection*, Aratoi Wairarapa Museum of Art and History, Masterton, 2005
Allan Smith, Alexa Johnston & Denis O'Connor, *Big Aitche, Little Aitche*, Aitche Books, Auckland, 2000
Helen Beaglehole & Mary Trewby (eds), *Dream Collectors: One Hundred Years of Art in New Zealand*, Te Papa Press, Wellington, New Zealand, 1998
Allan Smith & Priscilla Pitts, *The Nervous System: Twelve Artists Explore Images and Identities in Crisis*, Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth, 1995
Dianne Beatson, *The Crane and the Kotuku: Artistic Bridges between New Zealand and Japan*, Manawatu Art Gallery, Palmerston North, 1994
Gregory O'Brien & Ann Calhoun (eds), *Art and Organised Labour: Images of Working Life and Trade Union Life in New Zealand*, City Gallery, Wellington, 1990

Selected writing by the artist–

'Double Glazing', *Art News New Zealand*, Summer 2018
'The Plasticity of Clay', *Art News New Zealand*, Winter 2018
Essay in *Waiting for the Goanna, Etched in Fire Monograph*, Ron Sang Publications, Auckland 2015
'Bagwall' *Empire of Dirt*, catalogue, Objectspace, Auckland 2015
'Funk, Pop and Putiki' in Bronwynne Cornish, *Mudlark*, monograph, MTG Hawkes Bay, Napier 2014
'Presences in the Room', *Art News New Zealand*, Spring 2013
'Left Ajar' in *Playing with Fire: ASP 50 Years*, Auckland University Press, Auckland, 2012
'Mud Company: The Five By Five Exhibition', 1995, republished as pdf by Te Uru, Waitakere, 2015
'A Coat of Dust', *Art New Zealand*, Autumn 1993
'Gulf Icons', *Art New Zealand*, 34, Autumn 1985

Public and private collections–

Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki
Auckland City Council
Auckland War Memorial Museum
Auckland Regional Council
The University of Auckland
National Maritime Museum, Auckland
Chartwell Trust, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki
Aotea Centre, Auckland
Department of Justice, High Court, Auckland
Waikato Museum of Art & History, Hamilton
Bath House Museum of Art & History, Rotorua
Aratoi, Wairarapa Museum of Art, Masterton
Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth
The National Bank
Dowse Art Museum, Lower Hutt
Wellington City Council
Department of Justice, High Court, Wellington
Stout Centre, Victoria University, Wellington
Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetū
College House, University of Canterbury, Christchurch
Dunedin Public Art Gallery
Hocken Collection, University of Otago, Dunedin
Australia Council, Sydney
Frances Hodgkins Fellowship Collection, Dunedin
University College, Dublin, Ireland
Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh
Scottish Poetry Library, Edinburgh
Kröller-Müller Museum, Otterlo, Holland
Moët & Chandon, Epernay, Champagne, France
Instituto des Artes Graphics de Oaxaca, Mexico
Instituto Superior di Diseño, Havana, Cuba
Museo Valenciá De La Il-Lustraciò De La Modernidad, Spain