

February 2021

A somewhat belated Happy New Year!

The Friends of Pātaka Arts Trail 2021

The Friends committee are well underway now, with the organisation of the 3rd Friends of Pātaka Arts Trail.

This time it will be bigger and even better than the last two. We have 8 hubs and 16 studios. The work that will be on show over the weekend 13th and 14th March is amazingly diverse. We are excited and proud to present this uniquely Porirua trail. Visit our website to view the brochure (friendsofpataka.org.nz) or collect a print copy at the Pātaka reception desk.



Friends of Pātaka is looking for a webmaster

Friends of Pātaka has a new Wordpress website, friendsofpataka.org.nz. Four committee members are administering the login, document storage area of the website, but we are looking for a skilled person to be our volunteer webmaster. This involves keeping the front of the website refreshed and updated, by posting new events and by updating and improving key information and images. If you are willing to give a few hours a month to this role, please contact Sue Mortlock (smortlock01.sm@gmail.com) or Gill Dodson (agcdodson@xtra.co.nz)

Pātaka Staff member profile - Mark Hutchins-Pond

Many of our hard working staff are rarely seen by the public so we are profiling one of them each newsletter.



I studied at Elam Schools of Fine Arts, University of Auckland, graduating with a Bachelor of Fine Arts FA degree. I then taught secondary school art part-time and worked as a waiter at night, so I could paint a couple of days a week. I had some success as a landscape painter, mounted 4 solo exhibitions in Auckland dealer galleries and participated in many group shows. After doing this for 10 years I went back to the Elam to study art Theory, advanced studio practise and contemporary art history, graduating as a Master of Fine Arts with Honours in the late 1990s.

I then focussed on art curation and collection management so began studying for a post-graduate diploma in Museum Studies extramurally through Massey University. Practical internships were a major part of the course and I was fortunate to serve my internship within the Prints and Drawings collection at Te Papa the year after it opened. Although I thought the laborious processes of professional collection management rather tedious at the time, that internship proved to be an extremely useful and insightful experience in everything I did subsequently. Gallery/Museum sector jobs were fiercely completed for back then as they are now so once I finished my studies at Massey I worked several part-time jobs which included installing exhibitions for dealer galleries in Wellington. During this time, I also started working part-time assisting with sales at a small gallery that lead on to being offered a full-time position and eventually becoming the gallery manager. After 5 years at that gallery I decided to start my own business, opening Mark Hutchins Gallery in April 2004 on the first floor of 82 Willis Street, in central Wellington. After 3 very successful years I moved the gallery from its initial rented premises up the road to 216 Willis Street. When the 2008 stock market crash made selling art very difficult I looked for another way to use my skills. In 2012 Darcy Nicholas offered me a temporary role at Pataka Art + Museum When Darcy retired in February the following year, Pātaka's senior contemporary art curator, Helen Kedgley, was appointed as Director. Darcy encouraged me to apply for Helen's previous role and I was fortunate enough to be appointed.

After a restructuring of Pātaka's management last year, I was appointed Curatorial team leader and manager of exhibition programming and delivery.

Toi Store artist for this newsletter

Rosemary O'Hara - terracotta cookware, domestic ware and Naked Rakau

Rosemary began her pottery journey in 1976 at Wellington Teachers College. She potted full time for 15 years in Upper Cuba Street and a few years ago picked up where she left off in her home studio in Plimmerton. Her work is inspired by folk art, traditional ways of pottery making, slow food and not least the beautiful taonga of our local birds and insects She hand builds and throws on the wheel, decorating her pieces individually.

Rosemary's studio will be open for the Friends of Pātaka Arts Trail



Moses Viliamu's Residency ends



Moses was the overall winner of the 2020 Art Award. This comes with the opportunity for a two week residency in the education room at Pātaka.

Moses used this time to experiment with video and sound, harking back to the sounds and images of his youth when hip hop and break dancing were the rage. It was a great privilege to view the results which he presented with the help of his DJ friend at an afternoon tea on Thursday 28th. Congratulations Moses.

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