



THE JAPANESE GARDEN
PĀTAKA ART + MUSEUM



Happy 25th birthday to Pātaka Art + Museum!

It was 25 years ago this month that Pātaka – a visionary new museum and gallery – opened in Porirua to support and help promote Māori, Pacific, indigenous and Aotearoa New Zealand art, artists, curators and community makers and groups.

Friends began six years later in 2004, to help Pātaka fulfill its vision, encouraging appreciation of Pātaka and inviting the community to spend time in this wonderful cultural complex, visiting the exhibitions, Toi Store and attending events.

We urge our Friends to bring their friends to the anniversary events and show them why you value supporting this special gallery – we always like to welcome new Friends!

Celebrations begin this month with:

Ka mua, ka muri: 25 Exhibitions

22 September–23 October, Toi Gallery

A selection from 25 Pātaka exhibitions that have made a significant mark in arts discourse from the past 25 years, exhibitions that have challenged and progressed how Māori, Pacific and community arts are presented and championed in galleries and museums.

PĀTAKA'S JAPANESE GARDEN IS IN THE KARESANSUI STYLE, WHICH REPRESENTS MOUNTAINS AND WATER THROUGH THE USE OF ROCKS AND GRAVEL. IT IS AN AUTHENTIC DESIGN CREATED BY GARDENERS FROM NISHIO CITY, PORIRUA'S SISTER CITY IN JAPAN. TO MAINTAIN ITS AUTHENTICITY, THE NISHIO GARDENERS VISITED IN 2013 AND 2018, TO TEND THE GARDEN AND TRAIN COUNCIL GARDENERS IN THE SPECIALIST SKILLS OF TRADITIONAL GARDEN MAINTENANCE.

Haiku Poetry Workshop

10.30am-12.30pm Monday 25 September, The Spine

Sponsored by Friends and led by Lynn Davidson, this haiku poetry workshop is in support of Pātaka's Haiku Competition. It's a drop-in for all-comers of any age or level – come and try your hand!

25th Birthday Cake Cutting Ceremony

1pm Monday 25 September, The Spine

To celebrate Pātaka's 25th anniversary, Porirua Mayor Anita Baker will cut a special and very yummy birthday cake, provided by the Friends of Pātaka. Come and join us and the Pātaka whanau for cake!

Pātaka Haiku Competition

Pātaka is running a haiku competition during October to encourage writers to share reflections and aspirations of Pātaka. Friends are donating prizes. The haiku form was chosen to celebrate Pātaka's Japanese Garden (*pictured above*). Entries can be dropped off to the front desk.

Pātaka Foundation Fundraising Gala Dinner

6pm-10.30pm, Thursday 12 October at Pātaka

The Pātaka Foundation is hosting a gala to which the Friends Committee has been invited. Besides dinner and entertainment, an art auction will help the Foundation raise funds for Pātaka.

Tickets are available from [TicketSpace](#).

Book launch:

25 Years of Pātaka: Ka mua, ka muri: Looking back, looking forward
2pm, 28 October at Pātaka

Free event, no booking required.

Keep an eye on Pātaka's website for more about the anniversary events and come and celebrate with pride in your gallery. We will also alert you to events as they occur.

PĀTAKA EXHIBITIONS

Naadohbii: To Draw Water

1 July–29 October, Main Galleries



On 6 September, Friends hosted a gallery walk and talk by Lead Curator Ioana Gordon-Smith (*above*) for Friends and invited guests from Mahara Gallery, Waikanae. Ioana was one of the co-curators of this three-nation exhibition about the fundamental relationships indigenous peoples have with water. It is on until 29 October. Fa'afetai tele lava, Ioana, for another great talk.

Two related publications about indigenous artists and curatorial practice are worth following up:

- + **Naadohbii: to draw water**, the book produced for the exhibition profiles the works, artists and curators..
- + **Becoming our future: global Indigenous curatorial practice** (Art Gallery of South Australia, 2020) reflects on international Indigenous methodologies in curatorial practice from Canada, Aotearoa and Australia through a selection of contributions by indigenous curators, artists, and scholars. This important work is edited by Dr. Julie Nagam, Carly Lane and

Toi Store Artist Profile



Aimee Guar

Works in multimedia

New to the store, Aimee is an Auckland-based multi-media artist who likes to reduce her carbon footprint by creating art with up-cycled materials. She fashions feathers from vintage materials which can be worn as brooches, or displayed as wall art.

Aimee has a deep respect and appreciation of nature and has always admired our feathered friends which she often views as messengers. Her work is dominated by birds, including the now extinct huia.

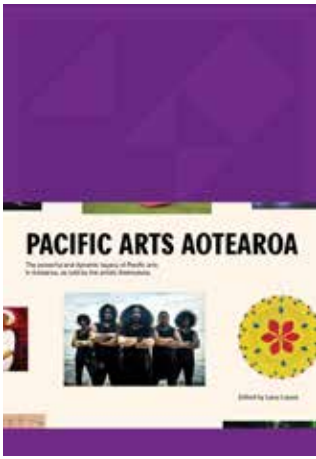
Megan Tamati-Quennell. Contributors include Ioana Gordon-Smith and Kimberley Moulton (Museums Victoria) who both spoke at the opening of Naadohbii. Aotearoa curators Nigel Borrell, Karl Chitham, Reuben Friend and Megan Tamati-Quennell also contributed.

Toi Store has copies for sale or you can reserve a copy from Porirua or Wellington libraries.

Ngahere: The Bush of Aotearoa Bottle Creek Gallery

The Professional Weavers Network of New Zealand's installation of hand-woven works brings together some of Aotearoa's most talented artist weavers, inspired by the textures, colours and filtered light and great beauty of the New Zealand bush. Glad to see the work of our former Friends Committee member Robyn Parker in the show too! The exhibition is on until Sunday 1 October.

LANDMARK PACIFIC ARTS BOOK



Pacific Arts Aotearoa: The powerful and dynamic legacy of Pacific arts in Aotearoa, as told by the artists themselves is due out on 3 October, published in association with Pacific Arts, Creative NZ Toi Aotearoa as part of the Pacific Arts Legacy Project.

If ever we needed a way to be better informed about Pacific arts and artists, one key focus of Pātaka's mission, this is it. It is a comprehensive account that spans six decades of multidisciplinary Pacific creative genius. Edited by leading Pacific writer and scholar Lana Lopesi, it includes over 300 images and contributions from more than 120 artists, curators and community voices, in one volume.

Buying a copy supports Pacific arts, as 100% of royalties from sales will support Pacific Arts in Aotearoa. [Read more here.](#)

ANIVA ARTIST IN RESIDENCE



Manuha'apai Vaeatangitau (They/She), or Manu Vaea for short, is the second Aniva Artist in Residence and began her three-month paid residency on 1 August 2023, funded by Creative NZ and hosted by Pātaka. She will receive mentoring while producing new work, culminating in an exhibition at Pātaka, opening on 18 November. Manu is an interdisciplinary artist working across mediums of illustration, poetry, performance and music. Her work often responds to themes of

cultural transformation, seeking to assert queer Pacific identities into social and cultural visibility.

[Read more about Aniva](#)

PHOTO COMPETITION



A reminder about the photo competition Te Awarua o Porirua | Show Us Your Harbour featured in our July newsletter. Entries open from 1 October. The best photographs will be showcased at an exhibition at Pātaka in early 2024. Find out more at yourharbour.nz

WINTER MUSIC SERIES A HUGE SUCCESS!

We are thrilled to report that this year's Friends' Winter Music Series was a great success, the very best yet. Ngā mihi nui to all the performers and audiences and for Pātaka's support.

Andrew and Kirsten London's banter and satirical songs about modern Kiwi culture had the audience laughing throughout.

For the cello and piano recital we heard Robert Ibell and Guy Donaldson playing Anthony Ritchie's *Blue Sonata* Op. 90, Brahms' *Sonata No. 1* in E Minor Op. 38 and Saint-Saen's *Romance* Op. 51 in D Major (all works are posted on YouTube).

Te Kāhui Kuratea Aotea College Kapa Haka group gave a stunning, powerful performance combining traditional and modern Māori kapa haka items woven with Moana elements to showcase all members. The concert was a tribute to leader and composer Ihaia Ropata (*Ngāti Toa Rangatira*) who has led the group for many years.

For our final concert of the year, and another full house, the Klezmer Rebs gave us their high-energy, always-uplifting Yiddish/Eastern European folk songs and klezmer originals.