

MUSEUM

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SPRING 04

A Quarterly Guide to Exhibitions and Events
at Auckland War Memorial Museum

ISSUE
100



QUARTERLY



SUSTAINING SPONSOR



RADIO CHAMPION

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Auckland War Memorial Museum
Domain Drive Auckland Domain

Open 10am – 5pm daily
Except Christmas Day
and Anzac morning.

Admission is by donation.
\$5 is appreciated.
Children, of course, are free.
Charges may apply to
special exhibitions.

Private Bag 92018, Auckland
Infoline: 09 306 7067
Enquiries: 09 309 0443
Website: www.aucklandmuseum.com

Library: 09 306 7070 extn 687 or 686
Open Monday – Friday, 1pm – 5pm

Museum Store: 09 309 2580

Auckland Museum Institute:
09 306 7070 extn 883

Venue hire: 09 306 7056

Services to schools: 09 306 7040

Cover: WORLD on the catwalk
& The Huia



Director's message

Welcome to our Spring edition of MQ – and our 100th issue. The Museum has undergone a variety of changes since MQ, then called Auckland Museum News, was first published in March 1980 – established with the aim of keeping members and supporters informed of Museum activities. Issue one highlighted the Museum's focus for excellence, quality and innovation. Issue 50, in 1992, showed the Museum celebrating its 140th anniversary and the opening of a special exhibition titled *Treasurers & Visions* ...reflecting "the Museum's impressive past" ...and its development "into the 21st century." In 1998, Issue 75, highlighted the launch of the Museum Circle's fundraising campaign *Names in Stone* raising money for the Stage 1 development project, completed in December 1999, which included the renewal of six galleries.

So, where does the Museum stand at Issue 100?

Today, we are again in the midst of a major renewal and fundraising programme with our Stage II project – the building of a Grand Atrium. This development will open the southern end of the Museum to the public and provide exhibition, lecture and entertainment opportunities for Aucklanders and others.

The most significant of these will be *Waka Moana* – an exhibition centred on the last great navigational story the world has yet to embrace: the story of the Polynesian navigators. This exhibition is being developed by Auckland Museum for display in late 2006, and has already had international interest for touring to other museums.

Before then, in 2006, we will have opened our *Volcanoes* exhibition featuring the fire and fury that has made New Zealand's landscape so unique. We are grateful to the Earthquake Commission (EQC) for their sponsorship of this project.

But much sooner – this December – visitors will be able to explore the many things from the natural world, which bite, slash, sting and hurt us, thanks to our summer exhibition *OUCH!!! confronting nature's nasties!*

However, November will also be a significant month for the Museum as we celebrate the 75th anniversary of the opening of the current building as the Auckland War Memorial Museum with a day of special activities and the launch of Richard Wolfe's book *A Noble Prospect: 75 years of the Auckland War Memorial Building*. This fine neo-Classical building has become a beloved icon for Aucklanders. As part of our war memorial function, the Museum is also organising a major symposium which will become an annual event; the Armistice Symposium.

In 2004, I think we can safely say that the aims set when MQ was one – have been met and exceeded as it turns 100!

Dr T.L. Rodney Wilson
Director



Receive our E-Newsletter

To register for our upcoming e-newsletter which will be jam-packed with information on Museum events, exhibitions and news, please forward your email address to marketing@aucklandmuseum.com. The e-newsletter looks set to launch in the coming months.

news in brief



Pacific Jewellery and Adornment

Two of Auckland Museum's curators, Roger Neich and Fuli Pereira, teamed together with photographer Krzysztof Pfeiffer to produce an exquisite book capturing both the beauty and history of jewellery and adornment from the collection of the Auckland Museum. The book, entitled *Pacific Jewellery and Adornment*, features beautiful and detailed photographs of Polynesian, Melanesian and Micronesian jewellery, and takes readers through the role, manufacture and symbolism of traditional jewellery in the Pacific. The book is available from the Museum Store and retails at \$69.95.

Foundation Stone Ceremony

To mark the commencement of the Grand Atrium project, a foundation stone was unveiled in the front foyer by the Prime Minister, Rt Hon Helen Clark on 17 September 2004.

The foundation stone was created by Auckland sculptor John Edgar, out of the same Coromandel granite stone used for the foundations of the existing Museum building and will eventually be placed at the new Southern entrance.

Auckland Museum's Grand Atrium project began in December 2003 and is expected to be completed by September 2006. The project is worth \$55 million and will see the Museum increase its floor space by 60%.

Win a Family Trip to Italy!

Auckland Museum in association with Newmarket Business Association and Parnell Trust are offering an opportunity for Primary and Intermediate students to win a trip for themselves and their parents to Trieste in Italy. Students have until the end of October to create a work of art in this international children's competition. Schools that would like to enter should email schools@aucklandmuseum.com.

THREE EXHIBITIONS ON DISPLAY AT AUCKLAND MUSEUM THIS SUMMER EXPLORE THE ART, CRAFT AND HISTORY OF QUILTING, AND TAKE A LOOK AT TWO WELL-KNOWN QUILTERS. TIMED TO COINCIDE WITH THE 2005 NATIONAL QUILT SYMPOSIUM IN AUCKLAND, THE EXHIBITIONS ARE ACCOMPANIED BY A PUBLIC PROGRAMME OF LECTURES, GALLERY TOURS, KIDS' CRAFT ACTIVITIES AND MORE. PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATED DETAILS.



Freda Brierley, 2004
freehand machine embroidery

Quilts

Freda Brierley: A Weaver's Tale

An exhibition of work from New Zealand textile artist, Freda Brierley, aims to question the relationship between drawing, painting and textiles.

Freda uses machine embroidery on canvas, and chooses the human body as the bearer of her metaphors. "My first love is drawing and mark making – always exciting and frequently frustrating. Using the human figure to convey a mood or

situation will always be integral with my work.

"What has and is changing is my attitude to the viewer. Whereas before I gave this little thought, I now find added excitement by trying to tease and deceive, by creating puzzles, by concealing and revealing the truth with gaps to be filled, making many interpretations possible."

FREDA BRIERLEY A WEAVER'S TALE IS ON DISPLAY IN THE DECORATIVE ARTS CENTRAL GALLERY FROM 26 NOVEMBER 2004 UNTIL 20 MARCH 2005

Historical Quilts

As with all art, quilts make statements about those who made them. They tell a story to be handed down the ages from generation to generation. *Historical Quilts* tells the story of the evolution of the quilt in New Zealand.

Quilting has been a tradition in New Zealand from the pioneering days. What began as a primarily functional practice has evolved over the years to a creative and popular artform. Quiltmaking has experienced a huge revival in women's home craft practice since the 1980s. Now, there are hundreds of patchwork and quilters guilds and associations across the country, and thousands of quilters meet regularly for the National Quilt Symposium to be held in Auckland in January 2005.

Historical Quilts uses examples of English, Pacific Island and New Zealand historical bedcoverings to trace the evolution of the quilt in New Zealand textile practice. The quilts from Auckland Museum's own collections provide a glimpse not only into the history of quiltmaking in New Zealand, but also of the history of New Zealanders. The quilts on display are not only examples of pieces of art, but also stunning examples of change and evolution as they made their way to our shores. Many of them will be on display for the first time at the Museum.



Historical Quilt, made by Mrs Robert Little



Nancy Crow, Construction #38, 2000

Nancy Crow: Constructions - COLOUR & SPATIAL RELATIONSHIPS

A SELECTION OF QUILTS FROM THE CONSTRUCTION SERIES

Nancy Crow: Constructions presents a series of exquisite quilts from contemporary American textile artist, Nancy Crow. Nancy has been working in quiltmaking for over 25 years and has made over 300 quilts.

"The purpose of my quilts is to make something beautiful for me but at the same time they are a means of expression representing my deepest feelings and my life experiences. In addition my quilts are all about how I see colour and colour relationships; how I see shapes; and how I see line and linear movements. They are also about complexity, sadness and hope."

Recognised world wide for her work and her teaching, Nancy Crow has been a maverick in pushing the boundaries of what a quilt can be. Hand dying her fabrics, she creates visually stunning works of art of colour and shape.

Nancy Crow: Constructions comprises a series of pieces begun in 1996.

Inspired by nature and her Ohio surroundings, these pieces showcase her remarkable and intuitive sense of colour and proportion. The exhibition is influenced by a barn renovation on Nancy's farm which had an enormous impact on her thinking and emotions.

"For seven years I have combined my love of the proportions found in this barn with my love of colour, shape, line and graphic intensity in the *Constructions* quilts."

Her work shows us how important the creative process is, it enlightens, inspires and records a moment in history. "I identify who I am with my art work... in other words, I love the work, the experience of making each quilt. It's my life, my life's work! I feel lost not doing art, unsatisfied, anxious, bored."

NANCY CROW IS ASSISTED BY THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY

HISTORICAL QUILTS IS ON DISPLAY IN THE DECORATIVE ARTS GALLERY EAST FROM 26 NOVEMBER 2004 UNTIL 20 MARCH 2005

NANCY CROW CONSTRUCTIONS IS ON DISPLAY IN THE DECORATIVE ARTS GALLERY WEST FROM 26 NOVEMBER 2004 UNTIL 20 MARCH 2005



WE
FOUGHT
FASHION
- AND
LOST:
WORLD
1989
- 2005

TWO GLAMOROUS FASHION EXHIBITIONS SHOW A RETROSPECTIVE OF AVANT-GARDE FASHION HOUSE, WORLD, AND A LOOK AT THE FIRST FASHION EVENT IN NEW ZEALAND'S SOCIAL CALENDAR, THE NEW ZEALAND GOWN OF THE YEAR.

We fought fashion and lost: WORLD 1989 - 2005 presents a range of fabulous garments from innovative designers Denise L'Estrange-Corbet and Francis Hooper who, over the last fifteen years, have developed their label from a 50 square foot cupboard at the back of an Auckland arcade, to an internationally acknowledged fashion house. This is the first time that a New Zealand label has been acknowledged with a solo exhibition at a major metropolitan museum.

WORLD IS ON DISPLAY IN THE DECORATIVE ARTS GALLERY WEST AND OTHER LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT THE MUSEUM UNTIL 7 NOVEMBER 2004

FASHION ON WHEELS IS ON DISPLAY IN THE DECORATIVE ARTS GALLERY EAST UNTIL 7 NOVEMBER 2004

FASHION ON WHEELS:
THE NEW ZEALAND GOWN OF THE YEAR



Fashion on Wheels: The New Zealand Gown of the Year showcases a fairytale fashion competition which wowed the nation between 1958 and 1964. Modeled by gorgeous women around the provincial towns of New Zealand, *Fashion on Wheels* brought a touch of glamour to community halls and theatres, with locals voting on which gown they liked best. The annual event launched the careers of designers such as Kevin Berkahn, Rosemarie Muller and the late Michael Mattar, and the exhibition includes a selection of the original winning gowns.

Fashion on Wheels was curated for the Hawke's Bay Museum by Claire Regnault, with the support of Creative New Zealand.

COINCIDING WITH AIR NEW ZEALAND FASHION WEEK, BOTH EXHIBITIONS ARE ON DISPLAY AT AUCKLAND MUSEUM UNTIL 7 NOVEMBER 2004.



Top: WORLD fashion on the catwalk, 1998.
Bottom: Vienna Ban by Peggie Wilson, Gown of the Year entrant, 1963.

preen
NEW ZEALAND BIRDS &
PRESTIGIOUS VICTORIAN BOOKS

In the nineteenth century, new printing methods, a thirst for knowledge, a craving for the exotic and growing wealth in Britain converged to create a desire for deluxe natural history books. Among these books were exquisite illustrated bird books.

Now these prestigious bird books are not only striking with their artistic qualities but are also scientifically important as they bear witness to the grace, mystique and passing of vanished species.

Drawing on the holdings of the Museum Library and bird collections, *Preen* showcases books featuring New Zealand birds and introduces the authors and artists: John Gould, Walter Buller, Edward Lear and Johannes Keulemans.

Counterpointing the splendour of hand-coloured lithographs are handsome bird specimens and striking photo reproductions of the open pages of key works; the descriptions, both scientific and artistic, portrayed New Zealand birds to a Victorian world.

Preen will be accompanied by a public programme of talks, tours and children's activities. Check our website regularly for more information.

PREEN IS ON DISPLAY IN THE PICTORIAL GALLERY FROM 17 SEPTEMBER TO 20 NOVEMBER 2004



Hala (above) and takahe (right) from John Gould's *Birds of Australia*, published 1837-1848



REMEMBRANCE MONTH

This November marks 75 years since the war memorial building which houses Auckland Museum first opened to the public. Built with subscriptions raised by Aucklanders to remember loved ones lost during World War One, Auckland War Memorial Museum opened its doors on 29 November 1929.

To commemorate this special birthday, the Museum is hosting a month-long programme of events, commencing with a special commemorative service on Armistice Day on 11 November, followed by a symposium marking Armistice Day on 12 November, entitled "Push for Peace", and concluding with a day of war memorial events on Sunday 28 November.

Push for Peace will explore the struggle for reconciliation after war, from the 1918 Armistice and the reasons for its failure, to more contemporary theatres of peace keeping and conflict resolution which New Zealand has been involved with – principally Bougainville, East Timor, the Solomon Islands, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Speakers involved in the symposium include the Minister for Defence, the Hon. Mark Burton; the Minister for Disarmament and Arms Control, the Hon. Marian Hobbs; Vice Chief of Defence Force Air Vice Marshall David Bamfield, and Terence O'Brien, former New Zealand diplomat to the United Nations.

On Sunday 28 November, the Museum will host a day of events commemorating the construction of the War Memorial building and New Zealand's history at war. Events will include a tour and explanation of the symbolism behind the building's war memorial architecture, a special book launch, poetry readings, poppy-making workshops for the kids, film screenings and a tour of our war memorial archives in the Armoury where visitors can trace the records of relatives who fought in both world wars. For more information on this 75th anniversary, check out our website.

OUCH!!!

confronting nature's nasties!

This summer, come and experience a unique exhibition from our Natural History Curators and explore all of the things in the natural world that can bite, slash, sting and hurt us!

Get up close and personal with teeth, prickles, fangs, stings and venom and discover how much ouch! different species can inflict. See live displays of painful plants and animals, take part in our fun trail and holiday workshops, dare our mystery touchboxes and confront the huge creepy spider in his lair.

For details of the summer school holiday programme of activities and events surrounding *Ouch!!!*, check our website regularly.

Admission charges apply. Adults \$10, children \$5, concessions \$7.50, families \$22.50. Discounted entry for members.



Find out how much Ouch! these cactus spines can inflict.

OUCH!!! IS ON DISPLAY IN THE SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS HALL FROM 10 DECEMBER 2004 UNTIL 13 MARCH 2005

VETERANS: 1944-2004

Photographs and conversations with D-Day veterans by Régis Colin



Jack Hammond, Tauranga – New Zealand, 6th Air Landing Brigade

A moving exhibition displaying 56 black and white portrait photographs of World War 2 veterans who participated in D-Day, 6 June 1944, including 24 New Zealanders.

Régis Colin is a French freelance photo reporter whose nomadic professional life over the past 25 years has enabled him to discover an everyday world of great humanity.

By talking to and photographing these veterans, Régis Colin has created a memorial of the true reality of war and its effects.

"...It's a good thing you have come to meet us now because, as you probably know, a lot of us have already taken the last jump, the one for which a parachute is no longer of any use!..."

Allison Blainley, Maine – USA, 82nd Airborne – Paratrooper – Medic.

VETERANS IS ON DISPLAY IN THE PICTORIAL GALLERY FROM 10 DECEMBER 2004 UNTIL 9 JANUARY 2005

JOIN AUCKLAND MUSEUM IN SUPPORTING THE STAGE II GRAND ATRIUM PROJECT

AUCKLAND MUSEUM INSTITUTE - CHAIRS PROJECT

The Auckland Museum Institute (AMI) dates back to 1867 and is both a membership organisation and learned society publicising the Museum and supporting it in many ways by raising funds, arranging lectures, directing field trips, encouraging research and publications, and hosting social occasions.

In pledging \$200,000 towards the Stage II Grand Atrium Project, the Auckland Museum Institute's "Take your seat for the 21st century" campaign is focused on providing state-of-the-art seating in the new 196-seat auditorium.

The auditorium will be suitable for small musical performances, lectures, seminars and panel discussions and will open late 2006.

AMI members, friends and colleagues are invited to donate \$1500 for a chair in the auditorium. Recognition will be by way of a naming plaque inside the auditorium and their names recorded in an acknowledgement book that will record all donations towards the Stage II project.

For more information on Auckland Museum Institute membership and this fundraising initiative, please contact:

Margaret Spencer
Tel: 09 306 7070 extn: 883
Email: mspencer@aucklandmuseum.com

BECOME AN INSTITUTE MEMBER

Please send your payment and membership details to:
The Administrator, Auckland Museum Institute,
Private Bag 92018, Auckland.

MR/MRS/MISS/MS:
ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____
CREDIT CARD TYPE: _____ EXP DATE: __/__/____
CARDHOLDER NAME: _____
CREDIT CARD NUMBER: _____

CHEQUE ENCLOSED: YES NO

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS: please tick one

- Individual: \$50 per year
- Museum Volunteer: \$25 per year
- Senior/student with ID: \$40 per year
- Joint membership – two adults at one address: \$60 per year
- Family membership – two adults and two children: \$100 per year
- Group membership: 100 per year

What's up on the hill

October

Wednesday 6 October Lucy Cranwell Lecture

Bill Sykes from the Auckland Botanical Society will talk about Himalayan alpine plants. APEC Room, 7.30pm, entry via East door. Members free, others gold coin donation.

Tuesday 12 October The Future is Now: Fashion, Time and Duration

Dr. Peter Shand, curator of *WORLD: We Fought Fashion and Lost* discusses the relationship of fashion and time. APEC Room, 7.30pm, entry via East door. Members free, others gold coin donation.

Sunday 17 October Gallery Tour

Former Gown of the Year models, Di Goldsworthy and Ann Simich along with some special guests, take visitors on a tour of the *Fashion on Wheels* exhibition. Decorative Arts Gallery East, 2pm.

Tuesday 26 October Safeguarding Living Cultures: The work of the Vanuatu Cultural Centre

A lecture by Ralph Regenvanu, Director of the Vanuatu Cultural Centre. APEC Room, 3pm.

November

Monday 1 November Lecture

Dr Richard Kurin, Director of the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage, Washington DC. APEC Room, 3pm.

Sunday 7 November Children's Concert

A concert for children by visiting Japanese musician Dr. Masahide Tahara who will be playing an ancient Japanese flute and drums. In collaboration with the Nippon NZ Friendship Association. *Treasures & Tales* - Children's Discovery Centre, 1pm.

Thursday 11 November Armistice Day

A special observance ceremony for Armistice Day commencing at 10.50am. Meet in the World War I sanctuary.

Friday 12 November Armistice Symposium – Push for Peace

Special guest speakers talk about a range of topics, from the 1918 Armistice to more contemporary theatres of peacekeeping and conflict resolution. For more details, see page 6. Museum Library, 9.30am – 5pm.

Saturday 13 November Adult Concert

Visiting Japanese musician Dr. Masahide Tahara delights visitors with a concert of ancient Japanese instruments. APEC Room, 3pm.

Saturday 13 November Field Trip

A guided field trip on the Watercare Rainforest Express up to the Upper Nihotupu Dam. Numbers are limited, booking essential, phone 09 306 7070 extn. 883 or mspencer@aucklandmuseum.com. Adults \$20, children \$10.

Sunday 14 November Children's Concert

A concert for children by visiting Japanese musician Dr. Masahide Tahara. *Treasures & Tales* - Children's Discovery Centre, 1pm.

Sunday 28 November 75th Anniversary Celebrations

A special day to mark the 75th anniversary of the opening of Auckland War Memorial Museum. Architecture tours, film screenings, drama, performances, kids' craft activities, Richard Wolfe's book launch and more.

Sunday 28 November Recorder Concert

Members of the NZ Society of Recorder Players present a selection of appropriately festive numbers. Meet in the foyer, 2pm.

December

Sunday 5 December Living Treasures Day - The Festival of St Nicholas

A day of events and activities to celebrate The Festival of St Nicholas with the Dutch community. Lectures, film screenings, live performance, children's activities and more.

Sunday 12 December Unique Tevaevae

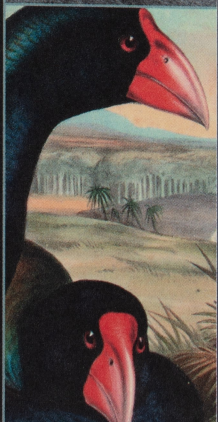
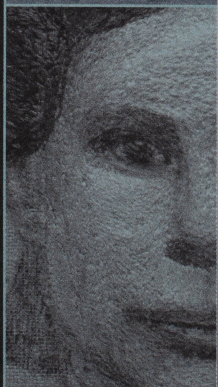
Cook Island quilting expert, Jane Horan will speak on Cook Island tevaevae and show unique tevaevae quilts. Education Room, 11am.

4 December – 31 January School Holiday Programme

Join us these school holidays for a fun-packed line-up of craft activities, workshops and special guest appearances. Visit our special exhibition *Ouch!!!* *Confronting Natures Nasties!* where you can meet our big scary spider, take part in our live animal trail and more! Check our website for more information.

EVENT LISTINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. CHECK OUR WEBSITE WWW.AUCKLANDMUSEUM.COM FOR REGULAR UPDATES.

Exhibitions at a glance



Special Exhibition Hall

Ouch!!!

10 December 2004 – 13 March 2005

Confront nature's nasties with this exhibition of things in the natural world that can bite, slash, sting and hurt us.

Decorative Arts Gallery West

We fought fashion and lost: WORLD 1989-2005

Until 7 November 2004

A selection of fabulous garments from the undisputed leaders of avant garde fashion in New Zealand, WORLD. Timed to coincide with Fashion Week 2004.

Nancy Crow: Constructions - Colour & Spatial Relationships

26 November 2004 – 20 March 2005

A selection of contemporary quilts from the *Construction* series from leading international textile artist, Nancy Crow. Timed to coincide with the National Quilt Symposium 2005.

Decorative Arts Gallery East

Fashion on Wheels

Until 7 November 2004

A fairytale fashion extravaganza of New Zealand gowns from the 1950s and '60s.

Historical Quilts

26 November 2004 – 20 March 2005

An exhibition that tells the story of the evolution of the quilt in New Zealand. Timed to coincide with the National Quilt Symposium 2005.

Decorative Arts Central

Freda Brierley: A Weaver's Tale

26 November 2004 – 20 March 2005

An exhibition of work from New Zealand textile artist, Freda Brierley, aiming to question the relationship between drawing, painting and textiles.

Pictorial Gallery

Preen – New Zealand bird & prestigious Victorian books

17 September – 28 November 2004

Explore the beauty of birds through the lithographs of 'Bird Men', John Gould and Walter Buller.

Veterans: 1944 - 2004

10 December 2004 – 9 January 2005

Portraits and accompanying stories of New Zealand's surviving D-Day veterans, from French photojournalist, Regis Colin.