

# AUCKLAND ART GALLERY TOI O TĀMAKI

## AUCKLAND ART GALLERY MEDIA KIT 2015



### About Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki

Established in 1888, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki is New Zealand's leading visual arts experience with more than 15,000 artworks in its collection. Each year, hundreds of thousands of visitors to the Gallery explore the largest collection of New Zealand art in the world and discover outstanding works by Māori and Pacific Island artists, as well as international painting, sculpture and print collections dating from the 11th century to today.

With an ever-changing programme of exhibitions sourced from the Gallery's own collection and from the collections of its international partners, there is always something new to see. In addition to enjoying Gallery spaces, visitors can relax in the café, visit the shop for unique merchandise or become involved in the making process in the Creative Learning Centre.

Situated in the heart of Auckland city next to Albert Park, the Gallery has won 22 building design awards since expansion and restoration in 2011, and was most recently awarded 2013 World Building of the Year at the World Architecture Festival. The Gallery is one of Lonely Planet's *New Zealand Travel Guide* Top Choices, making it a must-see for international visitors.

The Gallery is open daily from 10am – 5pm, except Christmas Day. Entry is free. (Charges to temporary exhibitions may apply).

Auckland Art Gallery is part of [Regional Facilities Auckland](#), an [Auckland Council](#)-controlled organisation, which manages several facilities across Auckland.

### Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki

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### QUICK FACTS GALLERY

- Auckland Art Gallery was established in 1888 as 'the first permanent Art Gallery in the Dominion'
- Since expansion and restoration in 2011, the Gallery has welcomed more than 1.4 million visitors through its doors
- In 2013, Auckland Art Gallery was awarded World Building of the Year at the World Architecture Festival in Singapore in recognition of the 2011 expansion, restoration and earthquake strengthening
- The Gallery holds the largest collection of New Zealand art in the world
- The Gallery's collection includes works by iconic New Zealand artists Gottfried Lindauer, Charles F Goldie, Frances Hodgkins, Colin McCahon, Gretchen Albrecht and Michael Parekowhai
- Around 800 works from the 15,600 strong collection are on display in the Gallery at any one time
- There is a strong representation of indigenous art in the collection, in particular indigenous Māori, Pacific and Asian art
- In addition to its exhibition spaces, the Gallery houses a café, shop, auditorium, creative learning centre, classroom and Conservation Research Centre
- In 2013, conservators carried out treatment of 280 artworks from private and public collections, as well as 88 works in the Gallery's own collection
- Auckland Art Gallery hosts 8000 school students every year
- There are free Gallery tours at 11.30am and 1.30pm daily
- The Gallery café delivers more than 800 coffees each week
- The Gallery shop sold 10,000 postcards from the collection over the past year
- Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki is led by Director, Rhana Devenport, who joined in July 2013.

### BUILDING

- The original Auckland Art Gallery building was designed by Melbourne architects John H. Grainger and Charles A. D'Ebro in 'French Château style', and initially housed Auckland City's Free Public Library and Municipal Offices
- The area of the building devoted to the Gallery opened a year later on 17 February 1888, and by 1988 had taken over the entire building
- The Gallery underwent a \$121 million renovation between September 2008 and September 2011
- Since re-opening in 2011, the Gallery has received 18 architectural and four design related awards, including the 2013 World Building of the Year at the World Architecture Festival, 2013, New Zealand Architecture Awards in the Heritage and Public Architecture categories, and the Project Achievement Award for Museum or Gallery Development.
- The Gallery has an education classroom, creative learning centre, auditorium, research library, shop and café
- The Gallery's 'Mackelvie Gallery' is one of the few surviving picture galleries of its kind in New Zealand. A top-lit 'lantern' gallery, the ceiling lantern admits a diffused natural light.

### COMMISSIONS

Three permanent Māori commissions celebrate the reopening of the Gallery and were blessed on 1 September, 2011:

- *He Aha Te Wa – Moments in Time* by Arnold and Anthony Wilson
- *Te Waka Toi o Tāmaki* by Fred Graham
- *Honoa Ki Te Hono Tawhiti – Connections to an Ancient Past* by Lonnie Hutchinson

There are also three temporary commission spaces: The North Atrium, East Sculpture Terrace and Edmiston North Sculpture Terrace.

### GALLERY HOURS

- Open daily 10am – 5pm, except Christmas Day