



**Sarjeant Gallery**  
**Te Whare o Rehua**  
Whanganui

# Press Release

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## **New Arts Review dates, a survey show and the 2022 Pattillo Project**

Curators at the Sarjeant Gallery have had to undertake the tricky job of rearranging the gallery's complex schedule of exhibitions which had been planned two years in advance. "The Covid-19 lockdowns and restrictions mean we have had to reschedule exhibitions several times. It is like fitting together a huge game of tetris making sure there are exhibitions in the right place at the right time and that artists and their artworks can get to Whanganui" said Curator and Public Programmes Manager Greg Donson. The current exhibition of new works by the 2019 Tylee Cottage resident Jae Hoon Lee called *Bridge of Now and Here*, and the touring exhibition *He Tangata: The People* by Star Gossage were originally scheduled for exhibition months ago – but Gossage's show was locked down at the Pah Homestead in Auckland and Lee was unable to travel from Auckland for the installation of his show. Both exhibitions are now on show at Sarjeant on the Quay until late January.

As a result of the changes, the 2022 Pattillo Whanganui Arts Review has been delayed and will open on 12 November 2022 and close in February 2023, which is 8 months later than the Arts Review's usual opening date. "We thought we might have to miss a year of the Arts Review but people love it, and we love it." Now in its 33<sup>rd</sup> year, the Whanganui Arts Review is the only annual, open-call community art exhibition in New Zealand. "People will be used to it being at the beginning of each year and coinciding with Artists Open Studios. We hope that Whanganui's makers and creatives enjoy having more time to work on their individual Arts Review entries"

The winner of the 2021 Arts Review, Andrea Gardner is working on her Pattillo Project exhibition which opens in February. Gardner is excited to be working with the Sarjeant team on the show "I tend to make a lot of artwork so it can be challenging to narrow it all down and choose which works to exhibit. The Sarjeant's Curator Greg Donson has been hugely helpful in the process of selecting works." Asked for a hint as to what her exhibition will look like Gardner says "I am continuing my exploration of staged photography using intense colour and the female form in various imaginative scenarios. Hopefully they will be quirky and a bit enigmatic"

Early next year the Sarjeant will hold a survey show of Whanganui Arts Review winners. The show will be called *Whanganui Arts in Review: A Survey of Past Award Winners 2011-2021*.

Assistant curator Jessica Kidd says "Being placed in Covid Alert Level 4 in August this year had a significant knock-on effect to the Gallery's programming. One of the major changes to the schedule involved having to move the annual Whanganui Arts Review exhibition to later in the year. As we still want to showcase the breadth of talent we have in the region during our autumn season, we have decided to programme a survey show to run during this time, which will feature works from Open, Excellence and Highly Commended award winning artists from the last 10 years. The exhibition will occupy half of the main gallery space at Sarjeant on the Quay, and the entire object gallery upstairs at the i-SITE, 31 Taupō Quay."

The Gallery anticipates that the show will highlight the current practice of around 30 Whanganui-based artists and will include works in a range of media. "This will be a fantastic opportunity to experience the strength and depth of Whanganui's artistic output. We have a great line up of local artists in this exhibition," says Kidd. "It's a really exciting project."



Picture captions: Andrea Gardner in her studio

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Sarjeant Gallery is a cultural facility of the Whanganui District Council