



WSA Bulletin - 04 March 2026

Congratulations to the winners of the NZ Painting & Printmaking Awards | NZPPA 2026.

A full house gathered to celebrate the NZPPA 2026 Awards, with a wonderful turnout of sponsors, WSA members, exhibiting artists, and guests. The atmosphere reflected the significance of these awards within Aotearoa's contemporary art community.

On Sunday, both judges and artists presented an engaging and well-attended floor talk, sharing insights into their selected works. They spoke about several of their favourites, the thinking behind their decisions, and what distinguished the Merit and First Place award winners.

Award Winners

We are delighted to announce the NZPPA 2026 award recipients:

- **Roya Feyz** – *Nika - Silent Voices*
Merit Prize for Painting
- **Ben Reid** – *Absolute Lunacy*
Ruth Davey Merit in Print
- **Brett A'Court** – *Kahu-Manu Aute*
Main Paint Prize
- **Graham Hall** – *14th Station of the Cross*
Main Print Prize

Congratulations to all finalists — selection alone is a significant achievement, and your dedication and creative excellence are evident in this year's exhibition.

We extend our sincere thanks to **Sam Cunnane** from Wintec Media Arts who was our champion MC for the evening, **Megan Lyons** for curating the exhibition, and to our judges, **Gabrielle Belz** and **James Ormsby**, for their thoughtful and insightful contributions.



Our Valued NZPPA Sponsors

We gratefully acknowledge the generous support of our sponsors. As we all know, without their backing these awards would not hold their important place as a national event.

- Caiger Charitable Trust
- Vision Complete Earthworks
- Print Council Aotearoa New Zealand
- CFO
- Gordon Harris

NZPPA Artist Talks

Several NZPPA finalists will be speaking about their work and creative processes. All talks are held at Artspost.

Tuesday 10 March, 12.00pm

Jennie de Groot, Marie Brunskill, Eleanor Underhill, Roya Feyz (Merit in Paint award winner)

Friday 13 March, 5.30pm

Megan Lyons — NZPPA 2026 Curator Presentation (WSA Members' Night)

Saturday 14 March, 1.00pm

Cathryn Ryan, Helen Casey-MacDuff, John Lancashire

The exhibition runs until **14 March 2026**. We warmly encourage you to visit and experience this exceptional collection of work by the 2026 NZPPA finalists.

While you are at Artspost please **vote** for the Gordon Harris Art Supplies People's Choice Award. The winner receives a \$1000 voucher for art supplies. This will be drawn 14 March.

Exciting news! NZPPA2026 on the road for the first time in it's 26 year history.

We are continuing the NZPPA 2026 exhibition from 28 March - 24 April at KHR gallery at Villa Tuscany, 173 Okauia Spring Road, Matamata, managed by the WSA.

If you would like to volunteer to sit at the new gallery then please contact Julie@wsa.org.nz by 10 March.

Together let's make this opportunity a success and create a wider creative community network to enrich people's lives.

Hours of operation are Thursday - Sunday 11am-3pm.

Through this new opportunity we will be hosting exhibitions, workshops, discussions and creative opportunities for the community.

Feature Artists - exhibiting now at Artspost

- **Joanne Mahoney:** Joanne Mahoney combines watercolour, acrylic, oil and cold wax medium, along with layers of collage and printmaking techniques. Her exhibition showcases work, reflecting both cultural influence and connection to place - inspired by her time spent in Asia and in our NZ's Coromandel coast.
- **Geoff McGowan:** early retirement saw Geoff taking up printmaking classes at WSA. The works in this exhibition are a selection of the prints made since then, including 5 works selected for previous NZ Painting & Printmaking Awards.

Congratulations to Graham & Marie-Therese Borland who won the set of 5 print cards by Geoff McGowan.

WSA Members - join us on a tour of the new BNZ Theatre along with WSA Patron Nancy Caiger.

This tour is limited to 25 people so this will be a first in basis.

Contact wsa@wsa.org.nz if you would like to be part of this tour at 10am, 25 March, 2026.

Meeting at 1 Sapper Moore Place no later than 9.55am.

\$5 koha for the Theatre tour to be paid beforehand to secure your place.

WSA Monthly Members' Night

Our next Member's night is **Friday, 13 March at 5.30pm** with guest speaker Megan Lyons who will be talking about the NZ Painting and Printmaking Awards which will be on in the Chartwell, Ida Carey and Margot Philips galleries. Make sure to come along with a friend who hasn't visited our space before and enjoy refreshments and nibbles as a thank you for your WSA membership.

If you know a business that would like to sponsor one of the evenings, or WSA activities then please email: julie@wsa.org.nz

Annual WSA members exhibition dates: 26 September - 26 October 2026

Limit 2 entries per member. Entry fee \$20 or \$30 for 2 entries.

Exhibition & Gallery Space: 2027 & 2028

All galleries are booked through 2026 and our **2027 exhibition spaces are filling up fast.**

We have limited bookings available for the WSA and Ruth Davey galleries. If you or someone you know would like to enquire about a gallery booking - please email: wsa@wsa.org.nz .

We also hire for events big or small, flexible days and times. We have many options so please email wsa@wsa.org.nz if you would like to know more.

Artspost HOURS

Mondays - Fridays: 9.00am - 5.00pm

Saturdays: 9.00am - 3.00pm

Sundays: CLOSED most Sundays;

Open 11.00am - 2.00pm on a Sunday following an exhibition opening.

Public Holidays: CLOSED - Easter weekend we are closed

[Sponsorship & donations](#)

90 years of championing arts and artists in the Waikato.

To support the WSA we are always needing sponsorship and donations. For many years we have supported artists of all ages, giving the community a place to enjoy art through exhibitions, art classes, workshops, mentorship, youth art, awards and connection. We rely on funding, grants and the generosity of our community who recognise that WSA and Artspost would not be here without the artists and our work. visit wsa.org.nz if you would like to learn more or to donate.

Make 2026 the year you create your life's masterpiece

We all have "write a will" sitting quietly on our to-do list... often for years.

What if 2026 was the year you finally crossed it off?

At Waikato Society of Arts, we like to think of your will as a masterpiece and something that truly reflects you, your values, your memories, and what matters most.

That's why we're offering our "Your Complete Life and Legacy Guide" available for a koha donation to WSA.

This beautifully considered guide helps you:

- Capture important information for your family and loved ones
 - Record memories, wishes and instructions
- Make things clearer and easier for those you care about
 - Feel confident knowing your affairs are in order

It's not just about legal details, it's about peace of mind, care, and leaving a thoughtful legacy. Using the guide helps you work out what is important to you and makes it easier to then reflect that in your will.

To request your copy of the Your Complete Life and Legacy Guide, email us at

✉ wsa@wsa.org.nz

Make life easier for yourself and for those you love.

ARTSPOST Exhibitions, Events & Promotions

On at Artspost until 16 March 2026



Old Stamping Grounds

Geoff McGowan

February 19 -
March 16

artspost



Joanne Mahoney

Created Collected Cut Torn = Collage
18 February - 14 March 2026

OTHER Exhibitions, Events & Promotions

12th Hibiscus & Bays Art Awards

Hibiscus & Bays Local Board



Call for Entries!



Scan to Enter!

Mairangi Arts Centre is accepting entries for this prestigious juried exhibition. This annual awards exhibition, sponsored by Hibiscus & Bays Local Board, celebrates artistic and creative practices in New Zealand. Exhibitors will be chosen by a selection panel to have their work on display in the 12th Hibiscus & Bays Arts Awards exhibition.

PRIZES INCLUDE:

- \$1000 (x3 Cash Prizes) *
- \$500 Maori Prize *
- 21 & Under Artists Award & more
- * Includes exhibition opportunity

ENTRY DEADLINE:

- 27th April 2026
- EXHIBITION DATES:
23 May – 13 June 2026
- OPEN CEREMONY:
Sat 23rd May, 12PM

Mairangi Arts Centre, 20 Hastings Rd, Mairangi Bay, Auckland

09 478 2237

www.mairangiarts.co.nz



Mercury Bay Art Escape 2026

VISIT OVER 50 ARTISTS FROM PAUANUI TO WHANGAPOUA.

7th - 9th March 10.00am – 4.00pm

14th -16th March 10.00am – 4.00pm

Several of WSA's artists are exhibiting in this 20th anniversary, double weekend of open studios. Dick Frizzell is the keynote speaker at the Gala Opening, Friday 6th March 2026, at Hot Waves Cafe.

For more information - click on the website link:

[Mercury Bay Art Escape | Coromandel](#)



WSA Membership benefits include discounts from two of our local cafes:
10% discount on food and coffee when you show your WSA membership card



WSA Sponsors - with thanks!



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