threads of life

catalogue:
1.8.19 – 20.9.19
threads of life

An excellent review of our first exhibition in the new gallery appearing in the Waikato Times on 14th May 2019 (and featured on our website) stated, "...the gallery has quality and originality in its works and that augurs well for future exhibitions". - Sam Edwards.

This future begins with a new exhibition launched by the Welcome Swallow Gallery. It runs from 9th August to 20th September. In keeping with these sentiments we have continued our desire to provide eclectic experiences for our audiences. As the title of the exhibition suggests we are adding textiles, texture, tapestries and quilts to our more traditional fare of wall-hung art. The artists for this exhibition are, Louise Cook, Rainy Du, Marilyn Rea-Menzies, Anita Seddon and Joan Woodham.

threads of life demonstrates to us that the spinning of (a) yarn to make thread is in fact the basis of all storytelling and that through this rich medium, artists convey their insights and commentaries about the world around us. Accordingly, we have fashioned a superb ‘woven space’ that includes inter alia hand and machine pieced quilts, embellished embroidery, weaving and tapestries.

Adding to this, the art of Rainy Du, presents us with doorways, keyholes and ‘zippers’ that act as invitations to view the fabric of life. The continuous thread or story that emerges integrates seamlessly across familiar art pieces that tell a story of life that the observer can self-sew and curate.

It is also apposite that the texture and warmth of many of the art pieces mitigates against some of the colder days that the New Zealand winter is capable of providing.

In this way, the pieces on display in the gallery are not only fine works of art they may also be fit for purpose in terms of warding off the winter chills.

Although all our trustees who sit on the Board of the Achieving Change for Children Charitable Trust are true art lovers, we are also dedicated to alleviating the suffering of children who face incredible hardship. We love to exhibit art but we are even more thrilled to sell it.

As you browse this accompanying catalogue to the threads of life exhibition, we encourage you to enjoy these pieces in the comfort of your own surroundings. Both the artists and the cause are well worthy of your investment.

ACCCT Board, August 2019
EXHIBITION ARTISTS

Marilyn Rea-Menzies
Joan Woodham
Anita Seddon
Louise Cook
Rainy Du
1. Marilyn Rea-Menzies
   Dawn Song – Bellbird
   Acrylic on canvas
   450x450mm
   Price: $1,100

2. Marilyn Rea-Menzies
   Kereru on Nikau
   Acrylic on canvas
   450x450mm
   Price: $450

3. Marilyn Rea-Menzies
   Enigma
   Handwoven Tapestry
   310x240mm
   Price: $1,950

4. Marilyn Rea-Menzies
   Doll
   Handwoven Tapestry
   300x280mm
   POR
5. **Anita Seddon**  
Poaka – Pied Stilts  
Recycled Material  
550x700mm  
Price: $450

6. **Anita Seddon**  
Black oystercatchers feeding in sunset at Ngarunui  
Recycled Material  
1250x650mm  
Price: $460

7. **Anita Seddon**  
Karioi and Oii  
Recycled Material  
1400x550mm  
Price: $590

8. **Anita Seddon**  
Resting black oystercatcher  
Recycled Material  
660x550mm  
Price: $430
Anita Seddon
Maui dolphin and oii outside Mt. Karioi
Recycled Material
900x700mm
Price: $560

Anita Seddon
Black Stilt Landing
Recycled Material
400x630mm
Price: $390

Anita Seddon
Godwits flying over Whaingaroa harbour
Recycled Material
670x900mm
Price: $480

Anita Seddon
Tui in Flax
Recycled Material
460x1000mm
Price: $450
13. **Marilyn Rea-Menzies**
Forest Floor Roundel 1
Charcoal & Watercolour
200mm diameter
Price: $350

14. **Marilyn Rea-Menzies**
Forest Floor Roundel 2
Charcoal & Watercolour
200mm diameter
Price: $350

15. **Marilyn Rea-Menzies**
Forest Floor Roundel 3
Charcoal & Watercolour
200mm diameter
Price: $350

16. **Marilyn Rea-Menzies**
Kowhai
Handwoven Tapestry
260 x 260mm
Price: $1,800
Marilyn Rea-Menzies
Where are the birds 1,
Charcoal & Watercolour
300x300mm
Price: $950

Marilyn Rea-Menzies
Where are the birds 2
Charcoal & Watercolour
300x300mm
Price: $950

Marilyn Rea-Menzies
Where are the birds 5,
Charcoal & Watercolour
300x300mm
Price: $950

Marilyn Rea-Menzies
Where are the birds 6, Charcoal
& Watercolour 300x300mm
Price: $950
21. Marilyn Rea-Menzies
Extinction is forever - Kokako
Handwoven Tapestry
1570mm x variable
Price: POR

Marilyn Rea-Menzies
Homage to Jasper Johns
Conte & Charcoal
1070x780mm
Price: 2,500

23. Marilyn Rea-Menzies
She Holds the World
Handwoven Tapestry
1720x84mm
Price: POR

24. Marilyn Rea-Menzies
Kereru
Acrylic on Canvas
200x200mm
$450
Marilyn Rea-Menzies
Kokako
Acrylic on Canvas
200x200mm
Price: $450

Marilyn Rea-Menzies
Quail
Acrylic on Canvas
200x200mm
Price: $450

Marilyn Rea-Menzies
Scaup
Acrylic on Canvas
200x200mm
Price: $450

Marilyn Rea-Menzies
Shag
Acrylic on Canvas
200x200mm
Price: $450
29. **Marilyn Rea-Menzies**  
*Fernbird*  
Acrylic on Canvas  
200x200mm  
Price: $450

30. **Marilyn Rea-Menzies**  
*Manuka*  
Handwoven Tapestry  
902x690mm  
Price: POR

31. **Marilyn Rea-Menzies**  
*Nature’s Way*  
Acrylic on canvas  
1480x1480mm  
Price: $3,500

32. **Marilyn Rea-Menzies**  
*Brown Creeper*  
Handwoven Tapestry  
902x690mm  
Price: POR
33. Rainy Du
   Beetle, dragonfly, red circles and keyhole
   Pencil and ink A3
   Price: $600

34. Rainy Du
   The stamp is a doorway
   Print A4
   Price: $200

35. Rainy Du
   Wintersweet (plum blossom)
   Ink A4
   Price: $200
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Artwork</th>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>37.</td>
<td>Square, round and triangle</td>
<td>Rainy Du</td>
<td>Ink A4</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td>A4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38.</td>
<td>Dancing lights on the wall</td>
<td>Rainy Du</td>
<td>Pencil A4</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>A4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39.</td>
<td>Accident</td>
<td>Rainy Du</td>
<td>Print and rain on Chinese traditional paper A3</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>A3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40.</td>
<td>Zipper or door</td>
<td>Rainy Du</td>
<td>Print A3</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>A3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
41. **Rainy Du**  
Poet, swallows and stones  
Ink A3  
Price: $490

42. **Rainy Du**  
Door bone  
Print A3  
Price: $300

43. **Rainy Du**  
Corner of Aotea Square  
Pencil  
A5  
Price: $300

44. **Rainy Du**  
Backpack, cat, cap  
Pencil  
540x140mm  
Price: $600
Joan Woodham

After The Quake
Machine pieced, applique and quilted, 67x75cms
Price: $590

Joan Woodham

Autumn Winds
Machine pieced and quilted, hand applique 86x86cms
Price: $275

Joan Woodham

Blue Moon
Machine pieced, hand quilted 86x86cms
Price: $350

Joan Woodham

Bohemian Rhapsody
Quilt: velvets, satins, brocades, machine pieced and quilted 80x80cms
Price $590
49. Joan Woodham
Cityscape
Machine pieced and quilted
42x46cms
Price: $100

50. Joan Woodham
Double Happiness
Machine pieced and quilted with hand embroidery 52x84cms
Price: $350

51. Joan Woodham
Enigma
Machine pieced, quilted with hand embroidery and beading 30x30cms
Price: $490

52. Joan Woodham
Waitemata Sunset
Machine applique and quilting with hand beading
42x78cms
Price: $550
53. Joan Woodham
Glasgow Rose
Machine applique and quilted
52x74cms
Price $300

55. Joan Woodham
Ichiban
Machine and hand pieced with hand quilting and applique
65x75cms
Price: $300

54. Joan Woodham
Greenstone Creek
Machine pieced and quilted, hand embroidered, embellished
37x38cms
Price: $275

56. Joan Woodham
Bohemian Rhapsody 2
Quilt: velvets, satins, brocades, machine pieced and quilted
185x240cms
Price: $3,500
Joan Woodham
Jewelled Star
Machine stitched and quilted
embellished with beads and
sequins 50x60cms
Price: $180

Joan Woodham
Simply Red
Curve piecing, machine pieced
and quilted 39x39cms
Price: $75

Joan Woodham
Paisley Abbey
Machine applique and quilted
with hand stitching and fabric
paint 52x52cms
Price: $590

Louise Cook
Don’t Tassel Me (Hat)
See overleaf for details...
The artist presents a dress design in which both the hat and the dress compliment each other. The dress sleeve was designed to copy the hat shape while making use of innovative millenary skills.

This 3-piece ensemble is 100% merino. It is hand spun, the artist hand wove, designed and sewed the garments. It is mainly natural colour merino however the purple colour was obtained by hand dyeing using black skinned grapes.
Louise Cook, Saori freestyle hand weaving fibre artist. Threads of Life

Each of us has the responsibility to live our lives in the best way possible therefore, we need to establish a healthy life balance. Yes, for most of us, work is necessary and is possibly repetitive and stressful however, we must give ourselves time off to relax and recharge.

I have found the Japanese Saori freestyle weaving method to be very calming and beneficial to a weaver’s emotional, mental and physical state.

Saori freestyle weaving is a style of fibre art whereby each weaver makes cloth from their heart.

I look upon the warp threads as my life’s journey and the weft threads as the happenings that occur from day to day, year to year. When I weave, I am not consciously following another person’s pattern rather, I am making decisions about colour and texture as I work.

I rarely weave with an end purpose in mind but enjoy the journey of freely making beautiful cloth working totally “in the moment”.

Saori freestyle hand weaving is therapeutic, easy to learn, calming, and the weaver is in control of creating their own piece of cloth.

The only limit to the outcome is the weaver’s imagination. No counting, no matching, no rules, no mistakes!

The Saori cloth you have woven is unique and is your own “Thread of Life”.

Louise Cook 2018 Osaka, Japan Saori weaving studio
I am Rainy Du, an artist and graphic designer, now working and living in Hamilton.

My Chinese name is Yuchen Du. Yu (雨) means rainy, Chen (晨) means morning, which indicates I was born on a rainy morning (this is why I’m known as Rainy). So, I have a poetic existence. Here my life starts.

I’ve been trained how to draw very strictly since I was 9 years old. I spent a great amount of time on drawing. The whole process of observing and drawing has given me special and acute vision, which means I can find beauty differently and easily. At the same time, sensitivity and sentiment have also been integrated into my personality. I consider this as my destiny.

My major at the University of Waikato is graphic design, which means when I create work, I think in two ways, a graphic design way and a fine art way. These two perspectives do not conflict with each other. Instead they actually complement each other. Sometimes, the boundary between fine art and graphic design blurs. I think of art as a combination of beauty and communication.

Now I have been living in New Zealand for six years. My works are like threads of my life recording the changes that happened through time.
Throughout my working life as an artist I have often been inspired by nature. I was brought up on a dairy farm on the West Coast of the South Island of New Zealand and nature was very much an integral part of my life as a child. The first two years of my life were spent in the middle of the bush on the other side of the Buller River near Inangahua in the Buller Gorge. My dad was a bushman and we lived in a log cabin in a logging camp. Though I have no actual memories of this time in my life I am sure it has had a huge impact on how I view the natural environment around me.

I have always taken many, many photographs of plants, native New Zealand flora and fauna wherever I have lived or travelled and these images often form the starting point for my tapestries and paintings. I have a great love of our bird life and this was encouraged by my Nana who owned a copy of *Buller’s Birds of New Zealand*. I spent many happy hours pouring over this book throughout my childhood. I enjoy feeding the birds each winter encouraging them into my garden and love watching their antics through my window and photographing them as inspiration for my work.

I am also fascinated by the small things of nature – the things that we do not see and often do not wish to see. Also, in finding beauty in what is normally perceived to be not beautiful or even ugly.

New Zealand native flowers are often very tiny, insignificant and barely noticeable. I enjoy taking them out of scale, enlarging them to try and capture their intricacies and beauty.
Anita Seddon

Born and raised in Sweden of Lapp decent, I met a kiwi while travelling in India. Love blossomed and New Zealand has been my home for over 30 years. My husband and I roamed the country, working here and there, living in campers, caravans and sailboats. We moved to Raglan 23 years ago and now with our son growing up here I can't see us moving anytime soon. I love the area and try to reflect that in my work, the harbour, coast, native birds and the bush.
The first quilt that I ever made combined velvets, satin (my graduation dress) and cotton prints, and was completely machine pieced and quilted. In those days (almost 50 years ago) the use of these unconventional fabrics and machine piecing and quilting tended to be frowned upon by traditional quilters. How times have changed!

With a National Certificate in Adult Education and Training, I have spent many years teaching Patchwork, Quilting and Sewing throughout the Hauraki/Thames Valley region, and in more recent years at Hillcrest High School in Hamilton. These classes included traditional and modern methods. All this was in addition to my day job!

A number of years as a member of the Auckland Quilters Guild provided endless inspiration as well as access to international tutors, and several of her works have won awards.

She continues to utilise unconventional fabrics, concentrating on unusual colour combinations and often adding hand embroidery and beading. Her children and grandchildren have all benefitted over the years, starting with baby quilts and progressing to larger ones which often used more conventional methods and fabrics combined with hand embroidery. 

Joan is very pleased to take part in this exhibition and gives credit and thanks to her husband Peter and neighbour Jilly for encouraging her to display her work.
EXHIBITION LIST

2. John Wakeling, **Art in Nature: a photographic Exhibition**, 8 Feb – 1 June 2014
3. Marion Manson, and Fenella Fern, **The Art of Craft**, 30 Oct – 1 Dec 2014
4. Marilyn Rea-Menzies and Belinda Saunders, **Fantasies in Fibre and Clay**, 4 Dec – 2 Feb 2014/15
5. Kate Wilson, **Project Darkside**, 22 May – 31 August 2015
8. Kate Wilson **Mind Stretch**, 1 March -31 May 2017
10. Denise White, **Odyssey**, 11 August – 30 Sept 2017
12. Robyn Ninnes, **A Point of Difference**, 19 Jan – 3 March 2018
13. Toni Kingstone, **Peaceful by Nature**, 9 March - 30 April 2018
14. Maggie Sullivan, **Small works: Musings and Meditations**, 4 May - 18 June 2018
15. Catherine Smith, **Flowers and more – A celebration of the Natural World**, 10 August – 10 Sept 2018
17. Yasmin Davis and Jenni Taris and Robyn Ninnes, **Spring Collection** 1 Nov – 31Jan 2018/19
19. Various Artists, **Celebration** 1 May – 1 August 2019
20. Various Artists, **Threads of Life**, 9th August – 20th September 2019

Please visit our website at: [http://www.wsgalleryandgifts.com](http://www.wsgalleryandgifts.com)
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celebration exhibition opening 1 May 2019