

Te Waka Toi Awards 2014

Recipient bio information

Supreme award – *Te Tohu Aroha mō Te Arikinui Dame Te Atairangikaahu*

In recognition of exemplary contribution to the development of ngā toi Māori



Sandy Adsett, MNZM, MMVA

(Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāti Pahauwera)

Renowned Māori visual artist **Sandy Adsett** is a painter with experience in carving, weaving, costume and stage design. His influence and artwork can be seen in many community buildings from meeting houses, churches, art museums, government and corporate venues as well as private collections.

Wairoa-born Mr Adsett attended Te Aute Boys College in Hawke's Bay and received his formal art training at Ardmore and Dunedin teachers colleges.

He became an arts specialist for the Department of Education's Advisory Service in the 1960s, helping introduce the new "Māori Arts in Schools" programme. In 1993, he was appointed principal tutor at Tairāwhiti Polytechnic in Gisborne, formatting a *wananga* arts direction for Toihoukura School of Māori Visual Arts. In 2002 he set up the Toimairangi School of Māori Visual Culture within Te Wananga o Aotearoa, in Hastings.

He is a member of Te Atinga (Committee of Contemporary Māori Visual Arts) of Toi Māori Aotearoa and is a past member of the former Te Waka Toi board of Creative New Zealand.

One of Mr Adsett's central convictions is that Māori artists must work first and foremost for their own people. This belief is expressed in his contemporary work, which although often makes use of Western style and techniques, draws on customary Māori motifs, themes and forms. In particular, he is continually inspired by the visual intricacies of Kowhaiwhai design painted on meeting-house rafters, and their ability to conceptually portray culture and the environment of the tribe.

In 2005, Mr Adsett received the Order of New Zealand for Service to Art, and Te Wananga o Aotearoa cited him as adjunct professor for his contribution to art education and the Māori community.

He got his Master of Māori Visual Arts, First Class Honours, from Massey University in 2006.

Mr Adsett continues to exhibit nationally and extensively throughout the Pacific, Australia, Asia, Africa, Europe, Canada and the United States of America.

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Making a difference to the arts – *Te Tohu Toi Kē*

In recognition of leadership and for making a significant difference in the direction of Māori art



Professor Derek Lardelli, ONZM

Visual arts, tā moko, oral arts, Māori performing arts
(Ngāti Porou, Rongowhakaata)

Gisborne's **Derek Lardelli** is a tā moko artist, painter, carver, kapa haka performer, composer, graphic designer, researcher of whakapapa and oral histories, and kaikōrero.

The focus of his work is first and foremost is his connection to home, to Tairāwhiti, the Marae and his role as an arts educator and mentor at *Toihoukura: School of Māori Visual Arts*, EIT Tairāwhiti Campus, Gisborne.

Professor Lardelli received an NZ Arts Foundation Laureate award in 2004, was the inaugural Gallipoli artist-in-residence in 2006, and was awarded the honour of Officer of the NZ Order of Merit in 2008.

Professor Lardelli is regarded as one of Aotearoa's finest tā moko artists and has been prominent in explaining the revival of the art and its spiritual significance to audiences throughout Aotearoa and the Pacific. As chairperson for Te Uhi a Mataora Tā Moko Arts collective, he has been heavily involved in the retention and development of the rituals, karakia and oral histories associated with Tā Moko.

As a designer, he has researched and directed major art components for high profile events such as the Olympic Team to Athens and the Commonwealth Games in both Melbourne and Beijing.

Professor Lardelli designed the fern motif for the uniform for New Zealand's Commonwealth Games team and created background images to feature behind the original Air New Zealand koru logo. He was named the first recipient of a new artist-in-residence programme based near the Gallipoli peninsula.

As a sculptor, he has completed major projects such as the Maui Whakairo for Hikurangi as part of the Ngāti Porou millennium.

Professor Lardelli is a researcher and composer of many waiata, haka and mōteatea that capture the oral histories of Te Tairāwhiti. Since 1995 he has been a performer and leader of Whāngārā mai Tawhiti Kapa Haka. He is also a cultural advisor to the All Blacks and composed their Haka, Kapa O Pango, performed at the Rugby World Cup in 2011.

Professor Lardelli is chairperson of Te Uhi, a Tā Moko Arts Collective, and is also a trustee of Toi Māori Aotearoa.

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Strengthening the Māori language – Te Tohu Aroha mō Ngoingoi Kumeroa Pewhairangi: “Whakarongo, Titiro, Kōrero”

In honour of the late Ngoingoi Kumeroa Pewhairangi, this award recognises leadership and outstanding contribution to the promotion and strengthening of Te Reo Rangatira



Dr Apirana Tuahae Kaukapakapa Mahuika

(Ngāti Porou)

Born and raised in Whakawhitira, Gisborne, **Dr Apirana Manuika’s** passion for the promotion and protection of Ngāti Porou Taonga and Te Reo ake o Ngāti Porou is unrelenting; he is committed to the self-determination of Ngāti Porou whānau/hapu and to education and the pursuit of excellence.

Dr Mahuika attended Te Aute College and Auckland University, graduating with a BA. He was awarded the Elizabeth II postgraduate scholarship and went to Sydney University to gain his MA. He majored in anthropology, sociology and education with a Diploma in Theology and is an ordained Anglican clergyman.

Dr Mahuika was one of the founding lecturers in Te Reo Māori at Victoria University, along with his whanaunga Dr Te Kapunga Dewes. He then went on to become the founding lecturer in Te Reo Māori at Massey University. He also taught Te Reo Māori at the Correspondence School and Wellington Teachers’ College.

He has supported the delivery of education in Te Reo ake o Ngāti Porou through the writing of stories in Te Reo about Ngāti Porou tīpuna and history. He is often called upon for his skills as a translator.

Dr Mahuika has also been one of the most significant influences on the shape and design of Ngāti Porou’s socio-economic and political development pathway, devoting most of his life to his people. He is the Chair of Te Runanga o Ngāti Porou (now Te Runanganui o Ngāti Porou) – a position he has held since the establishment of the Runanga as a Trust Board on 1 September 1987.

In 1990 he received the Commemorative Medal. In 2005 he received the prestigious Heritage Award from the NZ Historic Places Trust for commitment and devotion to preservation and protection of historic places, and more recently was made an Honourary Life member of the Trust.

In 2004, Dr Mahuika was awarded an Honourary Doctorate by the University of Waikato in recognition of his “longstanding support of this University, for his work in contributing to the development of positive race relations in Aotearoa-New Zealand, and for the leadership he provides to Ngāti Porou specifically, and more broadly to Māoridom.” Dr Mahuika has Chaired Te Roopu Manukura, which represents the 16 iwi involved in developing a University education base for the region and is currently a member of the University Council.

Dr Mahuika has held a large number of board and governance roles, including:

- Member of the Historic Places Trust
- Member of New Zealand Geographic Board
- Member of the Board of the Museum of New Zealand (now Te Papa Tongarewa)
- Chairman of Iwi Leadership Forum - Climate Change
- Council Member of Waikato University
- Member of Te Kawai Taumata (Te Ohu Kaimoana)
- Member of the Commissioner's Maori Focus Forum (NZ Police).

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Lifetimes of service to Māori arts – *Ngā Tohu ā Tā Kingi Ihaka* (5 recipients)

Awarded to kaumātua and kuia in recognition of their contribution to strengthening the continuity of Māori culture through their support of ngā toi Māori



Reverend Rollo John Richard Hovell, MA, JP (Ngāti Porou)

1937 – 2014

Visual artist

The late **Reverend John Hovell** was born in Whitianga and grew up at Harataunga or Kennedy Bay on the Coromandel Peninsula. He attended Kennedy Bay Native School and completed his schooling at Mt. Albert Grammar starting in 1952.

Reverend Hovell established a reputation as a kōwhaiwhai artist under the guidance of tohunga whakairo (carving expert) Pakariki Harrison of Ngāti Porou.

Reverend Hovell obtained his BA from University of Auckland where he studied English Literature, classical languages, ancient history and anthropology.

He returned to Kennedy Bay to live until he left for Hamilton Teacher Training College in 1965 to complete an intensive one-year course. There he met Para Matchitt and painter May Smith.

Reverend Hovell lived in the East Coast from 1967 to 1982. During this time, he was part of the contemporary Māori art movement, exhibiting his paintings alongside Para Matchitt and Sandy Adsett, and taking part in the activities of the Māori Artists and Writers Society and Ngā Puna Waihanga. His large-scale production turned to marae and dining halls where he designed and produced Kowhaiwhai painting and murals for marae projects in Auckland, the Coromandel peninsula and the East Coast.

Extracts from Dr Rangihiroa Panoho's (written) obituary on Reverend Hovell:

- “He [Rev Hovell] was one of a small group of intellectuals and artists at the core of changes being brought to Māori visual and written culture from the 1950s onwards. He was involved with the organising of the inaugural meeting of the Māori Artists and Writers conference at Tukaki Marae, Te Kaha, in 1973 and he exhibited regularly with other major Māori artists.”
- “He was a dignified, quiet, intensely private man with a mischievous sense of humour and a probing sense of commentary. Yet it is in his words and his imagery that Hovell looms grand and larger than life. If anyone has doubts about that they only need look at major work like his ceiling inside the Harataunga meeting house Rakairoa, 1995.”

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Elizabeth Aroha Ellis, CNZM, JP (Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Porou)

Visual artist

Auckland-based **Elizabeth Ellis** is a visual artist with a high profile in Māori arts, the education sector and the community.

Mrs Ellis was a student at University of Auckland's Elam School of Fine Arts, trained as a secondary school teacher and taught at a number of colleges before joining the Department of Education in 1984 and the newly established Education Review Office in 1989.

Mrs Ellis has served New Zealand's arts and cultural sector for many years. She was a member of the Arts Council of Creative New Zealand from for 12 years (1994-2006), Chair of Te Waka Toi (9 years), the New Zealand representative on the Pacific Arts Festival (10 years). She was also a Trustee of the Arts Foundation of New Zealand for 7 years until December 2012.

With the Māori Queen, Dame Te Arikinui Te Ata i Rangikahu, they led Aotearoa New Zealand delegations of 100 plus Māori artists to three Pacific arts festivals in Samoa, New Caledonia and the Republic of Palau from 1996-2006.

Mrs Ellis is a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit CNZM and a Justice of the Peace.

She continues to have an active leadership role in arts and culture of Aotearoa:

- current Chair of Haerewa, the Māori Arts Board of the Auckland Art Gallery, Toi o Tāmaki (since 1994)
- Māori Advisory Panel Chair for Wairau MA the Maori Art Gallery (Hundertwasser Art Centre)
- Chair of Toi Iho Kaitiaki Incorporated (the Māori trademark of authentic Māori-made and high quality art and expressions of culture)
- Member of the Judith Te Tomairangi o Te Aroha Trust (Dame Judith Binney) and a life member of the Auckland War Memorial Museum



Danny (Raniera) Craven Poihipi (Te Whānau-ā-Apanui)

Oral arts, performing arts, kaupapa waka, carver, tā moko

Danny Poihipi is a huge contributor to his iwi and is passionate about Te Reo.

Mr Poihipi is a strong advocate of kapa haka, in particular of local groups Te Whānau-ā-Apanui, Te Whānau-ā-Tūtawake and Opotiki-mai-Tawhiti – two of which are in the top nine kapa haka groups at national level.

He is one of the leaders/keepers of knowledge of tā moko within Te Whānau-ā-Apanui and Te Whakatōhea area.

He also sits on the Whānau-ā-Apanui runanga with a focus on looking after our natural resources (e.g. moana).

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Te Warihi Hetaraka (Ngāti Wai, Ngā Puhī, Tainui)

Visual arts (whakairo)

Tohunga whakairo, teacher and mentor, **Te Warihi Hetaraka** is known in Te Tai Tokerau and beyond as an authority on whakairo/toi Māori.

Chosen by kaumātua as a 15 year old to represent the tribes of Tai Tokerau in the first intake of the trainees of the NZ Māori Arts & Crafts Institute, Mr Hetaraka has worked continuously since graduating – as a carver, teacher and mentor – for the preservation and dissemination of mātauranga Māori.

Although he can be described as a “classicist”, Mr Hetaraka has also been recognised as an inspirational innovator through his works which adorn marae, public buildings and spaces throughout the country and overseas. Examples of his work are the award-winning Waka and Wave sculpture, pou ihi, at the Whangarei Public Library, Te Matau o Pohe Bridge and the planned Hihiaua Culture Centre.

As well as many sculptural works, Mr Hetaraka is responsible for traditional works such as the Māori Affairs select committee room in Parliament, the New Zealand Embassy in Beijing, the waka taua Te Wairoa, whareni Kaka Porowini (Terenga Paraoa Marae) and the most recent opened at Kawa Marae, Great Barrier Island, just last week (22 November 2014).

Recognised as a tohunga whakairo Mr Hetaraka has represented his people and Aotearoa at several international symposia. He was awarded the first Creative Places Award for Outstanding Individual Contribution to the Arts in 2007.

Mr Hetaraka is actively involved with iwi affairs as an authority on tikanga and history of Ngāti Wai, chosen as a lead witness giving evidence to the Waitangi Tribunal, and his role as pou whakahaere /cultural advisor for Te Puni Kōkiri. He is a hapū representative on Te Huinga and Te Karearea, consultative bodies of the Whangarei District Council, is a board member and has been kaumātua of the Whangarei Art Museum since its inception.



Dr Rangimarie Turuki Rose Pere, CBE (Ngāti Kahungunu, Tūhoe)

Elder, healer, leader and educator

Dr. Rangimārie Turuki Pere has been involved in education, community development and language revitalization for the past 40 years.

Rose, as she likes to be called, welcomes people from all over the world into her home to talk about the importance of learning to understand and respect different peoples, cultures, traditions and the environment around us.

Dr Pere is a Tohunga and a teacher of the Kura Huna, the traditional mystery school of the Māori. She is the elder of several major tribes and a Guardian of Earth Mother.

Internationally sought after as a speaker and spiritual authority, Dr Pere has spent her life as an educator of immense stature working in the world of Māori and non-Maori.

She was the Young Māori Woman of the Year in 1972, awarded the New Zealand Commemoration Medal (C.M.) in 1990 and became a Commander of the British Empire receiving her C.B.E. in 1996.

Dr Pere is also a highly respected conservationist. Adopted by the Cherokee nation of the United States, Dr Pere is known as White Eagle Medicine Woman of Peace. In her role as a foremost educationalist, spiritual healer and philanthropist, she is recognised internationally and has interacted with nations throughout the world.

Dr Pere is a member of Ngā Taumata for Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi. Fellow members of this group of esteemed leaders are Tama Huata, Pita Sharples and Piri Sciascia.

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Recognising emerging Māori artists – *Ngā Manu Pīrere*

These awards are offered to young Māori students post-secondary school level. It is for those who are at an early stage of their career in the arts (across artforms and in arts-related areas such as curation, arts writing, conservation), and have a connection with a formal or informal place of learning. Unlike the other Te Waka Toi Award categories, these awards are open to applications. Two awards are offered annually. Note: formerly called Ngā Karahipi a Te Waka Toi (Te Waka Toi Scholarships) from 1999 – 2013.



Chloe Rose Cull (Kāi Tahu)

Art history

Originally from Dunedin, **Chloe Cull** is currently completing a Master's degree in art history at Victoria University, writing a thesis titled *Māori women's art and art history*. Her thesis explores the relationship between Māori women's art of the 1970s and 80s and political activism relating to Māori feminist and sovereignty movements. She presented a paper based on her Master's thesis at the Oculus Postgraduate Conference at the University of Canterbury this September.

Last year Chloe completed her honours degree, majoring in art history, receiving first class honours. Her Honours thesis research focused on Māori women artists and the history of Māori Modernism. Last year she also organised and spoke at a postgraduate symposium titled art/history matters, where she presented a paper titled Global Indigeneity.

Chloe intends to work in Aotearoa in the field of contemporary Māori arts. She hopes to be able to contribute to the development of Māori art histories that consider Māori perspectives (as well as being written from a Māori perspective) particularly those of Māori women.



Te Utanga-ki-Whangaparaoa Tautuhi

(Ngāti Ranginui, Ngai-te-rangi, Ngāti Raukawa, Ngāti Porou)

Visual arts

Te Utanga-ki-Whangaparaoa Tautuhi is in his final year of a four year undergraduate degree – Bachelor of Māori Visual Arts at Te Putahi a Toi (School of Māori Art, Knowledge and Education). Through his work, Te Utanga hopes to inspire Māori people to uphold the tikanga and kawa of the various traditions in ahurea Māori (Māori culture). He is particularly interested in video as it allows him to pair the two visual mediums of video and performance, and it speaks well to the new generation.

Kapa Haka and Kura Kaupapa Māori played influential roles in his upbringing, which he brings into his work. Te Utanga intends to use performing arts as a vehicle to interact with the taiohi, kaumātua and pēpē of today to elevate Māori people and culture.

He hopes to grow the traditions of Te Whare Tapere, Te Whare Maire/Te Whare Tū-taua, and Te Whare Pora, within his own art practice and bring them forward into a context of contemporary art so they can flourish in and not only Aotearoa but also in the world of indigenous art.

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