

Christchurch City Libraries Original Art Works

Canterbury Public Library had a lending collection of reproductions and original New Zealand art works for 37 years. The collection was established by the then City Librarian, R.N. O'Reilly (who went on to become Director of the New Zealand Library School in Wellington and of the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery in New Plymouth). The lending of reproductions started on 1 September 1953 with a collection of 80. In 1955 the City Council approved extension of the picture loan service to include original art works by local artists. The maximum purchase price was to be 19 guineas and because of this limitation the artists were often persuaded to sell their work at reduced prices. The prospect of having one's work on such public display was also an inducement to the artist to sell at a reasonable price. Lack of funds in an inflationary market slowed and later stopped the buying of originals in March 1981. The more valuable of the originals, e.g. those by Rita Angus, Colin McCahon, Bill Sutton and Toss Woollaston, were withdrawn from circulation in the 1970s and 1980s, many being housed at the Robert McDougall Art Gallery (later Christchurch Art Gallery). In October 2001, 115 were formally gifted to them and 45 at other times. Of the remainder, some are hung in the Central Library and the others were in storage. The increasing value of originals meant the Library could no longer purchase them and by the mid 1980s they became too valuable to lend. (Some libraries bought or were given art works at later dates when they were built or as part of building decoration, but they were not part of the lending collection). Times had changed by the 1990s. There was no longer the same demand for a lending collection of art works, and other organisations could supply the market there was.

The original art works:

- #Albrecht, Gretchen, 1943- Drawing. 1967
- *Albrecht, Gretchen, 1943- Garden No. 1.1970
- *Albrecht, Gretchen, 1943- Vase of flowers A14.1970
- Allen, M. B. (Maitland Bruce), 1951- Whispering grass. 1977
- *Angus, Rita, 1908-1970. Cape Kidnappers. [1956?]
- *Angus, Rita, 1908-1970. Early morning, Thorndon. [196-?]
- *Angus, Rita, 1908-1970. Seamen's chapel, St Ives, Cornwall.1959
- #Atkins. Mollie, died 1989. Kotuku : white heron. 1975
- #Atkins, Mollie, died 1989. Tern. 1975
- Austin, Alison. Shotover Hills. 1956
- *Ball, Derek, 1944- Landscape with railway. 1968
- Banbury, Grant, 1957- [Window reflection]. [1979]
- Baraki, Bashir, 1943-1998. Cloud & Port Hills series No. 8. 1975
- Baraki, Bashir, 1943-1998. Port Hills 3. [196-?]
- Barton, G. (Graham), 1932- Airport window seat. 1974
- Barton, G. (Graham), 1932- Behind a barrier. 1967
- #Bathgate, Janet, 1953- Aniseed Valley, Nelson. 1974
- *Baxter, A. E. (Alfred Ernest), 1878-1936. Waterfall and bush, N.Z.
- Benham, M. (Malcolm), 1949- Moonlit field. 1976
- *Bensemman, Leo, 1912-1986. Head.][196-?]
- *Bensemman, Leo, 1912-1986. Rain over Puponga. [197-?]
- *Bett, Ellva, 1918-1991. Sunrise in our valley. 1962

*Binney, Don, 1940- Grackle, Veracruz.1970
*Binney, Don, 1940- Te Henga.1967
#Bishop, Gavin, 1946- Port Hills. 1970
*Black, Buster, pseud., 1932-2007. City by night : horizontal.1962
*Black, June, 1910-2009. Clever device for shelving decisions. 1957.
*Black, June, 1910-2009. Speculation upon the paths of choice. [1958?]
#Bracey, E. N. (Edward Nicholas), 1936-2009. Fragments. 1962
*Bracey, E. N. (Edward Nicholas), 1936-2009. No. 1 Black May. 1963
*Bracey, E. N. (Edward Nicholas), 1936-2009. Waikato winter landscape. [1969?]
Breach, D. R. (Derrick Rodney), 1933-1996. Looking across Quail Island. 1976
Breach, D. R. (Derrick Rodney), 1933-1996. [Trees in autumn]. 1976
*Brooke, André, 1909-1988. Composition. [196-?]
*Brooke, André, 1909-1988. Harbour. No. 2. 1960
*Brown, Gordon H., 1931- First light of dawn. 1963
*Brown, Helen, 1917-1986. Black dory, 1957
*Brown, Helen, 1917-1986. Stormy afternoon .1941
*Brown, Nigel, 1949- Driveway painting No. 10.1974
*Buckland Wright, John, 1897-1954. Three bathers. [1951]
Burton, S. (Sally), 1949- Early morning riverbed. [1977?]
Campbell, Rosemary, 1941- Mainly blue. 1969.
#Carson, Peter, 1938- Lighted hill. 1979
Caselberg, Anna, 1942-2004. Across the harbour. 1976
Chaytor, Susan, 1932-2014. Bush landscape, birds. 1965
*Clairmont, Philip, 1949-1984. Interior of living room.1972
*Clark, Russell, 1905-1966 [bronze fibreglass sculpture]. Head. [196-]
*Clark, Russell, 1905-1966. Head No. 4. [196-?]
*Cleavin, Barry, 1939- Malignant L/S.1968
Coley, John, 1935-2026. Abacus X. [196-?]
#Coley, John, 1935-2026. Morris suite No. 12. 1971
Coley, John, 1935-2026. View of Grafton Gully. 1957
*Cowan, Roy, 1918-2006. Black flowers. 1955
#Cowan, Roy, 1918-2006. Stone angel. 1977
Cowan, Shona, 1940- Still life with teapot. [1963]
Cowie, David, 1948- Birth. 1970
Cumming, W. (William), 1933-2002. Garden. 1976
Cumming, W. (William), 1933-2002. Hammer firebreak. 1969
*Cumming, W. (William), 1933-2002. Marlborough Sounds landforms.1971
*Deans, Austen, 1915-2011. The Rangitata, sunny.1978
#Donald, Maris. Huia. 1967
Duncan, C. H. (Catherine Haughton), 1911-1998. Blues. 1977
*Dutch, Ted, 1928-2008. Helicopter. 1965
Eaton, Michael, 1937-2021 Three blue lines. 1967
Ebel, Michael, 1947- Water series. 1972
Ellis, Eva, born 1920. Sea and shore. 1978
*Ellis, Robert, 1929- City.1965
#Field, Tom (Thomas Andrew), 1938- Acis. 1975
*Field, Tom (Thomas Andrew), 1938- North Canterbury.1963

*Field, Tom (Thomas Andrew), 1938- Saddle Hill.1963
 *Fife, Ivy, 1903-1976. For sale. [1961?]
 *Fife, Ivy, 1903-1976. The long look-out. [1956?]
 *Fife, Ivy, 1903-1976. Porters Pass, West Canterbury.1965
 *Fleming, R. (Rona), 1901-1976. The drawbridge, Heathcote. [195-?]
 Foley, Shane, 1955- Kiss cross. 1977
 Fomison, Tony, 1939-1990. Girl with a fringe. 1962
 *Fomison, Tony, 1939-1990. The inland lake (for in the wilderness shall waters break out). [between 1950 and 1968]
 *Fomison, Tony, 1939-1990. Ko Takurangi tenei = This is Takurangi. [196-?]
 *Fomison, Tony, 1939-1990. The Maori and the Pakeha : diptych. [196-?]
 Fomison, Tony, 1939-1990. [Three ink sketches]. 1961
 *France, Patricia, 1911-1995. The picnic. 1977
 Garrity, Tim, 1931-2020. Painting, Bari VII. 1965
 Geddes, Tony, 1947- Group of trees. 1971
 *Gibb, John, 1831-1909. Lyttelton ballast boats. [1886]
 Gibb, W. Menzies (William Menzies), 1859-1931. The Avon at Bromley. [189-?]
 Gillespie, J. (John), 1936- Wellington Harbour. [about 1957]
 *Gopas, Rudolf, 1913-1983. Boat harbour.1961
 #Gopas, Rudolf, 1913-1983. Boats. 1959
 *Gopas, Rudolf, 1913-1983. Landscape. [1959?]
 *Gopas, Rudolf, 1913-1983. Sleeping woman.1959
 #*Gopas, Rudolf, 1913-1983. That light of the sun.1977
 *Graham, David (David Hubert), 1928-1972. Pegasus Bay. 1961
 *Graham, David (David Hubert), 1928-1972. Pegasus Bay No. 2.1963
 #Gross, Frank, 1908-1963. Drawing No. 1. 1959
 *Gross, Frank, 1908-1963. Drawing No. 2. [195-?]
 Gross, Frank, 1908-1963. Hill house. 1958
 *Gross, Frank, 1908-1963. Tamed river. [1957?]
 Gross, Frank, 1908-1963. Twin spheres. [195-?]
 #Hanly, Patrick, 1932-2004. Girl's head. 1965
 *Hanly, Patrick, 1932-2004. Inside the garden. 4.1968
 *Hanly, Patrick, 1932-2004. New Order 23. Part II.1963
 *Hanly, Patrick, 1932-2004. Showgirl & gentleman.1960
 #Hanna, Grant, 1951- Queues No. 3. 1977
 #Hardy, Joanne, 1952- Postcard 4. 1975
 Helmore, Desmond W., 1940- Float. 1970
 *Henderson, Louise, 1902-1994. The cat. [195-?]
 *Henderson, Louise, 1902-1994. Memory.1970
 *Henderson, Louise, 1902-1994. Still life form.1958
 *Henderson, Louise, 1902-1994. Woman on sofa. [1955?]
 Henning, Vena, 1927- Columns. 1977
 Henning, Vena, 1927- Side chapel. 1977
 #Herber, Nicolas, 1926- [Family group]. 1961
 *Hope, E. G. (Esther G.), 1885-1975. Wintertime, Mt Sefton. [195-?]
 #Hope, Gabrielle, 1916-1962. Lake landscape. 1960?
 *Hope, Gabrielle, 1916-1962. Quarry hill. 1957

*Horsley, Jean, 1913-1997. Yachts. [195-]
 *Hos, Kees, 1916-2015. Wajang. 1963
 Hunt, D. (Doris), 1899-1981. Flowers. 1974
 Hunt, D. (Doris), 1899-1981. Governors Bay. [1974?]
 Hunt, D. (Doris), 1899-1981. Towards Arthur's Pass. 1978
 Hunter, Elsa. The dune land. [1958?]
 *Hutchison, Philippa, 1945- Microcosm. 1975
 #Jones, William, 1923-1988. Native shrub. 1955
 #Jones, William, 1923-1988. Tree study. 1957
 #Joyes, Jean. Delegates. 1974
 Kane, Gregory J., 1921-1974. Rata, West Coast. 1968
 Kenny, Janet, 1936- Drawing. 1959
 *Kenny, Nelson, 1933- Black and white. 1963
 #Killeen, Richard, 1946- Manukau Harbour, Big Bay. 1967
 Lasenby, Alwyn, 1930- Cold sea. 1960
 #Lee, Kathy, 1952- [Bird of prey]. 1979?
 Lewis, L. (Lily), 1921-2009. Exuberant roses. 1979
 Lewis, L. (Lily), 1921-2009. Mt Torlesse. 1978
 Lewis, Louise, 1927-2011. Notes for painting. [1970]
 Lister, Graeme, 1950- [Wood composition]. 1977
 #Lloyd, Trevor, 1863-1937. In the silent bush. 1963
 *Lovell-Smith, Rata, 1894-1969. Bolands. [196-?]
 *Lovell-Smith, Rata, 1894-1969. Endeavour River, North Queensland. [196-?]
 *Lusk, Doris, 1916-1990. Egmont from south-west Taranaki. [195-?]
 *Lusk, Doris, 1916-1990. Hills from Springfield. 1961
 *Lusk, Doris, 1916-1990. Late afternoon, Nelson province. [1956?]
 *Lusk, Doris, 1916-1990. Lyttelton Harbour. [1956?]
 *Lusk, Doris, 1916-1990. New world. 1965
 *Lusk, Doris, 1916-1990. South Taranaki landscape. [1958?]
 *Lusk, Doris, 1916-1990. State hydro, Tuai, Waikaremoana. 1948
 *MacDiarmid, Douglas, 1922-2020. Landscape near St. Tropez. [195-?]
 *Macfarlane, Quentin, 1935-2019. Drawing. 1962
 *Macfarlane, Quentin, 1935-2019. Last snow. 1960
 *Macfarlane, Quentin, 1935-2019. Marine sketch. [196-?]
 *Maguire, Marian, 1962- Female figure. 1994
 *Mahon, Sam, 1954- Monument to a Gough empire. 1977
 #Manchester, Nan, 1929-1978. Milkweed. 1957
 *Manning, Dorothy, 1919-2012. Interior No. 1. [1958?]
 Manning, Dorothy, 1919-2012. Road over the hill. [1961?]
 #Mayo, Eileen, 1906-1994. Gently floating forms. 1970
 *McCahon, Colin, 1919-1987. 4 Northland drawings. 1959
 #McCahon, Colin, 1919-1987. French Bay. 1957
 *McCahon, Colin, 1919-1987. Kauri tree landscape. [195-?]
 *McCahon, Colin, 1919-1987. Lithographs
 *McCahon, Colin, 1919-1987. Red and black landscape. 1959
 *McCormack, T. A. (Thomas Arthur), 1883-1973. Rocks and sea. [197-?]
 *McCormack, T. A. (Thomas Arthur), 1883-1973. Sunset. [195-?]

*McCormack, T. A. (Thomas Arthur), 1883-1973. Tulips. [195-?]
 McLellan, Max, 1937- Gum-lands. 1961
 *Merton, Owen, 1887-1931. Farm scene .1909
 *Merton, Owen, 1887-1931. Vauxhall Bridge, London. 1907
 Miles, B. (Bertha), 1903-1990. Lyttelton. [1980?]
 Millar, R. (Ruth), 1914-2006. Pale moon. 1962
 *Miller, H. V. (Harry Vye), 1907-1986. Study in browns.1957
 *Miller, Rachel, 1928- Enmeshed. [195-?]
 #Mrkusich, Milan, 1925-2018. Composition. 1953
 *Moffitt, G. T. (Gilbert Trevor), 1936-2006. The big fisherman No. 1.1969
 *Moffitt, G. T. (Gilbert Trevor), 1936-2006. Embrace.1967
 *Moore, Henry, 1898-1986. 2 figure sketches.1950
 Mourant, E. (Elise), 1921-1990. East Coast North Auckland. [1966?]
 *Mulcahy, Pat (Patrick Michael), 1919-1993. [Flying fish] [mobile]. [1955?]
 Nicholson, Michael, 1916-2017. 588/2/1/ 1958
 *Nigro, Jan, 1919-2012. Bather at Rocky Bay.1969
 *Nin, Buck, 1942-1996. Green valley. 1965
 Oakley, John, 1901-1977. Across Cook Strait. 1962
 O'Regan, P. (Philip), 1954-1973. Fog in hills. 1972
 *Ormerod, Penny, 1922-1988. Flower trumpet. 1978
 *Paul, Joanna Margaret, 1945-2003. Bedstead. 1975
 *Peebles, Don, 1922-2010. Composition.1958
 *Peebles, Don, 1922-2010. Red & black abstract.1965
 *Peter, Juliet, 1915-2010. Antelopes. [195-]
 *Peter, Juliet, 1915-2010. Cock. [195-?]
 *Peter, Juliet, 1915-2010. Flowers. [1957?]
 *Peter, Juliet, 1915-2010. Landlady's dog. [1955?]
 *Peter, Juliet, 1915-2010. October, London. [1956?]
 *Pickmere, Alison, 1909-1971. Fabric design. [1955?]
 Podstolski, Max, 1952-2017. Towards oblivion. 1979
 *Pond Eyley, Claudia, 1946- [Tropical fiesta].1974
 Poole, B. (Bryan), 1953- Portrait : youth. 1977
 #Powell, Sally, 1937- The boat shed, Redcliffs. 1979
 Powell, Sally, 1937- Midsummer bloom. 1979
 *Ramage, Don, 1923-2009. The last flight. No. 6. 1976
 #Rands, Collette, 1939-2022. Land : painting. 1969-1970
 Reid, Helen. Butterflies in a karaka tree. 1970
 Reilly, Clare. Wichi-Ta. 1979
 Rhodes, M. (Margaret), 1921-2018. Oari & Amuri Bluff. 1980
 #*Richmond, Dorothy Kate, 1861-1935. Track over brow of hill.1908
 Robertson, Vivian. [Composition]. 1961
 *Rockel, H. M. (Helen Margaret), 1949- Extension. 1975
 *Rockel, H. M. (Helen Margaret), 1949- Life.1972
 *Royds, Julian, 1935- Birds in a tree. [1960?]
 Rutherford, Simon, 1954- [Plains]. [1979]
 Scott, Ian, 1945- Ursula at the kauri clump.1968
 Sheehan, Stephanie, 1949- Things that go bump in the night. 1981

#Simmonds, Alfreda, 1912-1983. Bird with black. 1968
 *Simmonds, Alfreda, 1912-1983. Night loading. [1957?]
 *Smither, Michael, 1939- Mauve snowfall small. [196-?]
 Snadden, John, 1913-1999. Sky blue festival. 1960
 *Spencer Bower, Olivia, 1905-1982. Beeches. [1956?]
 *Spencer Bower, Olivia, 1905-1982. Benevolent presence. [197-?]
 #*Spencer Bower, Olivia, 1905-1982. Dark girl. 1968
 *Spencer Bower, Olivia, 1905-1982. The dive. 1958
 *Spencer Bower, Olivia, 1905-1982. Regal lilies. [195-?]
 *Spencer Bower, Olivia, 1905-1982. Solomon's seal. [197-?]
 Stenberg, Ron, 1919-2017. Heavy seas, Crail, Scotland. [1959?]
 Steven, Mollie, 1906-1999. Painting with light. [1963?]
 *Stoddart, M. O. (Margaret Olrog), 1865-1934. New Brighton. [192-?]
 *Stoddart, M. O. (Margaret Olrog), 1865-1934. Sugar Loaf, Cashmere. [192-?]
 Sutherland, Helen, 1940-2009. Optical painting. 1972.
 *Sutton, W. A. (William Alexander), 1917-2000. Composition No. 7. 1963
 *Sutton, W. A. (William Alexander), 1917-2000. Three chairs. [1957?]
 #Sydney, Graeme, 1948- Auripo Road. 1979
 #Taylor, Joan. Jan's dahlias. 1977.
 Taylor, Rob, 1945- Study for greenscape. 1974
 Thompson, Nicholas, 1954- Dissolve. 1977
 *Thompson, Sydney Lough, 1877-1973. Autumn on the Avon. [195-?]
 *Tole, John, 1903-1988. [Landscape with eminence. 1947
 *Trusttun, Philip, 1940- Drawing. [196-?]
 *Trusttun, Philip, 1940- Interior. 1973
 #Tupper, Deirdre. [Celebration]. 1976
 Van Haandel, E. (Edith), 1926-2026. Rocks in the Vienna woods. [198-?]
 *Wallwork, Richard, 1882-1955. Bush clad mountains, Wataroa. [195-?]
 *Warr, M. (Malcolm), 1939- Karaka. 1965
 *Warr, M. (Malcolm), 1939- Landscape. 1966
 #Warr, Malcolm, 1939- Ranui landscape. 1968
 *Warr, Malcolm, 1939- Ranui landscape. No. 1. 1968
 *Weeks, John, 1888-1965. Dusk. [195-?]
 *Weeks, John, 1888-1965. Schnapper. [195-?]
 *Weeks, John, 1888-1965. Still life. [195-?]
 *Welch, N. (Nugent), 1881-1970. [Silverstream]. [196-?]
 *White, Jan, 1957-1981. Julie with red stockings. 1980
 *White, Jan, 1957-1981. Three poses. 1980
 Wieck, Hildegard, 1930-1993. Couple. [196-?]
 Wieck, Hildegard, 1930-1993. Maori woman. [1966?].
 *Williams, Caroline, 1945- Name. 1967
 #Williams, Mervyn, 1940- Aurora XIV. 1965
 #Willis, Mike, 1953- [Wind]. 1976
 *Woollaston, Toss, 1910-1998. 8 portrait sketches.]1937-1940.
 *Woollaston, Toss, 1910-1998. Apparition of a man. [196-?]
 *Woollaston, Toss, 1910-1998. Boy. 1961
 *Woollaston, Toss, 1910-1998. Hokitika River. 1957

*Woollaston, Toss, 1910-1998. The pond. 1961

*Woollaston, Toss, 1910-1998. Sketch book with 9 drawings. [195-?]

*Woollaston, Toss, 1910-1998. Two white chairs. [195-?]

*Woollaston, Toss, 1910-1998. Waiuta. [196-?]

#Woolley, Margaret. Golden coastline. 1976

#Zylstra, Lynne, 1945- Portrait. 1975

*Gifted to the Robert McDougall Art Gallery / Christchurch Art Gallery

#Missing