



U3A Avon Ōtākaro

Series 3: Emerging Kiwi artists

22 May–3 July 2023

Venue: St Christopher's Church, 244 Avonhead Road

Talks are on **Mondays**, except for the second Monday of each month, **beginning at 1.30 pm**, followed by afternoon tea at 2.30 pm.

Series 3/23: Emerging Kiwi artists

An emerging artist is someone in the early stage of their artistic career. They are committed to becoming a professional artist, have talent which is recognised by galleries and collectors, and are developing a body of original work with a clear identity.

22 May **Emerging contemporary Māori Art**

Robyn Peers

My talk will trace the development of contemporary Māori art from the 1950s to the present day.

29 May **Developing Emerging NZ Musicians**

Judith Bell

Today's emerging musicians sometimes end up working in musical fields far beyond their school-age dreams. Judith Bell takes a look at current and past music students who are now some of Ōtautahi's finest emerging musicians. She will also share some of her recently released work as a musician and composer and reflect on the impact of middle school music education on emerging NZ musicians.

12 June **Visit to the Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetū**

Looking at contemporary New Zealand Art. More information on times, meeting place, etc., to follow. Followed by coffee at coffee shop for those who wish.

19 June **The personal journey of a contemporary NZ artist**

Janie Porter

Janie Porter started her professional art practice in the late 90s, although art had been an integral part of her life for as long as she could remember. As a child she listened to her mother's regret of not pursuing an artistic life after art school. That regret rang in Janie's ears until she took steps to pursue her own path of creativity. She has never looked back.

26 June **Urban art in Aotearoa**

Dr Reuben Woods

From rebellious roots, graffiti and street art have become important creative pathways for artists across the world. With a lineage spanning more than 50 years, graffiti and street art have evolved and influenced countless Aotearoa creatives, their work manifesting in contemporary muralism, urban contemporary practice and other fields

3 July **D.I.Y. Art Materials and Industrial Applications**

Raewyn Martyn

Visual artists are also D.I.Y. material scientists, alchemists, and playful innovators. This presentation discusses a range of artists and their D.I.Y. materials, including recent artwork made using bio-based polymers and plastics. What is possible when artists collaborate with material scientists and industry?

Notices

2023 Annual subscription; name tags

After paying your sub you will receive new name tags to be inserted into your lanyards. They will be in a strip with your name printed twice. Write the name and phone number of an emergency contact for you on the blank side, then fold it in half and put it into the name holder on your lanyard so your name is displayed on both sides.

Contact changes

If you have changed your phone number, street or email address since last year, please tell Murray Edlin: phone: 354 3441, or email him (mredlin@xtra.co.nz) with the corrections.

Hosts needed

We would like to improve our welcome to new members and would like volunteers from our members to assist, e.g. initially introduce them to people, greet them for the first few talks, etc. We would like our 'hosts' to also welcome members as they arrive.

New members

Please continue to encourage anyone interested in joining us to come to a meeting. Imagine if we each invited one person to come... Give them the 'invitation to join us' brochure, or a newsletter for talk details, or ask them to phone or email the secretary to be sent one. Visitors may attend two meetings at no cost.

Office for Seniors newsletter

The monthly newsletter from the Ministry of Social Development's Office for Seniors is worth subscribing to. It has much useful information for older people, including any changes to superannuation, when the heating supplement resumes (1 May), vaccinations available, travel requirements, services available (including the new free balance exercise app, Nymbbl), Super Gold Card offers, etc. To receive the newsletter go to:

<https://officeforseniors.govt.nz/seniors-newsletter/>

Garden bird survey

The annual garden bird survey by Landcare Research is a way for us to contribute to data on our bird populations. The counting period is from Sunday 24 June to Sunday 2 July. For more information, bird recognition charts, tally sheets, etc., see: <https://gardenbirdsurvey.nz/>

Balance exercise

ACC is promoting exercises to improve our balance and strength. As we know (and ACC knows from the many accident claims!) one of the serious risks to our health is falls. We will probably know friends who suffered a fall and have taken a long time to recover, and many of us have probably had some narrow escapes from a serious fall—it is so easy to have happen!

For more information see:

<https://www.acc.co.nz/preventing-injury/trips-falls/strength-and-balance/>

The website also suggests downloading a balance training app, Nymbbl, to your phone.

Vaccination reminder

Just a reminder to have your Covid booster and 'flu vaccinations...

Keeping up with AI

For a succinct description of the terms used in news about artificial intelligence (AI) see:

<https://theconversation.com/ai-to-z-all-the-terms-you-need-to-know-to-keep-up-in-the-ai-hype-age-203917>

While AI has been in development for several decades it is only in the past year that it has become both a useful tool and a threat. AI is the ability of a computer or machine to behave in ways that mimic (or even go beyond) human capabilities to perform human-like tasks. This includes learning from experience and making independent decisions. Machine learning is a subset of AI where computers automatically learn from data. This is proving useful in identifying patterns not immediately obvious to a person, and is especially relevant to fields such as medicine.

Increasingly we will see 'deep fake' videos indistinguishable from the real thing, well-written but inaccurate statements, photographs appearing real and so on. It will make scams harder to detect. We need to continue questioning everything we see and hear, as we should always have done (accept but verify).

2023 Committee

Officers and Committee have yellow name-tags to make it easier for you to identify them and to suggest programme and activity ideas.

President: Miles Ellery

Vice President: Bryan Wright

Secretary: Vivienne Mander; email: u3a.avon@gmail.com

Treasurer: Murray Edlin, ph: 354 3441,
email: mredlin@extra.co.nz

Committee: Viv Grant, Chris Kissling, Judith Miller, Gloria Streat, Jonet Ward.

Note: Hyperlinks (*in blue*) are live links, just click on them to go to the website or to your email application.
