



Bill Milbank and gallery assistant Nicola Shand preparing the Trusttun exhibition.

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Exhibition reflects pleasure of life

Horses, family portraits, work, tennis and love-making are subjects depicted in the work of Philip Trusttun.

The first major survey exhibition of the Christchurch artist in more than 10 years began its national tour at Pakuranga's Fisher Gallery on Friday.

"From Living," the exhibition title conveys that the majority of the works are about — everyday experiences of the artist.

Curator of the exhibition Bill Milbank sees Trusttun's works as optimistic — expressing a sense of achievement. The effort being worthwhile and totally rewarding.

"It's the energy in his work which has always impressed me," Mr Mil-

bank says.

"His work makes no huge moral statements about living but concentrates on the pleasure of life.

"His ability to handle material is extraordinary and his inventiveness is enormous," he says.

Trusttun is very much his own man when it comes to his art.

"He is certainly not concerned with time and place in his art in that he does not seem to care if it

is going to fit in with the way people are perceiving art at the moment," Mr Milbank says.

In one series of paintings about working activities such as digging, planting, chopping, cutting hedges and mucking out, Trusttun combines more traditional materials with mud and hay, giving a strong sense of immediacy to his work.

Trusttun's works are at the Fisher Gallery until September 13.