

Paintings feature smoky textures

Two exhibitions open in Pakuranga's Fisher Gallery on Friday.

More Human, by Luise Fong, is the result of the artist in residence project initiated and organised as a partnership between Govett-Brewster Art Gallery and Taranaki Polytechnic in New Plymouth.

Fong's paintings feature smoky textures of colour and dusk smudges and she's used new, exploratory materials such as eggs, Tupperware and plasticine.

Malaysian-born Fong emigrated to New Zealand with her family the same year.

She studied textile design at Wellington Polytechnic and graduated from Elam School of Fine Arts in 1989.

The same year she received a Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council new artist grant followed by a project grant in 1990. She won the prestigious Visa Gold Art Award last year and is a recipient of the Dunmoochin Foundation Fellowship in Melbourne.

The other exhibition, in the Studio Gallery, is Warren Viscoe's Satellite Skies Don't Tell Lies.

Corners, walls, the ceiling and the floor of the gallery will be transposed into the geography of trenches, water planes, sky and the curved horizons of anticipation, the vectors of a fragile cargo cult.

The cargo cult, originating in the Pacific Islands, is the belief in the forthcoming arrival of ancestral spirits bringing cargoes of food and other goods.

The exhibitions run until December 3.



SANDRA WARD from the Fisher Gallery assembles work by Luise Fong