

## About Te Tuhi



### Te Tuhi History

Te Tuhi began as the Pakuranga Arts Society in 1969. Initiated by Iris Fisher and Nanette Cameron, the Society's founding members also include Patricia Hunt, Jean Stewart, Jean Thompson, Elizabeth Venter, Anette McDonald and Andrew Venter. Many others were instrumental in the establishment of the Pakuranga Community Centre (1975) and the Fisher Gallery (1984), including Lois Perry and Sir Barry Curtis. In 2001, the Pakuranga Community Centre and the Fisher Gallery were amalgamated to become Te Tuhi.

### Our name

Te Tuhi's name was gifted by local tangata whenua Ngāi Tai, and is in reference to the ancestor Manawatore, a great explorer who signalled his arrival in Aotearoa New Zealand by making his tuhi, or mark, on a pōhutukawa tree using karamea, a red ochre. To this day, a large pōhutukawa at Cockle Bay in Howick is called 'Te Tuhi a Manawatore' by Ngāi Tai. Two trees grafted from the tree at Cockle Bay now flank Te Tuhi's main entrance.

# TeTuhi

## Te Tuhi Exhibition History

### **Pakuranga Arts Centre and The Fisher Gallery 1975-2000**

These institutions were the result of decades of tireless lobbying and fundraising by women who believed that art played a vital role in social transformation and that art could be for everyone. Exhibitions during this period blurred the line between art, craft and design, and many first exhibitions for Māori and Pacific artists were mounted, as well as the landmark exhibition, *Implicated and Immune: Artists' Response to Aids* (1992).

### **Te Tuhi 2000-20**

From 2006 the exhibition model changed in line with best curatorial practice within national and international contemporary art galleries. The focus turned toward engaging artists with national and international profiles. Group shows and solo presentations responded to increasingly globalised networks of information and exchange, embracing the social and participatory dimensions of art, and many ambitious commissions were undertaken. Many of these works represented turning points in artists careers, leading to recognition from national awards and opportunities for international presentations.

### **Independent curator model 2021- 23**

From 2021 Te Tuhi embarked on a strategy of working with independent curators to deliver the exhibition programme. The programme acknowledged a broader range of curatorial voices, reflecting the role of art in global conversations in affecting necessary social change and the rebalancing of institutions of power. Te Tuhi worked with a series of curators who practise with and alongside communities of Aotearoa, and for whom social politics, historical narratives and contemporary art are integrally related.

### **2024-25**

In 2024-2025 as the gallery has been impacted by the construction of the Eastern Busway, Te Tuhi has worked to ensure that artists and audiences have the best possible experience of the work, exploring a range of offsite venues, and leveraging local sector and international partnerships. The exhibition programme has been co-curated by the Exhibitions Programme Manager, the International Programme Manager and in 2025 the Interim Curator. The focus has been on individual artist presentations.

# TeTuhi

## TeTuhi Core Purpose

- Te Tuhi is a platform for contemporary art.
- Te Tuhi is committed to contemporary art that is locally engaged, regionally responsive, and internationally ambitious.
- Te Tuhi contributes meaningfully to developing artists, audiences, and the sector.

## Aims

- To be at the forefront of contemporary art and commissioning in Aotearoa New Zealand, providing opportunities for artists to develop their practice and take risks.
- To develop and sustain relationships and practices which give expression to Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- To effectively engage our audiences, and develop new audiences, inviting participation and making space for critical discussion.
- To play a significant role in the arts and culture sector in Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland and Aotearoa New Zealand: advocating for the value of the arts, enhancing the visibility of contemporary art and artists, and supporting collaboration, sustainability and equity.
- To acknowledge the intersections of Tāmaki Makaurau's cultural and creative identities, and work to increase the diversity of artists, audiences and the workforce in the sector.
- To develop and sustain meaningful relationships with our wider community. To provide arts, creative, and community facilities for the benefit of the wider public.
- To be a socially accountable, environmentally sustainable, and financially resilient organisation, whose governance and everyday practices align with these principles.

# TeTuhi

## Key Programmes and Projects

<b>Exhibitions programmes</b> Exhibitions Public programmes Publications, editions, and archive	<b>Learning programmes</b> Schools Programme Children’s art classes Contemporary Art Adult Discussion Groups Nanette Cameron School of Interior Design
<b>Sector development programmes</b> Artist Studios Awards and Residencies Curatorial Internship	<b>Community programmes</b> Arts Out East: Community Arts Brokering O Wairoa Marae Te Taiwhanga Taiohi - East Auckland Youth Space Training Café for people with intellectual disabilities Hosted Community Activities

Programmes	Key projects and initiatives
1. Exhibition Programme	<p>Te Tuhi has a focused curatorial programme of contemporary art that is locally engaged, regionally responsive and internationally ambitious.</p> <p><b>Exhibitions:</b> Te Tuhi exhibitions are presented at our Pakuranga gallery, and via an extensive offsite programme throughout Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland and beyond. Four exhibition ‘seasons’ form the core of the annual programme, each with associated public events, education and audience development plans. Exhibitions include group and solo shows, alongside smaller projects in the galleries, foyer spaces and offsite locations.</p> <p><b>Public Programmes:</b> Te Tuhi public programmes support the exhibition programme with events designed to effectively engage our audiences, inviting participation and making space for critical discussion. These include artist talks and guided tours of exhibitions.</p> <p><b>Publications, editions &amp; archives:</b> Te Tuhi produces publications and editions relating to specific exhibitions, and provides a comprehensive online exhibition archive as a record of an exhibition history spanning nearly 50 years.</p>
2. Professional Development Programmes	<p>Te Tuhi provides professional development opportunities for artists and arts professionals including:</p> <p><b>Artist Studios:</b> A variety of subsidised and funded artist studios in Parnell and Pakuranga.</p> <p><b>Awards &amp; Residencies:</b> Te Tuhi works with partners to offer artists and curators national and international awards and residencies to support the development of their practice.</p> <p><b>Curatorial Internship:</b> a full time, 18-month, paid training position for an emerging art curator.</p>

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<p>3. Learning Programmes</p>	<p><b>Schools Programme:</b> Te Tuhi offers interactive, hands-on learning experiences in the Art Studio paired with educator- led tours of Te Tuhi’s current exhibitions. Te Tuhi provides a range of digital resources to be used either in conjunction with a visit to Te Tuhi, or as stand-alone resources for schools.</p> <p><b>Children’s art classes:</b> Te Tuhi offers a range of after-school and Saturday art classes for children aged 5-12 years old.</p> <p><b>Contemporary Art Adult Discussion Groups:</b> These year-long discussion groups provide an opportunity to learn about the world of contemporary art, developing students’ confidence and understanding in experiencing today’s art.</p> <p><b>Nanette Cameron School of Interior Design:</b> A year-long foundation course teaching the basics of interior design</p>
<p>4. Community Programmes</p>	<p><b>Arts Out East Community Arts Brokering:</b> Supporting creative activities in East Auckland through capacity building, brokering connections and providing funding.</p> <p><b>O Wairoa Marae:</b> Te Tuhi administers O Wairoa Marae, providing a range of community activities.</p> <p><b>Te Taiwhanga Taiohi – East Auckland Youth Space:</b> A permanent dedicated space for young people within Botany Town Centre.</p> <p><b>Training Café for people with intellectual disabilities:</b> Te Tuhi’s café is Aotearoa’s first training café for people with intellectual disabilities, run in partnership with Rescare Homes Trust and the University of Auckland. The café provides in- house training and employment for people with intellectual disabilities through a community- based programme.</p> <p><b>Hosted Community Activities:</b> In addition to activities directly provided by Te Tuhi, a vast range of community groups run activities in Te Tuhi’s building in Pakuranga including music and dance groups; health and wellbeing groups; social and support groups; and education providers. Te Tuhi subsidises space for independent groups that align with its core purpose.</p>

# TeTuhi

## Te Tuhi Team

### Executive Director

### Pou Ārahi / Principal Cultural Advisor

### Programme Team

Exhibitions Programme Manager  
International Programme Manager  
Curator  
Programme Coordinator  
Communications Coordinator  
Curatorial Intern

### Community Programmes Team

Community Programme Manager  
Schools Coordinator & Arts Broker  
O Wairoa Marae Coordinator  
O Wairoa Marae Educator

### Operations Team

Operations Manager  
Audience Engagement & Administration Assistants  
Duty Supervisors

### Learning Disability Training Café Team

Café Manager  
Cooks/Baristas  
Café Trainees  
Support Workers

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