

AUCKLAND

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The bright lights of Kinetic art

21 JULY 2000

Glowing strings, light, changing shapes and eerie sounds have transformed Pakuranga's Fisher Gallery into the digital realm.



ARTSPACE: John Fairclough with his kinetic art display.

GERARD JOHNSON/Eastern Courier

In Hyperthreads, Maureen Lander and John Fairclough - both artists lecture at the Elam School of Fine Arts - combine traditional Maori string games with the digital realm.

People can interact with the installation by laying their hands flat on a pad and pushing buttons to create a line on the screen. A musical chord corresponds to the length of the line - the longer the line the lower the note.

Mr Fairclough became interested in kinetic art years ago. He started by making moving sculptures using electric motors, gears and wind power. When computers came in he made more complicated artwork.

Ms Lander, who created the string games component of the exhibition, says hand string games were played by Maori and used as a form of communicating Maori myths.