



CREATIVE MINDS

Photo courtesy Len Lye Foundation

One of the strengths of a university is its ability to bring together talented people from a variety of fields.

An outstanding example is the original opera based on the life of artist Len Lye that premieres at the Maidment Theatre on 5 September.

"Len Lye was a multi-media artist," comments the librettist, Emeritus Professor Roger Horrocks. "So it's appropriate that the opera combines music, poetry, drama, moving images and dance."

He adds: "Specialisation is important in a university but so is collaboration. This project started with two people – composer Eve de Castro-Robinson and myself as writer – but there are now over 70 others, with many different areas of the university involved."

Naturally the Music School is central to this project, with Professor Uwe Grodd as Artistic Director and conductor, Te Oti Rakena as one of the cast, Dean Sky-Lucas as repetiteur, and many others from the School involved, such as senior students in the chorus.

Drama expert Associate Professor Murray Edmond has come from the English Department to act as stage director. Emily Campbell, a lecturer in Dance at the National Institute of Creative Arts and Industries (NICAI), is in charge of choreography. Roger Horrocks was the former head of Film, Television and Media Studies. And there are specialists from Fine Arts, from NICAI's Jazz programme, and from other areas of the University.

"It's the value of a campus, and of a cluster like the National Institute of Creative Arts and Industries," remarks Roger. "Different enthusiasms rub together, and new projects result. I think there is more interaction between disciplines today than ever before."

Not that everyone involved in the Len Lye opera is from the University. There are also graduates, like singer James Harrison who plays the title role. He has been leading a distinguished opera career in the UK, but he was sufficiently intrigued by this project to return to Auckland for it. Another

graduate is singer Lilia Carpinelli who has been first prize-winner in three Italian opera competitions. The striking moving images which represent another dimension of the opera, are by Shirley Horrocks, a graduate of English and Italian who has gone on to become a leading New Zealand film-maker.

The large team for the opera say they have had great pleasure working together. Roger adds: "It takes a whole creative village to make something like an opera. It's the arts equivalent of a big science team. It's also very relevant to its subject – the great New Zealand artist Len Lye – because he saw all the arts as linked, and he moved easily from one to another."

Composer Dr Eve de Castro-Robinson calls this "a 21st century opera," and it will certainly be a highly original and colourful experience for both eyes and ears.

Len Lye the opera premieres at the Maidment Theatre on 5 September. Bookings at the Maidment www.maidment.auckland.ac.nz

Dancing art



The visual arts and dance were brought to life for local children at the Auckland Art Gallery this month. Hundreds of primary school students were given the opportunity to experience dance first hand, in a gallery setting, including the chance to design and perform their own work.

The NICAI Dance project is a collaborative event between Auckland Art Gallery Toi O Tamaki and the Dance Studies Programme at the National Institute of Creative Arts & Industries. The project's aim is to get primary and tertiary students to engage deeply with the visual and dance arts by investigating them in combination.

Twenty two dance students from The University of Auckland choreographed a piece in response to an art work on display at the gallery. These were performed in 30-minute sequences throughout the space over three mornings.

"The dancers' responses to the works are framed by the architecture of the gallery and create moments of delight and curiosity for the children" says project initiator Dr Carol Brown, senior lecturer at the Dance Studies Programme at The University of Auckland

Third-year dance students Salote Nita Latu and

Santana Schmidt approached their artwork backwards, swinging each other around and reaching for the stars as they circumnavigated Filipe Tohi's "Makamata Kupenga (Eyes Net)" stone sculpture, dancing rhythmically to a captivated audience. The Fala weave of their costumes correlated to the etching in the sculpture.

Dancer Maeling Davids writhed like pouring liquid, mimicking Daniel von Sturmer's "Painted Video", while Lindsay Clements hid coyly behind her arms in response to Annette Messenger's artwork called "Secret".

The NICAI Dance Project is an accumulation of four weeks work for the third year students, who developed the dance pieces specifically for their audience. The small groups of primary school children had all taken part in dance workshops led by Masters student, Sarah Knox, at their schools prior to the event.

Many of the performances at the gallery provided an opportunity for the children to participate through clapping or moving with the dancers. Afterwards, a question and answer session with gallery educator Christa Napier-Robertson enabled lively discussion and contemplation about the children's experience.

The project concluded with the children choreographing their own dance sequence and performing it under Choi Jeong Hwa's "Flower Chandelier" in the art gallery atrium, which was met with rapturous applause.

A vision for youth



Justice Andrew Becroft with Luka Fakaalofa from Otahuhu College

A youth justice conference held at the University's Fale Pasifika on 28 June was a first for Auckland in two ways.

One was that it succeeded in bringing together a broad spectrum of those with an interest in the field, including academics, students, clinicians, prominent legal practitioners, and representatives from four Government Ministries: Health, Police, Education and Social Development (Child, Youth and Family).

The other was that young people were invited to

play a part in running the conference, with prefects and senior students of Pacific Island descent from Papatōetoe High School and Otahuhu College helping to facilitate.

Associate Professor Ian Lambie from the Department of Psychology, who organised the conference with Youth Justice Magistrates, Judge Malosi and Judge Fitzgerald, and with the assistance of Government Ministries, said the aim was to bring people together to highlight the various aspects of youth justice, to clarify the range of needs in the region and to encourage coordination of those who were working in different ways to meet those needs.

Hon Chester Burrows, Minister for Courts, in opening the conference, laid out his vision for the youth justice sector and expressed his view of the key issues in the Auckland region. The other keynote speaker, Principal Youth Court Judge, Andrew Becroft, highlighted the importance of young people staying at school, and spoke of the risks from drug and alcohol use and family violence, and of the need to deal with the disproportionate number of Māori young people in

the youth justice system.

A very positive outcome of the conference, attended by 250 people, was the chance it gave participants to extend their networks and to gain understanding of the perspectives of others. Said Ian Lambie, "It was a very good illustration of the way the University can be strongly networked into the community."

Ian sees this conference as the first step for him towards holding regular youth justice forums, likely to take place four times a year at Tamaki Campus. The focus will be on a broad range of areas that include consideration of practical or ethical issues arising in the planning or delivery of programmes, and will provide a showcase for research and a means of disseminating its findings to practitioners who work in the Youth Justice Sector across the Auckland region.

The first youth justice forum will be held on 14 September, 1 4pm, Tamaki Campus. For further information, contact Sheryl Robertson on s.robertson@auckland.ac.nz.

Resilient tradition



Staff from The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) in Auckland gathered with guests from the local Taiwanese community and with University staff, students and librarians at a ceremony held in the University Library for the donation of a very special publication.

Lincoln Ting, Director General of TECO, presented the University Library with this important collection of reproductions of treaties between the Republic of China and Western powers since the mid-nineteenth century.

Entitled *A Century of Resilient Tradition: Exhibition of the Republic of China's Diplomatic Archives*, the book is a valuable reference for people who are interested in the Republic of China's diplomatic history and the international relationships between the Republic of China and other countries during this period.

The publication contains photomechanical copies of 88 treaties and diplomatic documents with descriptions and brief introductions. These

treaties were signed by the Chinese governments, both Ch'ing Dynasty and the Republic of China, with many other countries such as Great Britain, United States, Japan, France, and Portugal, dating back to 1842.

This important collection of diplomatic documents also reflects the experiences of China in its transition from an old empire to a modern nation. The first treaty in the collection is the Treaty of Nanking between China and Great Britain, which was the first international treaty signed between China and a Western power, and signalled the beginning of a new phase in the Chinese history.

The appendices of the book include a list of the Ch'ing Dynasty's treaties and agreements that have been preserved by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China.

The Associate University Librarian, Hester Mountifield, gratefully acknowledged the generous donation from TECO.

From the Vice-Chancellor



I am very pleased to advise that, at its meeting of 20 August, the University Council approved the final version of the Strategic Plan 2013-2020.

The creation of this Plan, which will guide all major decisions in the University over the next eight years, is the culmination of two years' work. Throughout 2011, Council addressed strategic issues facing the University in a series of workshops. This led to the development of a draft Plan, which in March was approved by Council for consultation.

Over the next four months, some 900 staff, student representatives, alumni and friends of the University attended over 30 meetings to be informed about and provide comment on the draft Plan. Our Strategic Plan website attracted about 5,700 page views and some 79 formal submissions were received.

Those submissions have led to numerous changes to the Plan, but particularly around four major themes which were the subject of multiple comments:

- Whether equity groups (particularly Māori and Pacific) were sufficiently emphasised and targets specified for their participation and success in the University
- Whether the way the research objectives were structured protected or exposed the arts and related disciplines, and whether sufficient emphasis was given to the importance of multi-disciplinary research groups
- Whether there was a need for specific targets around fundraising
- Whether sufficient emphasis had been placed on a target for the University in regards to its place in international rankings

These have been addressed in the final version of the Plan, a copy of which is available at <http://bit.ly/draftsp> together with a list of those who made submissions and a summary of submissions.

The new Strategic Plan plots a very ambitious course for the University over the next eight years, one that if achieved will rank us among the best universities in Australia, the UK and Canada. This will not be easily done, but as the last seven years have shown, we are able to rapidly bring about positive change in the University. In the meantime, my thanks go to all those members of our community who have contributed so positively to this important process.

AUP successes

Poetry award

Shift, a collection of poems by Rhian Gallagher, published by Auckland University Press, has won the 2012 NZ Post Book Award for Poetry.

Shift encompasses a departure from London, where Rhian Gallagher lived for 18 years, and a return to the pines and paddocks of her native South Island. It was described by convenor of judges Chris Bourke as an example of lyrical poetry at its very best.

Rhian's editor at AUP, Anna Hodge, says: "*Shift* is a book of slow burn and quiet intensity that reveals Rhian as a writer of huge talent, craft and warmth."

Best design

The finalists for New Zealand's Best Design Awards have been announced and Auckland University Press features in two categories.

Athfield Architects, designed by Spencer Levine and Katrina Duncan, is a finalist in the Editorial and Books section.

The new Auckland University Press logo and identity, designed by Alt Group and launched in April this year, is a finalist in the category Identity Development (Small Scale).

The annual New Zealand Best Design Awards are an initiative of the Designers Institute of New Zealand to showcase excellence in graphic, spatial, product and interactive design.

Outstanding contributions



Stephen Edward Coleman was born on February 22, 1966 in New Zealand. He died on July 23, 2012 at the age of 46, after a short battle with stomach cancer.

Stephen received his BE in Civil Engineering in 1987 followed by a PhD in 1992 at The University of Auckland. His PhD research on sand dune initiation and development produced a wealth of new ideas and unique experimental data and, in 1995, he received the International Lorenz G. Straub Award for most meritorious thesis at PhD level in hydraulic engineering.

After a two-year involvement as an Assistant Engineer at Works Consultancy Services Ltd in Wellington, Stephen returned in 1993 to The University of Auckland as a lecturer, progressing

to senior lecturer (2000) and to associate professor (2005).

Stephen made outstanding contributions to both fundamental and applied hydraulic research. His research focused on sediment transport, morphodynamics, turbulence, waves, flow-biota interactions, and flow-structure interactions in oscillatory and unidirectional water flows such as rivers, estuaries and coastal currents. Stephen developed a range of new experimental techniques, procedures, measurement equipment and laboratory facilities. Among the more spectacular examples were the unique oil flume for “zooming” viscous sublayer and studying sediment transport, and a “magnetic” flume for controlling sediment transport experiments.

Stephen also made step changes in conceptual understandings of sediment transport mechanisms and associated flow structure in equilibrium and non-equilibrium conditions. His research of fluvial mechanics was published in 45 journal papers and around 70 peer reviewed book chapters and conference papers.

Stephen is also widely known for his accomplishments in engineering studies of scouring processes, with significant contributions to bridge scour and erosion of fractured rock, including a well-known and widely cited book, *Bridge Scour* (2000), written in collaboration with Bruce Melville.

Stephen’s high international standing was reflected in invitations to give keynote talks at

major conferences and summer schools, editorial work at Water Resources Research, leadership on task committees and working groups of the International Association of Hydraulics Research and external PhD examinations. Stephen initiated and led the Rivers Group of the Institute of Professional Engineers of New Zealand and the Fluvial Process Initiative at The University of Auckland which heralded a new direction in river management.

An excellent communicator and inspiring presenter, a caring teacher and mentor, Stephen was always popular among undergraduate and postgraduate students who were inspired by his lectures and stimulating discussions.

He was also an invaluable member of the Engineering Faculty, contributing to the smooth running of the Department.

He was farewelled by his wife, Kirsty, and their three children, Joshua (10), Tobi (9) and Morgen (6), who were all dear to his heart. Stephen was a real gentleman, a great family man, and a fine human being who touched the lives of so many. He will be greatly missed by his family, the engineering community and all those who knew him personally.

You are welcome to send in a personal memory or photos to be part of a compilation book for Stephen’s family. You may also contribute to the Stephen Coleman Memorial Trust set up to support his children’s education by contacting Theuns Henning at t.henning@auckland.ac.nz.

Foundation funding for study of gout

University researchers are embarking on a study to understand why gout, a common inflammatory arthritis, attacks certain joints.

Principal Investigator Dr Justin Fernandez and Dr Kumar Mithraratne from the Auckland Bioengineering Institute (ABI), and Associate Professor Nicola Dalbeth from the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, have received a \$117,304 research grant for the study, from the Auckland Medical Research Foundation.

The two-year study will focus on the foot, and will look to answer whether biomechanical loading or tissue stress within the foot correlates to gout-affected sites.

“Gout is strongly associated with obesity and features of wear-and-tear arthritis, suggesting that loading on certain joints may play a role in the development of the disease,” says Justin Fernandez.

The University is looking to recruit 40 participants for the study: 20 people with a high body mass index (BMI) and 20 who fall within the healthy BMI range.

As part of the study the walking and running habits of participants will be captured and analysed in the ABI’s gait lab and the data combined with a computational model of the foot to work out bone erosion and tissue stress.

This information will be compared to gout “hot spots” detected by specialist imaging technology, in an investigation led by Nicola Dalbeth from the School of Medicine.

“We will use the gait information with a computational model of the foot to work out bone erosion and tissue stress. We will look for correlations between foot stress and bone erosion with tophus formation (deposits of uric acid crystals in the tissues) imaged using dual-energy CT,” says Justin.

The study may provide evidence for the role that biomechanics plays in the development of gout and provide justification for future studies assessing gait modification and foot stress rebalance as strategies in the clinical management of gout, says Justin.

Others who received AMRF awards are

Associate Professor Alan Davidson and Dr Teresa Holm (Molecular Medicine and Pathology), Dr Justin Dean (Physiology), Associate Professor Geoffrey Krissansen, Glenn Bell, PhD Student, and Yi Yang, technician (Molecular Medicine and Pathology), Dr Trecia Wouldes, Associate Professor Linda LaGasse and Professor Barry Lester (Psychological Medicine), Dr Julie Lim, Dr Angus Grey and Professor Paul Donaldson (Optometry and Vision Science), Dr Euphemia Leung and Professor Bruce Baguley (Auckland Cancer Society Research Centre), and Dr Peter Huggard (Goodfellow Unit).

Funding has been provided for visiting academic, Professor Christina Puchalski, Director of the George Washington Institute for Spirituality and Health, University of Washington. The Sir Douglas Robb Memorial Fund Award has been given to Dr Jennifer Utter (Epidemiology and Biostatistics, School of Population Health), and Dr Siouxsie Wiles (Molecular Medicine and Pathology) has received the Sir Douglas Robb Memorial Fund Award.

Anatolian origins

University of Auckland research published last week in the journal *Science* tackles a 200-year old question and supports the controversial hypothesis that Indo-European languages originated in Anatolia 8,000 to 9,500 years ago and spread with the expansion of farming.

Using methods developed to trace the geographic origin of viral outbreaks such as HIV and H1N1, the research shows that the spread of the languages is consistent with an origin in Anatolia in present-day Turkey.

"If you know how viruses are related to one another you can trace back through their ancestry and find out where they originated," explains lead researcher Dr Quentin Atkinson from the Department of Psychology. "We've used those methods and applied them to languages."

Dr Atkinson worked with researchers from Europe and North America as well as with computer scientists Dr Remco Bouckaert and Associate Professor Alexei Drummond and fellow psychologist Professor Russell Gray, all from The University of Auckland.

The study examined basic vocabulary terms and geographic information from 103 ancient and contemporary Indo-European languages. The location and age of the languages' common ancestor supported the Anatolian hypothesis.

The findings are consistent with the expansion of agriculture into Europe via the Balkans, reaching the edge of Western Europe 5,000 years ago. They are also consistent with genetic and skull-measurement data which indicates an Anatolian contribution to the European gene pool.

The work follows a 2003 *Nature* paper from the same research group, which first used methods

from evolutionary biology to build the languages' family tree. The age of the tree was consistent with Anatolian origins as opposed to the more conventional view that the languages emerged thousands of years later near the Caspian Sea.

"The two competing theories imply two different ages and locations for the origin of the language family. We initially used the age of the family to test the theories," says Quentin of the original work. While the findings made a strong case for the Anatolian hypothesis, some members of the research community remained unconvinced.

The current research, which includes both geographic and historical data, confirms the languages' Anatolian origins. "It reinforces our earlier findings, and applies exciting new methods from epidemiology to study languages," says Quentin. "We've developed an entirely new methodology for inferring human prehistory from language data. It allows us to place these language family trees on a map in space and time and play out histories over the landscape."

The Indo-European languages, a family of several hundred languages and dialects, are spoken by almost three billion native speakers and include languages such as English, Spanish, French, German, Hindi and Bengali.

The conventional "steppe hypothesis" posits that the languages originated in the Pontic steppe region north of the Caspian Sea, and were spread into Europe and the Near East by Kurgan semi-nomadic pastoralists beginning 5,000 to 6,000 years ago. The "Anatolian hypothesis" argues that the languages spread with the expansion of agriculture from Anatolia, beginning 8,000 to 9,000 years ago.

Seeking stories

We would like to increase the level of activity and frequency of staff-based, human interest stories on the Staff Intranet News and are seeking ideas and stories from across the University.

While we will continue to publish a balance of hard news stories and highlight key work-related successes and achievements of academic and professional staff members, we're also interested in telling stories that will build knowledge and understanding of our staff, and engender community. A story we had last year on Professional Staff member Michelle Staff, who in her spare time is an opera singer and is the voice that leads "Guadeamus Igitur" at Graduation ceremonies, received a lot of interest, for example.

If you have a good human interest story idea, in the first instance please contact by email the editor of the Staff Intranet News: Tess Redgrave at t.redgrave@auckland.ac.nz

Give a brief outline of the story you propose, one or two sentences max., and state whether you can provide a suitable digital photo or not. Please also state whether you are prepared to write a first draft of the story or not.

Tess will then assess the idea and reply on how to proceed from there and give a deadline for copy and photos if applicable.

Please note that we will make the final edit on all copy and will decide when and for how long a story is live. Obviously, if any mistakes are noted once the story is live, these will be corrected.

HRC Funding 2013

The 2013 round has got off to a flying start, with The University of Auckland submitting 120 Project Expressions of Interest, up 15 percent on last year. Outcomes will be known on 5 October. Registrations for programmes, feasibility studies (FS) and emerging researcher first grants (ERFGs) are due at the Health Research Council on 12 September, 12 noon (applicants should register at least 24 hours earlier to enable the Research Office to check and forward to HRC). The Research Office deadline for programme applications is 12 October and 5 October for FS/ERFGs. Check our website at <https://www.staff.auckland.ac.nz/uoae/home/staff-intranet/research-36/develop-your-research-funding-application-and-apply/health-research-council-hrc-assistance/key-dates>

New Zealand eScience Infrastructure roadshow

The New Zealand eScience Infrastructure (NeSI) is holding a National High Performance Computing Roadshow in September. The team will visit The University of Auckland on Friday, 14 September. Topics will include:

- NeSI's High Performance Computer facilities: their capabilities, how to gain access and how to submit work
- Data Fabric: a secure, replicated data storage and transport system
- NeSI Roadmap: An overview of the plan for future services.

In the afternoon, the team is available for individual appointments and small group discussion on discipline-specific issues.

For more information visit nesi.org.nz/roadshow. To register your interest in attending or book a time to discuss an individual project, email Tim McNamara (t.mcnamara@auckland.ac.nz) by 7 September 2012.

Future Research Leaders Program (FRLP)

FRLP is a development programme designed to build research leadership capacity in University environments. This is a unique training opportunity for academics that aspire to take on a research leadership role (project and/or people leadership and management). FRLP has eight independent modules. You can choose to only attend one or more. The coming module is: Research Strategy and Planning – 17 September, all morning.

Register through frlp@auckland.ac.nz

More information, including the 2012 schedule, is available from the staff intranet (intranet > research > strategic development > Future Research Leaders Program).

From the collection



With her husband the eminent psychiatrist Fraser McDonald, Jacqueline Fahey lived her married life in hospital houses until 1984.

Moving to French Bay in Titirangi after a decade living at Carrington, where Fraser was Medical Superintendent, Fahey continued to use her domestic life as the subject matter for her work. Often, fraught family relationships directed her pictorial narratives, with the artist invoking classical mythology to give her imagery resonance.

In this instance, the three figures depicted are her elder sister, Barbara, who wears the hat in the foreground and gestures through a patch of sunshine yellow; the artist's youngest daughter, Emily, sitting back on the couch with her feet up on the Victorian deal table, and the matriarch Margaret Fahey, seen in profile at right, seated in a roll arm chair. In the recently-published second volume of Jacqueline Fahey's autobiography, *Before I Forget*, there is an explanation of the greater significance of this grouping: "Mum had stayed with us at Carrington after a fall once, and I'd done a lot of drawings of her. Back in Carrington then I'd had a lot to do looking after her and I didn't want to stress myself out, so I had stopped painting. But I could not control my looking and seeing and

took to drawing again, often random and on-the-hoof stuff. Now in Titirangi, seeing more of Mum, those drawings came back to me."

This explains the sketchy, seemingly unfinished aspect of this work, where black outlines predominate and the colouring has been abandoned. A shallow interior space gives on to two large picture windows at the back, with fluffy clouds in a blue sky and a flash of green bush visible, the serenity of nature beyond the living room contrasting with the chaos within it. With its profusion of diagonals and tangle of lines, the scene spills toward the viewer like a tilting stage set.

Aspects of the tableau are recognisable as symbols of the traditional realm of the unrelenting tasks of housewifery: the basket of unfolded washing in its wicker basket and the skeins of wool on the floor. Flitting birds, found elsewhere in Fahey's work where female characters are shown speaking, animate the air in concordance with the gesturing of Barbara's left hand. Central to the composition is the three-legged Victorian gypsy fortune-telling table, topped by letters, with its silken fringe fiercely bristling, recognisable from a photographic portrait of Jacqueline Fahey made in 1987. Beneath one of the bobbin-turned legs,

capitalised letters spell out the work's title. Rather than suggesting that Barbara is a modern-day soothsayer, the tripod table's role is to point to the nature of threes, showing how these women can be seen as a kind of Holy Trinity.

"MUM" is writ large, but indistinctly, and similarly, the mother figure is almost indecipherable, hidden beneath foliage and scribbled lines. Only her stoic profile seems resolutely described. In a recent radio interview, Fahey explained that although she frequently saw her mother (who lived well into her ninth decade), they were estranged until almost the end of Margaret Fahey's life. Here the artist is the dispassionate observer, using her image-making skills to configure the emotionally charged mother-daughter relationship as universally significant. *Before I Forget* offers insight into the intent of this imagery of mother, daughter, grand-daughter: "Out of that messy collection [of drawings] came something consistent: a sort of Greek tragedy-cum-King Lear rendering of my mother's decline. Her handmaidens in her travails were my daughter Emily and my sister Barbara. They were placating, soothing, and distressed in themselves. A grieving Greek chorus. Now in Titirangi I was able to resolve the compositions and carry those ideas to fruition...The maiden, the mature woman and the hag. A female holy trinity, an eternal cycle. Her shrines had been established at waterfalls in Ireland. Later the new priests of Christianity replaced her with the Virgin Mary." Typically, Fahey loops back from her own relationships through Catholicism to invoke her Irish ancestry, giving a political and religious twist to her narrative of connection, while noisily dispelling the ideal of intergenerational familial harmony.

Jacqueline Fahey, Barbara Speaks to Mum, 1986, 510 x 1040mm, mixed media on paper

Books



Before I forget

In the tradition of romance novels, Jacqueline Fahey brought the curtain down after her marriage to Fraser McDonald at the end of her first memoir, *Something for the Birds*.

In *Before I Forget* she continues the story from this happy-ever-after moment, charting her life since 1960.

While raising three daughters and many dogs, handling the deaths of her parents and battling the politics of mental hospitals, the expectations on doctors' wives and the perils of a boozy culture, Jacqueline Fahey remained committed to her painting life – "the art world where I could be something like myself".

From Porirua Mental Hospital to Melbourne (where Fraser trained as a psychiatrist), and from Kingseat Hospital to Carrington (where Jacqueline had a run-in with Titewhai Harawira), she describes a brimming, shifting life of family, politics, ideals and art.

A distinguished artist, especially known for her paintings of domestic and suburban life, Jacqueline Fahey is also a writer. She was one of the first New Zealand artists to work explicitly from a woman's perspective and in the late 1980s became an influential lecturer at Elam School of Fine Arts.

What's on

THURSDAY 30 AUGUST

Pūkenga Arts

9.30am-3.30pm, venue tba.
Pūkenga Arts exposes Māori and Pacific students who are nearing the end of their undergraduate degree or just beginning postgraduate studies to academic, scholarships and employment possibilities.

Queries to Peni Fa'alogo, Arts Equity Coordinator, p.falogo@auckland.ac.nz

Innovation in Practice series symposium

Whānau Ora in the social service landscape. 1-4pm J1 Lecture Theatre, Gate 3, 74 Epsom Ave, Epsom.

Hosted by the School of Counselling, Human Services and Social Work. RSVP to ma.barnett@auckland.ac.nz

Technique+: Teaching technical writing

3-5pm, CAD Seminar Rm, 2nd Floor, 18 Waterloo Quadrant.

We will discuss and practise techniques for working technical writing micro-lessons into our teaching. Further, we will think about ways to "customise" our technical writing: to individualise and personalise it; this is technique+. Register at www.cad.auckland.ac.nz/workshops or phone CAD reception at ext 88140 for assistance.

FRIDAY 31 AUGUST

Inaugural lecture

By new professors at The University of Auckland.

Prof Bernd Krauskopf, Mathematics: *Geometry of chaos*. 3pm Large Chemistry Lecture Theatre, 23 Symonds Street.

Exhibition opening

Douglas Wright: Body of Work. 5.30pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 17 Shortland St. Until 20 October.

Visit www.gusfishergallery.auckland.ac.nz

SATURDAY 1 SEPTEMBER

Film screening

1pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Screening and discussion of dance film *Forever* (1994) with Douglas Wright, Jo Randerson, filmmaker Chris Graves, rehearsal assistant Ann Dewey and Dr Keren Chiaroni. Visit www.gusfishergallery.auckland.ac.nz

SUNDAY 2 SEPTEMBER

School of Theology at The University of Auckland 10 year celebration

Fale Pasifika Bldg. Runs until 3 September. Queries to Mel Rodger, m.rodger@auckland.ac.nz

TUESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

Bioengineering research seminar

Dr Jessie Jacobsen, Neurological Foundation of NZ Repatriation Fellow, Centre for Brain Research, School of Biological Sciences: *Genetic engineering: A lesson in taking a closer look*. 4-5pm Ground Floor Seminar Room G010, UniServices House, 70 Symonds St.

WEDNESDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

Len Lye the opera

8pm, Maidment Theatre. Runs until 8 Sept. A contemporary opera based on the life and work of artist Len Lye. Eve de Castro-Robinson (composer), Roger Horrocks (libretto), Uwe Grodd (artistic director), Murray Edmond (stage director), Shirley Horrocks (moving images), John Verryt (set design), Nik Janiurek (lighting design), Kristen Sorrenson (costume design) and Emily Campbell (choreography). Featuring James Harrison, Ursula Langmayr, Anna Pierard, Carmel Carroll, Lilia Carpinelli, Te Oti Rakena, Will Barling and Darryn Harkness. Bookings phone 308 2383. Visit www.lenlyeopera.auckland.ac.nz

THURSDAY 6 SEPTEMBER

Comvita Science Symposium: Engaging Science

8.30am-4.30pm Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd.

Join us for our fourth annual science symposium to hear from industry leaders as they share new findings and latest publications. Share innovative ways of making the science of natural products consumer-friendly. Explore collaboration opportunities for natural products. Visit www.comvita.co.nz/science-symposium

Excel introduction workshop

9am, 2nd Floor, Fisher Bldg, 18 Waterloo Quadrant. Phone 923 7951 for more information or to enrol.

Migrant youth symposium

The experiences and perceptions of Asian migrant youth: A 'Kowi' (Korean Kivi) perspective. 1-3.30pm J1 Lecture Theatre, Gate 3, 74 Epsom Ave, Epsom. Hosted by the School of Counselling, Human Services and Social Work and the Korean Community Wellness Society (KCWS). RSVP to hj.park@auckland.ac.nz

FRIDAY 7 SEPTEMBER

2012 Asia-Savvy student conference

Decima Glenn Rm, Level 3, Owen G Glenn Bldg, 12 Grafton Rd. Runs until 8 Sept.

For more information or to register visit www.asia-savvy.com or www.facebook.com/asiasavvyconference

Department of Computer Science seminar

Dr Michael Witbrock, UoA: *Opportunities in good, old-fashioned, AI*. 12-1pm Rm 303S.561, City Campus.

SATURDAY 8 SEPTEMBER

Exhibition talk

Photographer John Savage talks about collaborating with artists and capturing movement, including his work on Douglas Wright's *Black Milk* and *rapt*. 1pm Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Visit www.gusfishergallery.auckland.ac.nz

Songwriter of the Year schools competition grand final

6.30pm Studio One, Kenneth Myers Centre, Shortland St. Free admission. Visit www.creative.auckland.ac.nz/songwriter

TUESDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

Applied Language Studies and Linguistics seminar

Ghil'ad Zuckermann, University of Adelaide: *Sleeping beauties awake: Towards the establishment of revival linguistics*. 1pm Room 315, Arts 1. Queries to jason.brown@auckland.ac.nz

NZ Centre for Environmental Law public lecture

Carl Chenery: *Rights of nature and the NZ constitutional review*. 2-4pm Northey Lecture Theatre, Law School, 9 Eden Crescent.

RSVP to lawevents@auckland.ac.nz

Bioengineering PhD exit seminar

Yikan Wang, Auckland Bioengineering Institute: *Reverse-engineering of genetic regulatory pathways in human cancer*. 4-5pm Ground Floor Seminar Rm G010, UniServices House, 70 Symonds St.

WEDNESDAY 12 AUGUST

AUPISA cultural day

The Auckland University Pacific Island Association will be sharing their Pacific flair with the rest of the University. Visit www.auckland.ac.nz/adventure

Applied Language Studies and Linguistics seminar

Tan Bee Tin, The University of Auckland: *Keep checking back for more information. Researching the peripheral other and learning English of Karen students in Burma (Myanmar)*. 12noon DALSL Meeting Rm 206-408, Arts 1. Queries to jason.brown@auckland.ac.nz

Fermata lecture

Ross Hendy, Managing Director, Promethean Editions: *Promethean unbound*. 5.30pm Music Theatre, School of Music, 6 Symonds St.

Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

Apartments for rent. Call us for your rental requirements; we offer city apartments furnished/unfurnished, all sizes and prices; great rental deals for long-term leases; call David Feng (09) 303 0601 or Lauren Valcarcel (021) 7103 4865 at City Sales or rentals@citysales.co.nz or log on to www.citysales.co.nz/rentals

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

Whitianga beachfront property: AUT members special rate, \$140 per night, book at specials@admiralty-lodge.co.nz

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

Looking for a housesitter over summer? Retired UK couple visiting their grandchildren in Auckland are looking for housesit/s over late November-January. Houseproud, reliable, honest and mature; contact mosels20@btinternet.com

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Subaru Impreza 2.0 GX AWD 2005, manual 5 speed, NZ new, one owner. Owner has taken up a position in Dubai. The car has done 109,700km and has been regularly serviced by the dealer since new. All receipts available. It is in very good condition, a very nice light blue in colour, and has all the extras including: power windows, central locking, ABS, air con, driver and passenger air bags, cruise control, factory stereo, good tyres and a brand new WOF. Price is negotiable around \$9,500-10,500. Contact ext 87230, or (021) 072 8701 (David).

MISCELLANEOUS

City Legal Services. Rainey Collins Wright is a small law firm centrally located at L1 Princes Court, 2 Princes Street. We are near the University, with good parking. We can assist with property transactions, trusts, wills, administration of estates, enduring powers of attorney and relationship property matters. Please phone our senior solicitor Nichola Christie on 379 5828 to discuss your needs, or email nchristie@rainey.co.nz Visit www.rainey.co.nz

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KEY TO SUCCESS

The youth justice system in Aotearoa/New Zealand is internationally recognised as an example of best practice in dealing with young people who offend.

International youth justice instruments require that young people accused of crimes are subject to specialised laws and procedures. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) requires ratifying states to “promote laws, procedures, authorities and institutions specifically applicable to children” alleged to have infringed the law. Aotearoa/New Zealand ratified UNCRC on 13 April 1993.

Aotearoa/New Zealand’s youth justice system has several specialised aspects. Special youth justice principles govern decision-making. These include diversion, retaining young people in their communities, whanau involvement in decision-making and age as a mitigating factor. Second, there is the specialised restorative justice forum at the heart of the system – the Family Group Conference (FGC). This involves victims of the crimes and seeks consensus on what young people should do to restore the harm they have caused.

Specialised procedures require specialist personnel. One of the key roles in the system is that of the Youth Advocate. Youth Advocates are specialist lawyers appointed by the Youth Court to represent young people in youth justice proceedings. The legislation requires that those appointed are, so far as is practicable “by reason of personality, cultural background, training and

experience, suitably qualified to represent” young people. A Youth Court Protocol contains additional criteria for appointment. These include the ability to relate to and communicate with young people and their families, and understanding of restorative principles and processes.

It is essential that young people understand the charges they face and the consequences of involvement in Youth Court and FGC processes. I wanted to explore the work of Youth Advocates and, with financial help from the New Zealand Law Foundation, was able to conduct interviews with 34 Youth Advocates in four randomly chosen sites throughout Aotearoa. I have just published my research report “Youth Advocates in Aotearoa/New Zealand’s Youth Justice System”. The research findings support the claim that youth justice personnel are carrying out a complex, specialised role.

Youth advocates demonstrated highly skilled practice in engaging with their young clients and ensuring that they understood the charges. The lawyers encouraged the young people to use free recall, to tell their stories without suggestion or pressure. They had sophisticated techniques for communicating with young clients’ whanau and for protecting the clients from whanau pressure, if that were required. The interviews revealed Youth Advocates going to extraordinary lengths to explain the importance of participating in FGCs and the consequences of agreeing to carry out FGC plans.

The success of a youth justice system can be judged by the extent to which young people are able to understand and engage in the process and achieve successful outcomes. My report indicates that the specialised Youth Advocate role is a key element in this. It is therefore extremely concerning that the Legal Assistance (Sustainability) Amendment Bill is before Parliament. The inappropriately named Bill proposes to replace the present Youth Advocate court appointment process with approval by the Secretary of Justice. At a stroke, the specialist eligibility criteria would be replaced with generic criteria in the legal services regulations, which do not acknowledge the complexity of the Youth Advocate’s role.

The assumption in the Bill seems to be that any criminal lawyer can be a Youth Advocate. That is a dangerous and misguided assumption. Young people face many barriers to understanding and participating in the youth justice system. They need specialised lawyers to guide them through the system to successful outcomes. Our youth justice success is based on the principle of specialisation. The Bill must not be allowed to undermine that principle. Failure to sustain the quality of our Youth Advocates will inevitably result in failure of the system to engage with our young people and to give them a second chance.

Alison Cleland
Faculty of Law