



## DONATING FOR CANCER

*Drug Runners team members. From back left: Petr Tomek, (PhD student) Professor Bruce Baguley (co-director ACSRC) Chris Guis (postdoc scientist). From front left: Professor Mark McKeage (co-director ACSRC), Shevan Silva (PhD student), Sarah McManaway (Research Technician).*

Fletcher Construction has donated \$35,000 to match the efforts of a team of University staff who are cycling in New Zealand's inaugural Ride to Conquer Cancer challenge.

In a bid raise funds for cancer research at the University-based Auckland Cancer Society Research Centre (ACSRC), the Auckland Division of the Cancer Society has launched the epic, two-day ride across the country. Each entrant will aim to raise \$2,500 by the time of the 200 kilometre ride on November 16-17.

Already the ACSRC has formed a team called Drug Runners, comprising 14 staff and others, with a goal of raising \$35,000. Fletcher Construction will match this.

Greg Pritchard, Fletcher Construction Building-Interiors General Manager says: "The five year project to redevelop the Medical School facilities has made many Fletcher people acutely aware of the tremendous work being undertaken by researchers at The University of Auckland.

"Our sponsorship of the ACSRC's team participating in the Ride to Conquer Cancer is a gesture to recognise what is being achieved

within the facilities we have delivered and to honour the commitment of the University and its people as they pursue medical advances."

Professor Mark McKeage, Team Leader of Drug Runners, and one of the ACSRC's four co-directors, says the donation is "a huge boost which will help the team get new members on board too".

The ACSRC is one of the world's most productive academic cancer drug development groups. To date it has brought 12 new drugs to clinical trial in New Zealand and around the world. Proceeds from the Ride to Conquer Cancer will support research into developing new treatments for many different cancers - lung, breast, melanoma, colon - and to bolstering the centre's key approach, which is targeted cancer therapy.

"Funding is very tight at the moment both from the industrial and government sector," says co-director, Professor Bruce Baguley. "So this will help enormously."

"Meaningful cancer research is very expensive," adds Mark McKeage.

*Continued on page 2*



### Join the University of Auckland Team

As well as the ACSRC team, staff across the University are invited to join The University of Auckland Team. Captained by Anna Ma (School of Asian Studies) and James Harper (ITS), the team has already begun training and planning together.

"We will be doing training rides, helping each other to fundraise, and generating awareness of the ACSRC's critical research," says James.

"We're here because we know that cancer is too big a disease to ignore. It affects many of us personally as well as our family, friends and loved ones. By riding in this event we are doing something about it. It's an awesome triumph physically and emotionally as well."

Staff across the University are invited to donate to or join the University of Auckland and/or the Drug runners teams at:

[www.auckland.ac.nz/conquercancer](http://www.auckland.ac.nz/conquercancer)

## Growing up

The majority of the mothers are in paid employment towards the end of their pregnancy, and most intend to return to work after their child is born.

This is one of the early findings on parental leave and the transition back to employment of the University-based Growing Up in New Zealand study.

Associate Professor Susan Morton, Research Director of Growing Up in New Zealand, presented some early findings at the University's Combining Parenting and a Career seminar series recently.

This is the first longitudinal study of its kind and provides an up-to-date, population-relevant picture of what it is like to be a child growing up in New Zealand in the 21st century. Susan presented the following research findings:

Mothers would like their leave to be twice as long as the eight months (on average) they are able to take, whereas partners would like to take a few extra weeks.

The majority of the mothers were in paid employment towards the end of their pregnancy, and most intended to return to work after their child was born.

Many parents in the most deprived areas were not aware of either paid parental leave or Working for Families tax credits. Children whose mothers were still on paid parental leave at nine



months, were most likely to have their immunisations completed on time.

Children whose mothers took other leave (unpaid, sick and annual leave) were least likely to have their immunisations completed on time.

Following Susan's presentation, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Equity) Trudie McNaughton discussed data on University paid and unpaid parental leave from 2008-2012, comparing academic and professional staff, their ages and length of leave.

Trudie also highlighted University policies which support those combining parenting and a career, such as the Flexible Work Policy and the Merit Relative to Opportunity Policy, as well as resources including fridges for storing expressed milk, rest spaces and parking permits for staff with family responsibilities.

For more information on Growing Up in New Zealand and Combining Parenting and a Career: [www.equity.auckland.ac.nz/cpc](http://www.equity.auckland.ac.nz/cpc)

*"Donating for Cancer" Continued from page 1*

Cancer is the leading cause of death for both males and females in New Zealand, accounting for 29% of all deaths. More than \$500 million a year is spent by the public health system diagnosing and treating cancer.

"We are very excited about holding the inaugural Ride in Auckland this November," says Alannah Hunter, Marketing and Communications Manager for the Auckland Division of the Cancer Society. Since its inception in 2008, the Ride has raised significant funds for cancer research, development and care programs across Canada and Australia.

"The Ride has big bold goals, which is a perfect fit for the role of the Cancer Society," says Alannah. "We are striving every day to reduce the effects of cancer on our community, and ways to develop better treatments and ultimately cures. Our partnership with ACSRC is vital to reducing cancer's impact and the number of people diagnosed in the future."

## An innovation business



Distinguished Professor Emeritus, John Boys and Professor Grant Covic (both from the Faculty of Engineering's Electrical and Computer Engineering Department), have won KiwiNet Research Commercialisation Awards. The pair jointly won the Researcher Entrepreneur Award for their outstanding contribution to business innovation.

The KiwiNet Awards are designed to celebrate success within New Zealand's research organisations. The Researcher Entrepreneur Award recognises an entrepreneurial researcher who has made outstanding contributions to

business innovation or has created innovative businesses in New Zealand through technology licencing, start-up creation or by providing expertise to support business innovation.

John and Grant, (nominated by UniServices) have been undertaking commercialisation for more than 25 years and have a passion for seeing their work used in the real world. It is a passion they instill in all of their students.

As a result of their work the University's Power Electronics Lab in Auckland is regarded as one of the leading centres of its kind in the world.

John and Grant are the inventors on more than 60 United States, European, and Japanese patents in several patent families. Their technology has had a global impact, notably in 2010 when UniServices, using their inventions, formed Halo Induction Power Technologies together with the global engineering firm, Ove Arup and the TransTasman Commercialisation Fund.

Under contract with the company they continued to develop the technology resulting in Qualcomm purchasing the assets of Halo for an undisclosed multi-million dollar sum, in October 2011.

## Food for thought

In June, the Liggins Fetal, Perinatal and Maternal Translational Research for Lifelong Health (LiFePATH) group hosted Professor Anne White from the Institute of Human Development, University of Manchester with the support of an International Research Teams Development Award (IRTDA).

Anne's team and The LiFePATH group have a long-standing multidisciplinary research collaboration that delves into the role of maternal nutrition on the lifelong health of offspring. Recent work has linked, through epigenetic modifications that occur during fetal development, maternal nutrition to changes in appetite regulation and fat and lean mass in adult sheep.

The 5th June meeting attracted 180 scientists, clinicians and food industry representatives from across New Zealand. With support from the IRTDA, Gravida and the Perinatal Society of New Zealand, the LiFePATH group selected a group of outstanding local and visiting speakers, all of whom have collaborations or associations with LiFePATH and with Gravida, to present their unique perspectives on the impact of early life nutrition on lifelong health. From anatomy to nutrition and evolutionary biology to public health; on-going multidisciplinary research in this area will certainly continue to provide 'Food for Thought'.

## Artist's gift

Auckland-born expatriate artist Max Gimblett has gifted a significant collection of his works on paper to The University of Auckland Art Collection. Since establishing his studio in New York in 1972, Max has enjoyed a special relationship with the University as the inaugural honorary Visiting Professor of Art at NICA, a post he first held in 2005. In December 2012 Professor Jenny Dixon negotiated the gift in her role as DVC Strategic Engagement, and in February this year 28 works were chosen by Associate Dean (Equity) in the Faculty of Arts, Dr Caroline Vercoe during a conference visit to New York.

The selected works on paper were initially conceived of by Max as part of *The Third Mind: American Artists Contemplate Asia, 1830-1989* held at the New York Guggenheim Museum in 2009. This landmark exhibition was the first time a New Zealand painter had been included in a show at the museum, and Max's work was exhibited alongside pivotal artists such as Georgia O'Keeffe, Jasper Johns, Robert Motherwell and Nam June Paik.

A mixture of media characterises the University gift, as does the quatrefoil pattern which has become a recurring motif throughout Gimblett's oeuvre generally. The use of precious metals and in particular Japanese silver and gold leaf gives depth and texture to the largely



geometric forms, as well as highlights the artist's enduring interest in Eastern culture and Zen calligraphy. Working in a style which Max calls "contemporary modernism", the bright palette of these works is also a reference to Western traditions of abstract expressionism and particularly the work of Jackson Pollock and Willem de Kooning.

Linda Tyler, Director of the Centre for Art Studies and the Gus Fisher Gallery which

administers The University of Auckland Art Collection says the Gimblett gift is "an important contribution to the collection by a seminal New Zealand artistic voice. Max's generosity to the University ensures our University Art Collection captures the extraordinary breadth of his artistic output and increases its ability to be a useful research tool to both staff and students currently and in years to come."

The gift is an acknowledgement of Max's special status in the University and joins two Gimblett works already in the collection: a large-scale ceramic wall mural installed in Owen G Glenn Building and an over-sized quatrefoil canvas. Since arriving from Gimblett's New York studio the works have been formerly acquisitioned into the collection and dispersed throughout the campuses.

*Max Gimblett (b.1935), Untitled, 2010  
Pencil, ink, acrylic, oil size, Japanese reoxidised silver leaf on watercolour paper, 762 x 584 mm*

## First Winter Lecture

The countdown is on to the first of six Winter Lectures in the series: *Charms and harms of natural medicines*.

"Nature's medicine chest: opportunities for drug discovery" will be delivered on Tuesday 23 July, 1-2pm in the Maidment Theatre, by Distinguished Professor Margaret Brimble of the Faculty of Science (Chemical Sciences, Maurice Wilkins Centre). Last year Margaret won the Rutherford Medal, New Zealand's highest science honour, along with the MacDiarmid Medal and the Hector Medal.

This year's Winter Lecture series speaks to popular interest in natural medicines, and real concerns over their quality, safety and efficacy. Topics include nature's molecular creativity, and modern drug discovery from natural resources, to evidence for efficacy and safety of herbal and other 'natural'/complementary medicines, including those with 'lifestyle' uses, such as smoking cessation. Monitoring safety of these types of products, and future strategies, including regulation are covered.



*Margaret Brimble*

Speakers come from four Schools (Chemical Sciences, Medicine, Pharmacy, Population Health) representing two faculties (Science, Medical and Health Sciences) within the University.

For details on all six lectures visit [www.winterlectures.ac.nz](http://www.winterlectures.ac.nz)

## From the Vice-Chancellor



From 26 to 28 June, I attended the annual Presidents' meeting of the Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU), together with Alex Zadoyanov from the Faculty of Arts. The meeting was held at the new campus of the Far Eastern Federal University on Russky Island south of Vladivostok.

Established in 1899, the Far Eastern Federal University is the only Russian university in the APRU. Its new campus is quite extraordinary – constructed in the picturesque Ajax Bay, it was built for the 2012 APEC summit and then handed over to the university. It would be at least the capacity of our City and Grafton campuses combined, and includes accommodation for 8,000 students. It is difficult to know how much of an investment in the university this represents but it must surely be several billion dollars. The university will transfer its whole operation from the old buildings in the city to the new campus later in the year. Several interesting themes emerged from the discussions at the APRU meeting. First, all the western universities have experienced continued reductions in government funding consequent in part because of the global financial crisis but also reflecting the inclination of governments to force the universities to seek alternative revenue sources. At the same time, expectations for reporting and measurement are increasing as governments require ever greater accountability for their diminishing levels of investment. This is not, of course, the pattern in the east, where massive investment in university systems continues, as evidenced not least by the experience of our Russian hosts.

The other major theme is that universities and networks such as APRU are focusing their research efforts on some of the world's great challenges - the environment, water quality, sustainable energy supply, food safety and security, obesity and diabetes, infectious diseases, equity of access to education and so on. This focus reflects not only a desire to concentrate scarce research resources, but also a recognition that many of these challenges require an inter-disciplinary approach involving both the human and natural sciences if they are to be resolved. The research networks to which we belong provide a very important means by which we can engage in these global projects, despite our distance from the world's major universities.

## Resolving disputes



"I'm acting like a triage nurse," says Layla Dowthwaite, the University's new Staff Dispute Resolution Coordinator from HR's Advisory and Shared Services. "People come to me when they don't want to talk to HR or their manager for various reasons."

Layla's role is a newly created part-time position to provide assistance and guidance to staff who are having a problem they need to work through. Layla is the first port of call and can provide "insight into the different options and where they might lead".

Layla is a Human Resources professional. She worked for many years in advisory positions, most notably at Telecom and Spotless Services. She went to the United Kingdom and spent time

working in HR for the financial ombudsman and for the National Health Service.

Even though her professional expertise is in HR, the staff dispute resolution coordinator's role is "independent from HR" which means "people don't have to worry about me going to tell their manager or anything like that".

The special skills that she brings to the role are her ability to listen and be impartial.

"I have a lot of empathy and I think it's important to try and understand what it's like for that person and how I can help them resolve the problem they are having," she says.

Layla is also a trained life coach and music teacher; she enjoys playing the saxophone and DJ-ing in her spare time and takes work and life balance very seriously.

Now a month into the role, Layla is getting to grips with the University environment and the culture here and meeting key people such as Jan Crosthwaite who provides the same service but for the students. Also, she is making sure the University's policies on disputes and resolutions are up to date and user friendly.

You can contact Layla on:  
Ext: 88905 or l.dowthwaite@auckland.ac.nz

## New vineyard manager



"People still refer to us as Goldwater, but they are slowly getting the hang of 'Goldie's', especially the locals," says Heinrich Storm, newly appointed Wine Maker and Operations Manager at the University's Goldie Vineyard on Waiheke Island.

Heinrich has taken over the reins since Ken Christie retired in May. But he is not new to Goldie Wines having worked his way from part time pruning and leaf plucking in the vineyard in 2008, to cellar hand and helping out in the winery.

South African born Heinrich developed a "great passion for wine" while studying and then working in the hospitality industry in Auckland and Hawkes Bay. He studied Wine and Viticulture at the HB Eastern Institute of Technology part time and extramurally while working in the wine industry.

The long term focus for Heinrich as manager of Goldie's is to make the vineyard "a really sustainable model," he says, "where everything looks after itself from water usage, to electricity to waste management".

He is proud of Goldie's rich history and wants to continue the legacy of Kim and Jeanette Goldwater and "be leaders in our field, by continuing to produce amazing wines that are enjoyed not just by University staff members but members of the public.

Heinrich envisions the property as a world class facility where people come to observe and see how things are done 'brand Goldie'. He believes what is unique about the boutique operation is its professional international commercial wine making and vineyard team of four full time employees who run alongside the University's wine science programme.

As a manager, Heinrich is now very much sales focused and administrative, but he makes sure he is in the winery two days a week so the wines don't get neglected.

"The wine we make is a reflection of all the hard work that everyone has done and the love that went into it," he says.

## Science centre honours professor



Professor Andrew Pullan

Aorere College has dedicated its new science centre to the memory of former dux, the late Professor of Engineering Science, Andrew Pullan.

At the official opening at the college at the end of June his wife Patti, unveiled a plaque on the new "Professor Andrew Pullan Science Centre".

The ceremony was attended by friends, family and college staff and University of Auckland academics: Associate Professor Donna Rose Addis (Psychology), Professor Ron Paterson (Law) and Associate Professor Rosalind Archer (Engineering), now Head of Engineering Science. Andrew was Head of Engineering Science until he became unwell. He died of cancer in March last year.

"Andrew was a well-loved and respected son of Aorere College", said Principal, Pat Drumm. "He was one of the few students to get the trifecta of dux, university scholarship and onto the college honours board when he gained his PhD."

"It was his special combination of qualities that



Andrew's wife Patti with son Zeke and daughter Xanthe

set him apart; he was a dedicated scientist and a great human being, and he was very much a member of the Aorere community," said Donna Addis, who is also a former student. "Andrew was a wonderful mentor to many up and coming scientists, and made a huge contribution in his field, as a member of both the national and international scientific community."

"This new science centre will inspire the next generation of scientists and there is no better person to name it after than Andrew," she said.

Professor Ron Patterson, a close friend of Andrew and his family, spoke on behalf of the Pullan family, including Patti and their children Zeke and Xanthe who were at the ceremony. He was at Aorere College with Andrew and recalled some of the highlights of their time there.

"Andrew would have thought it was fantastic to have this centre named after him," said Ron Paterson.



Professor Helen Sword took up her appointment as the inaugural Director of the University's new Centre for Learning and Research in Higher Education (CLear) on 1 July.

The new centre will have responsibility for some of the areas formerly covered by the Centre for Academic Development (CAD), specifically those associated with academic staff development and with eLearning. Staff of the centre will work with academics across the university on a variety of teaching and research initiatives.

"The goal of the centre," says Helen, "is to promote and develop research-informed teaching at The University of Auckland. We will do this mainly through working with academic staff, though never forgetting that the ultimate aim is to enhance student learning.

"We would like to function as a hub," she says, "finding people in the faculties who are doing exciting things and bringing them together to inspire and work with each other."

Already the Deans from seven of the University's eight faculties have each selected one academic as recipient of a year-long fellowship which will allow him or her to work for the equivalent of one full day a week with CLear. The theme for the first year of the fellowship, 2014, is "Rethinking the classroom". Helen says this could involve finding ways of making large lectures more interactive, or creating new kinds of learning spaces, or bringing in new educational technology. "The seven CLear Fellows [see list below] will have a chance to work together, exchange ideas and learn from us and from each other."

Helen believes it is essential for someone in her role to have continuing contact with undergraduates in order to stay in touch with their learning requirements in a world which is constantly changing and developing. For this reason, she intends to continue her teaching in the English Department, for which she was

co-recipient of the University's 2007 Teaching Excellence Award for Innovation in Teaching.

Helen has recently returned from a highly productive journey – supported by a Hood Fellowship – which allowed her the opportunity to disseminate findings from her most recent book, *Stylish Academic Writing*.

A highlight of her journey, during which she conducted lectures, workshops and interviews at 15 universities in six weeks, was a presentation she delivered at Harvard University on "Stylish academic writing". Harvard's Professor of Psychology Steven Pinker, world-renowned psychologist, linguist and cognitive scientist, spoke in response to Helen's presentation.

Helen says she gained valuable insights from those who attended the workshops. "When you have a group of people sitting in a room talking about writing, you can't help but learn a lot about their attitudes, beliefs and practices."

As part of her research, she asked participants to fill out a questionnaire on how they learned to write within their discipline, about how, when and where they write, and about their emotions around the act of writing.

In a new book (working title, *Habits of Highly Productive Academic Writers*) to be published by Harvard University Press, she says she would like to move away from formulaic prescriptions about how to approach writing, and instead to emphasise the choices people have and to help them explore ways of "playing to their strengths".

#### CLear Fellows for 2014:

- Stephen Turner, Arts
- Ross MacDonald, Business
- Margot Bowes, Education
- Gerard Rowe, Engineering
- Trudi Aspden, Medical and Health Sciences
- Dermott McMeel, NICA
- Andrew Luxton-Reilly, Science

## Worldwide Universities Network (WUN) proposals

Applications are invited from academic staff/teams across the University to the 2013 Worldwide Universities Network (WUN) Research Development Fund. This call constitutes the launch of the internal research proposal selection process, which directly precedes and feeds into the external WUN award process. WUN is an international network of research-led universities focused on developing multilateral, transcontinental research collaborations. The University can propose up to three new Auckland-led projects per year to the WUN for recognition and seed funding, and be a partner to any number of other member-led proposals. For further information and forms, please visit Staff Intranet » Research » Take up international research opportunities » Partnerships and collaborations » Worldwide Universities Network. The deadline to receive applications is **1 August 2013 at 5pm**. Contact Usha Bhatia, International Research Developer (Networks), [u.bhatia@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:u.bhatia@auckland.ac.nz), ext. 85562.

## Cancer Society of NZ (Auckland Division) – Travel Grant

Funding for individuals in Auckland and Northland who are engaged in clinical, educational, social or research activities related to cancer, to travel to overseas conferences or meetings. University deadline is **Tuesday 13 August 2013**, email [julia.zhu@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:julia.zhu@auckland.ac.nz)

## Genesis Oncology Trust

**Three funding rounds closing Tuesday 13 August 2013:**

Contact [julia.zhu@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:julia.zhu@auckland.ac.nz)

**Research Project Grant** – funding for contributions toward hypothesis-based clinical or biomedical research projects in the fields of cancer prevention, cancer treatment or the delivery of palliative care.

**Professional Development Awards** – funding to allow established cancer researchers and cancer care professionals to travel and participate in advanced training programmes or scientific meetings that will enhance their professional competence or extend their range of skills.

**Special Purpose Grants** – grants may be awarded to those working in cancer care, or cancer support organisations and may be used to carry out projects to support New Zealand-based initiatives that will lead to improvements in the prevention, detection, diagnosis or treatment of cancer, or improvements in the palliative care of cancer patients.

# From the art collection

In 1986, Merimeri Penfold, Senior Lecturer in Māori, had just published the groundbreaking Penguin book *Women and the Arts in New Zealand* with Elizabeth Eastmond in the Art History department. Reproducing works by forty women, of whom six were Māori, this influential book took an unashamedly feminist approach, redressing the absence of women (and Māori) artists from previous histories of New Zealand art. The authors' statement on the imprint page stated the political intent of the project explicitly: "We should also like to acknowledge the crucial importance of the women's movement for the basic conception of this book and for many of the perspectives adopted."

Merimeri Penfold commissioned Emily Karaka, one of the artists in the book, to make a work for the opening of the new Māori Studies Department in August 1986. Karaka's art, like her anti-tour and Bastion Point protest activity, needed words. Her art communicates her sense of outrage at historical injustices to Māori and women, and aims to create a vision for a more equitable future: "The issues that I'm always discussing are economic, social and environmental. Land rights tie back to the basis of justice in our country, the covenant of the country, the korowai of the country."

She drew inspiration and strength from her family. Both her father, and her brother Dilworth, one of the original members of the reggae band Herbs, were watersiders, and delivered a pro-Māori message in the lyrics of every song they sang, while her mother was an advocate for the urban arts centre Te Whare Tapere. For the title of the Māori Studies mural, she quotes one of her ancestors who fought to retain land for his iwi after the introduction of the Auckland Waste Land Act of 1858. Mita Karaka was outraged that "native title should be extinguished" to allow



the Crown to take "waste land". In a speech he said, "Maumau tangata, maumau whenua", which means "Waste the man and you waste the land."

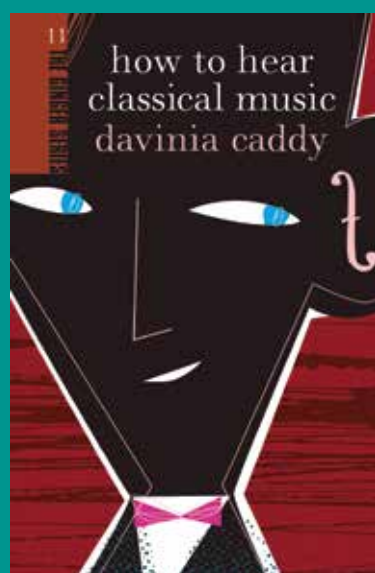
Basing her imagery around connections between the history of universities in New Zealand and expropriation of Māori land (in 1869 Otago University was given 100,000 acres of pastoral land as an endowment, for example), Karaka reminds the viewer of the context of place and space. The University of Auckland was founded on land that was part of the 3,000 acres block sold by some Ngāti Whātua for goods worth a few hundred pounds on 20 October 1840. Recurring across the painting like a chant is the phrase, "holes in the ground" and at the top right hand corner, the complete lament, "making holes in the ground for the purse gold" recalling the Biblical parable (Matthew 25) where the servant who buried his bag of gold is punished. This seems to implicate Christianity in shaping the attitudes of the colonizing pākehā: "whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them".

Formally, the painting blends expressionist paintwork with cubist collage. Numerous tiki with attendant koru and spiral forms are painted

in hot pinks, yellow, green and brown with highlights of white, blazing through the overlaying tracery of words. Their bursting energy is contained within a wooden waka taua or war canoe, carved by Karaka's partner at the time, Norman Te Whata. Sailing north, the waka has a carving of Te Uenuku, Tainui's god of rainbows as its taurapa or stern post while a manaia (profile bird or lizard) crouches at the prow. A rod with four sets of suspended scoria tied to it at intervals joins onto one of the waving verticals to bring in elements of Papatuanuku, the earth goddess, creator of the volcanic cones which structure the local landforms. The pictorial symbolism and text offer talismans for a long journey of education, warning against the wasting of talents, and show how the future for Māori will be conditional upon righting the wrongs of the past.

Emare Karaka (b.1952, Ngāti Maniapoto, Ngāti Wai, Ngai Tai, Ngāti Hine) *Waste the man, Maumau whenua, Maumau tangata Wasteland, wasteman*, 1986, acrylic on board, relief wooden carvings with suspended volcanic rock, 2120 x 4800mm

## Book



### How to Hear Classical Music

Here's a book to open readers' eyes – and ears – to exciting new sensations.

*How to Read Classical Music*, by Dr Davinia Caddy (School of Music), gives a whole new take on classical music that is provocative, original and entertaining, covering the whole range from operas and symphonies to the "strange cacophonies" of modern music.

One of a range of volumes from the Awa Press Ginger Series, due to be published in the next few weeks, this will be an excellent guide for anyone who would like to be able to contribute to conversations on classical music, to get a handle on music by modern composers, to convince teenagers of the merits of Beethoven or Bach – or just to read an absorbing book about music.

Davinia Caddy, an accomplished musician, historian and music-writer, began her musical career playing principal flute in the UK's National Youth Orchestra, gained a PhD in music from Cambridge University, and carried out post-doctoral research at Oxford. Now a senior lecturer at the School of Music, she specialises in 20th-century and contemporary musical culture. She has held awards from the British Academy, Music & Letters Trust, and the Scouloudi Historical Foundation.

# Māori Italian identities

A recent academic visitor to The University of Auckland, hosted by the School of European Languages and Literatures, has been asking some intriguing questions about Italians and Italian-Māori living in New Zealand.



Though Italians and Māori have formed some strong personal connections, particularly in Italy during the Second World War, and though there has been a substantial number of marriages between them, these have never before been the subject of academic study, at least as far as the researcher has been able to ascertain.

Dr Adalgisa Giorgio, a Senior Lecturer in Italian at the University of Bath, was in New Zealand from February until early June, conducting

research on Italian, New Zealand and European identity construction among Italians and Māori-Italians in New Zealand for a project partly funded by the European Union under the Erasmus Mundus Scheme. On 29 May she delivered a departmental seminar for SELL.

While in New Zealand Adalgisa conducted 170 interviews with Italians and Māori-Italians in Auckland, Wellington, Porangahau-Hastings and Turangi. The age range was from 19 to 80 and her interviewees were from the first, second, third, fourth and fifth generation of immigrants.

One of the questions she attempted to answer – though not through direct questioning – was about the way people construct their identities: What underpins their sense of self, their sense of being Italian? What makes an Italian also a New Zealander? Do people who are both Māori and Italian construct an identity which encompasses both and, if so, how do they do this? And do Māori and/or Italian New Zealanders also identify with a wider concept of “European-ness”?

This is taking her through an exploration of concepts of “blood” ties and of cultural and emotional attachment to “place”, of the importance of language, traditions and values, and of the desire and need of many of the Italians who have arrived recently to find a society that fosters and values people’s creativity and appreciates what they have to offer.

Adalgisa has found that the Maori part of the research is giving her particular insights.

“Seeing the way Māori understand themselves has helped me understand how Italians who left Italy years or generations ago still feel themselves to be Italian. Language is important to both, and yet many Māori have lost their language, which is true also of second or third-generation Italians. Place, where family and ancestors came from, is very important to most of these Italians, just as land is fundamental to Māori.” On the other hand, identification with their new country for many earlier first-generation immigrants is also about genealogy, as it is related to having children born there.

Adalgisa’s research is suggesting also that Māori-Italians tend to be more knowledgeable about their Italian ancestors and to engage with tracing them back further through the generations than Italians who are still living in Italy. “Whakapapa means they also know or search for their Italian genealogy,” she says.

Adalgisa anticipates that this research will offer valuable insights into the future of national and cultural identities in a globalised world.

Though her research is still at an early stage, the results that will emerge from analysis of the data are likely to be of interest here not only to academics but to the general public as well.

## What's on

### THURSDAY 11 JULY

#### Department of History seminar

Prof Regina Morantz-Sanchez, University of Michigan: *How thinking with gender changed the history and practice of medicine*. 2-4pm, Room 43, Bldg 223, 7 Wynyard St.

### FRIDAY 12 JULY

#### Austrian visitors to Oceania: Their activities and legacies symposium

10am-1pm, Rm 710, School of European Languages and Literatures, Arts 1, 14a Symonds St.

Three academics will present a symposium on the legacy of Austrian visitors to NZ and the South Pacific.

- 1) Prof Hermann Mückler, University of Vienna: *Austrian activities in the Pacific in the 19th and 20th centuries*.
- 2) Dr James Braund, School of European Languages and Literatures, UoA: *Christian Gottlieb Ferdinand Hochstetter*, followed by *the Moa and the early reception of Darwin in Vienna*.
- 3) Dr Sascha Nolden: *Basel Hochstetter Collection: Cataloguing a Viennese explorer's accumulation of archival documentary evidence of 19th century NZ*

### SATURDAY 13 JULY

#### Gallery event

1pm, Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St. Live saxophone performance by Callum Passells in relation to Anri Sala's *Long Sorrow*. Queries to: gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz Visit aucklandtriennial.co.nz

### Theatre

*The Heretic* written by Richard Bean. Presented by ATC. 8pm, Maidment Theatre. Runs until 10 August. Directed by Alison Quigan. Starring Jennifer Ward-Lealand and Andrew Grainger. To book phone 308 2383.

### SATURDAY 20 JULY

#### Doctoral and Postgraduate Symposium 2013

9am-4.30pm, Music Auditorium, Faculty of Education, Gate 3, 74 Epsom Ave, Epsom. A perfect opportunity for those considering embarking on their own masters or doctoral research to network and ask questions of our expert researchers, academic advisors, potential supervisors and current students. Register at [doctoralpostgradsymposium.eventbrite.co.nz](http://doctoralpostgradsymposium.eventbrite.co.nz)

#### Gallery event

1pm, Gus Fisher Gallery, 74 Shortland St.  
• Winner of the Prime Minister's Award for non-fiction in 2013, Greg O'Brien explores the connections between Peter Campbell and Graham Percy.  
• Live saxophone performance by Asher Trupman Lattie in response to Anri Sala's *Long Sorrow*.  
Queries to [gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:gusfishergallery@auckland.ac.nz)  
Visit [aucklandtriennial.co.nz](http://aucklandtriennial.co.nz)

### SUNDAY 21 JULY

#### Estrella CD launch

5pm, Music Theatre, School of Music, 6 Symmonds St. Prize winning group Estrella, with their unique combination of four pianists at two pianos, launch of their first commercial CD *Tui* featuring works by Eve de Castro Robinson and Leonie Holmes. Free. RSVP to [concerts@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:concerts@auckland.ac.nz) by 19 July.

### TUESDAY 23 JULY

#### Gallery event

Prof Andrew Barrie, Architecture & Planning, UoA: *Disasters, fires and slow-motion earthquakes*. 10.30am, The Lab, Auckland Art Gallery.

#### First 2013 Winter Lecture

*Charms and harms of natural medicines*. A series of six weekly lectures. Distinguished Prof Margaret A. Brimble PhD CNZM FRSNZ: *Nature's medicine chest: opportunities for drug discovery*. 1-2pm, Maidment Theatre, 8 Alfred St. Admission is free and open to the public. No bookings required. Queries to 373 7599 ext 87698.

## 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 (021) 246 6710 at [CitySales.com.nz](http://CitySales.com.nz) or log on to [www.citysales.co.nz/rentals](http://www.citysales.co.nz/rentals)  
**St Johns Park:** Self-contained modern one bdrm apartment for rent, fully furnished, kitchen/lounge, sunroom, washing machine, TV, storage, wireless Internet, OSP. Quiet secure garden location, close to 635 bus stop & Tāmaki Campus. Suit single/couple for short/long stay until December. Indicative rent \$280-\$380. Owners live upstairs. Contact [ulrich@cs.auckland.ac.nz](mailto:ulrich@cs.auckland.ac.nz)

### Bioengineering research seminar

Dr Richard Clarke, Senior Lecturer, Dept of Engineering Science, UoA: *Hydrodynamics of swimming micro-organisms*. 4-5pm, Seminar Rm 2 (G10), UniServices House, 70 Symonds St.

### WEDNESDAY 24 JULY

#### Classics and Ancient History seminar

Prof Harriet Flower, Princeton University: *Consensus and community in republican Rome*. 6.30pm, Rm 209, Arts 1.

#### Fast Forward Lecture series

Justin and Louise Wright: *Assembly Architects: Recent works*. 6.30pm, Engineering Lecture Theatre 1.439, 20 Symonds St.

### 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 [christie@rainey.co.nz](mailto:christie@rainey.co.nz)  
**Travel.** I have 12 years experience in booking all aspects of personal travel for university staff and lecturers. I pride myself in ensuring that your travel plans are sourced at the lowest possible costs and are tailor-made to your requirements. Contact Karen on [Karen.embleton@mondotravel.co.nz](http://Karen.embleton@mondotravel.co.nz) or 940 0064 (wk) or (021) 188 7781.

# G8 AND SYRIA

### Why do the G8 Countries Disagree Over Syria?

On 14 June, before the G8 Summit, the United States announced it would supply weapons to armed opponents of the Syrian government. It justified this move by citing, with “high confidence,” Syrian government use of chemical weapons.

Chemical weapons use, the Obama Administration stated, crossed a “red line” it had set for more active US engagement in the conflict.

The merits of this red line argument are questionable, and one person who might be raising her eyebrow at this development is Carla Del Ponte.

Del Ponte is one of the investigators on the UN fact-finding mission investigating war crimes in Syria.

Last month, Del Ponte told Swiss-Italian television she had “strong, concrete suspicions” that the Syrian rebels used poison gas against civilians. Citing testimony from survivors in hospitals outside Syria, Del Ponte said, “This was used on the part of the opposition, the rebels, not by the government authorities.”

In justifying its escalation, the US government has stated that the use of chemical weapons “violates international norms and crosses clear red lines that have existed within the international community for decades” – but so does rape, torture, forced conscription of child soldiers, and the killing of unarmed civilians or captured combatants.

So why now?

The administration also concedes that its change in approach is “particularly urgent right now” because Iran and Syria’s Lebanese militia ally, Hezbollah, have increased their own involvement. That support has driven significant military gains by the Syrian government in recent weeks.

Iran has responded to US intent to supply

weapons by pledging to supply Bashar al Assad with 4,000 Iranian Revolutionary Guards.

Another issue undermining the US chemical weapons justification is the comparatively marginal impact of chemical weapons use. The United States alleges that chemical weapons have killed 100-150 people. That’s around 0.1 per cent of the almost 93,000 deaths the United Nations cites since the start of the Syrian uprising.

It brings into question a sensitive principle called the “responsibility to protect” (R2P) via military means, and what triggers it. The Obama administration’s red line appears to assert a responsibility to militarily intervene and protect when it is strategically convenient, rather than when it is merited by the scale of ongoing suffering.

The Syrian war is being fought on multiple levels. Within Syria, and in the region, the conflict has turned into a Shia Islam versus Sunni Islam conflict. Bashar al Assad’s Shia-backed minority government, Iran, an increasingly Shia-dominated Iraq and Hezbollah, are fighting a Sunni majority in Syria, supported by Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Jordan, Egypt, and other North African governments.

NATO powers, particularly the United States, the United Kingdom and France have lined up with the Sunnis against Syria’s long time ally, Russia, which enjoys diplomatic support from China.

The international stakes are enormous. The Syrian and Iranian governments have been Russia’s two strong allies in the region. Russia has a defense agreement with Syria and a naval base on Syria’s Mediterranean coast.

Regime change would geographically isolate Hezbollah from critical Iranian support, significantly weakening Iran’s influence in the region – a huge loss for Russia, and a gain for the US and Israel.

Indeed, armed foreign intervention in situations such as Syria advances US interests vis-a-vis Russia. However, they may not be able to stop weapons from going into the hands of extremists, or maintain influence over a potential post-Assad government. The most effective anti-Assad militia, the al Nusra Front, is also an affiliate of al Qaeda in Iraq. By escalating the conflict, the US most likely presumes it can tip the military balance against Assad and negotiate a favorable regime change from a position of strength. Russia, which recently confirmed sale of anti-aircraft missile systems to Assad, appears prepared to match each escalating move.

By escalating the conflict, both sides deepen it, diminishing potential for peaceful resolution.

Nothing excuses the Syrian government’s killing of peaceful protestors. However, the US implicitly endorsed the arming of regime opponents by Saudi Arabia and Qatar. That elevated instability from abhorrent suppression of protestors to an armed conflict of far greater devastation to Syrians.

The Russians view the use of humanitarian justification as selectively deployed by the US in Syria, but not where US interests require protecting autocratic and repressive allies, such as in Yemen or Bahrain.

Russia often cites what appears to be its, and China’s, own red line: Libya. In Libya the UN Security Council imposed a no-fly zone that was used by NATO to achieve regime change through continued bombing of Libya long after the country’s air force was no more.

Humanitarian intervention allows, and potentially encourages, cynical governments to ferment instability in autocratic states where they have an interest in regime change. Once that regime engages in abuses, the option is then available to intervene.

China’s economy is due to surpass that of the United States in 2016. It needs not withhold its veto when it views UN Security Council resolutions as facilitating western aggression, particularly when acting alongside Russia.

In Syria, the US is setting a precedent that allows future drawing of convenient red lines, by the US or other global powers.

These red lines may need a red line drawn through them.

The G8 agreed that chemical weapons use is not acceptable. They also agreed urgent need for peace talks - but agreeing how the conflict is scaled down, including matched downsizing of external support, is a far greater challenge.

Political negotiation, elevated armed conflict, or a combination of the two may be employed to resolve the Syrian crisis. How this occurs may indicate the nature of future contestation in a world in which western dominance is declining.

**An earlier version of this article appeared in *The Atlantic*. It is by Chris Mahony, Deputy Director, Human Rights Centre, Faculty of Law.**