

A contemporary art installation in a dark gallery. On the left, a large, dark purple sculpture made of many thin, wavy lines of fiber optic lights. On the right, a tall, slender, glowing white sculpture made of many thin, wavy lines of fiber optic lights, standing on a dark wooden floor. The floor is highly reflective, showing the glow of the white sculpture.

Contemporary Art Foundation Half Year Report

1 July to 31 December 2019

CCO Governance and Monitoring Committee

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1. Foreword

The Contemporary Art Foundation (CAF) is pleased to report on the successful first six months of the 2019-20 financial year. CAF delivers high quality contemporary art to the Auckland region through the Te Tuhi Contemporary Art Trust (Te Tuhi). Both CAF and Te Tuhi are registered charitable trusts and not-for-profit entities.

CAF is committed to contemporary art that is locally engaged, regionally responsive, and internationally ambitious.

CAF's vision is:

- To be the contemporary art organisation in New Zealand that is nationally and internationally renowned for its art, engagement and participation practices.
- To be a catalyst for new ways of engaging with communities, new ways of supporting and developing creative practices and new ways of thinking.
- To further its contemporary art, education and residency programmes throughout Auckland and beyond.
- To play a significant role in the arts and culture sector in Auckland and New Zealand, making Auckland a culturally rich and creative city.

Te Tuhi continues to punch well above its weight, earning its reputation as Auckland's most innovative, cutting edge, contemporary art gallery. Te Tuhi contributes significantly to making Auckland a culturally rich and creative city, in line with the vision of the Auckland Plan to make Auckland the world's most liveable city. Te Tuhi continues to grow and expand its offer as a dynamic creative hub for the local community and the region. Te Tuhi delivers on all six of the Arts and Culture Strategic Action Plan goals to: invest in arts and culture; celebrate Auckland's unique cultural heritage; increase participation in arts and culture; develop a network of vibrant arts and culture organisations; contribute to a robust and flourishing creative economy; and to contribute to Auckland's place-making through its onsite and offsite programmes.

2. Strategic issues and focus areas

Te Tuhi has ambitious plans for the next three years and will continue to develop its successful and aspirational programmes, both onsite and offsite, with a particular focus on increasing and diversifying audiences both for Te Tuhi and for the arts and culture sector across Auckland. Te Tuhi's success and growth is based upon a reputation for innovation and placemaking, however there continue to be significant challenges for the future of Te Tuhi.

In the 2020 to 2023 period Te Tuhi faces considerable uncertainty for its future operation in Pakuranga from the impact of Auckland Transport's AMETI project, and the Reeves Road Flyover in particular. Te Tuhi is committed to engage fully with the AMETI project team to ensure the best possible outcomes from the design process, with a view to mitigating as far as possible any negative environmental and operational impacts, particularly around the provision of parking for access to the Pakuranga building.

However, the impact of road works, beginning in 2019 and continuing for an estimated 4 to 5 years, will have a considerable impact on the ability of Te Tuhi to raise 60% of its operational budget from commercial activity, and its ability to maintain its visitor numbers.

The Contemporary Art Foundation seeks to maintain the existing operation in Pakuranga for as long as viably possible and will continue to work with key project stakeholders to secure the future of Te Tuhi, while at the same time pursuing options which may include substantial mitigation work and/or relocation of part or all of its programmes to more appropriate venues.

Since 2008/09 CAF has had a real-terms decrease in funding from Auckland Council of 9% or \$58,000, and an increase in depreciation charges of 270% or \$114,000. As a result the amount of funding available for Te Tuhi's operating costs has fallen from 52% in 2008/09 to a projected 39% in 2019/20. This is creating a significantly increased income generation burden for Te Tuhi.

In order to maintain a reasonable level of funding to Te Tuhi to deliver the requirements of its funding agreement with Auckland Council, CAF has reported a cash surplus, but an accounting deficit, since 2011/12.

While these are significant challenges for the future, CAF looks forward to continuing to make significant contributions to the ecosystem of contemporary art in Auckland and beyond.

3. Highlights for the period

In August 2019, Te Tuhi opened the major group exhibition *Moana Don't Cry* curated by Gabriela Salgado. Including the works of 3 international artists and 11 local artists, the show explored the Pacific Ocean *Te-Moana-Nui-a-Kiwa* from a number of angles, presenting a call to action through relational political ecologies. The exhibition included works by renowned Belgian-born, Mexico-based artist Francis Alÿs, Vietnamese filmmaker Tuan Andrew Nguyen and Sāmoan New Zealand artist Ioane Ioane. New commissions by New Zealand artists Numangatini Mackenzie and Elliot Collins were also presented on Te Tuhi's Project Wall and Billboards.

In December 2019, Te Tuhi opened 4 solo and group exhibitions. *Rebellious Modernities* curated by Gabriela Salgado presents the works of 3 local artists and 1 international artist in an exhibition which destabilises the modernist parameters that underpin architectural value and celebrates collectivism and political auto-construction. Projects by Karen Rubado, Vanessa Crofskey were also unveiled, while Elliot Collins' Billboards travelled from Reeves Road to the Parnell Train Station Billboards.

Between July and December 2019, 2,066 students participated in Te Tuhi's Learning Experiences Outside the Classroom (LEOTC) programme funded by the Ministry of Education. Each student took part in practical art making exercises and discussion of works in the galleries.

The 2019 Iris Fisher Scholarship was awarded to Emily Parr. The scholarship enabled Parr to travel to her ancestral homelands to complete her Master of Visual Arts thesis at Auckland University of Technology. Elam School of Fine Arts alumni Andrew Rankin and Caroline Faigan were announced as the two recipients of the 2020 Graduate Studio Award at Te Tuhi Studios at Cheshire St, and will commence their 12 month studio residency in January 2020. The inaugural 2019 Yorkshire Sculpture Park UK Residency Award was awarded to Tauranga-based artist Darcell Apelu, who completed her 6-week residency in September and used the opportunity to research her family tree.

In May 2019 we launched Te Tuhi Studios at Cheshire St, an artist studio and gallery complex located within the Parnell Train Station building. A project initiated by Stephanie Post and developed in association with Auckland Transport, this project aims to support contemporary artists who have an interest in experimental and social practices by providing an environment in which artists can develop their practices and expand their networks. Te Tuhi has a 3 year lease on the building, to May 2022.

In the first half of 2020, Te Tuhi has a rich artistic programme scheduled. Alongside projects with Raúl Ortega Ayala, Daren Kamali and Ole Maiava, Natalie Guy and Matt Ritani, Te Tuhi will also present a major offsite project *Chromointerference* for Auckland Arts Festival 2020 by Venezuelan-French artist Carlos Cruz-Diez (1923-2019). Realised in partnership with Auckland Live, the project employs colour to create projected moving patterns and light creating spellbinding 'events in a monumental scale.



Graeme Atkins, Alex Monteith, Natalie Robertson, with work by Kahurangiariki Smith and Aroha Yates-Smith
Te rerenga pōuri o nga parawhenua ki Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa, 2019 (install view)
multi-channel video installation
commissioned by Te Tuhi, Auckland, with support from Auckland University of Technology and University of Auckland
photo by Sam Hartnett

4. Financial performance

Contemporary Art Foundation

\$	Budget to date	Actuals	Variance	Full year budget	Full year forecast	Variance
Operational						
Revenue/External funding	44,147	29,276	(14,871)	88,294	87,421	(873)
AC funding	287,748	290,597	2,849	575,496	581,194	5,698
Expenditure excluding depreciation	326,397	311,152	15,245	652,795	659,016	(6,221)
Depreciation	91,262	91,166	96	182,525	182,525	-
Surplus/(deficit)	(85,765)	(82,445)	3,320	(171,530)	(172,926)	(1,396)



Numangatini Mackenzie
Faux Patutiki, 2019 (install view)
 acrylic ink
 commissioned by Te Tuhi, Auckland
 photo by Sam Hartnett

5. Key Performance measures

Measure	Year-end target	On track	Half-year actual	Date of last measure
Total number of visitors	150,000	No*	67,514	31/12/2019
Number of exhibitions	12	Yes	9	31/12/2019
Number of artists	15	Yes	21	31/12/2019
Number of commissions	6	Yes	28	31/12/2019
Number of school students participating in programmes	5,000	Yes**	1,975	31/12/2019
Number of workshops and classes	50	Yes	90	31/12/2019
Number of public events	15	Yes	18	31/12/2019
Customer satisfaction	Greater than 80% positive responses	measures in full year report	n/a	

*Visitor numbers are low in line with expectations as disruption to the roads takes effect. The projection is that visitor numbers will not meet target for the next 5 years.

**School bookings in Term 4 are always low as the weeks available for teaching are limited.



Yonel Watene
housewarming party, 2019 (install view)
 photo by Sam Hartnett

6. Māori responsiveness activities

Initiative	Description	How it contributes to Māori well-being or outcomes	Progress
Exhibition and Public Programmes	To showcase contemporary Māori art and provide opportunities for Māori artists.	Promote distinct identity Ensure sustainable futures Develop vibrant communities	Two major group exhibitions showcasing te ao Māori and/or Māori artists between July-December 2019.
Schools and Youth Programmes	To showcase contemporary Māori art and develop opportunities for Māori school children and young people to engage with the arts and creative sector as audiences and participants and highlight vocational pathways into the creative sector.	Improve quality of life	All school and youth programming includes Māori art, artist and/or te reo content.