

CONTEMPORARY
ART
FOUNDATION



Contemporary Art Foundation Half Year Report

1 July to 31 December 2021

Table of Contents

1.	Foreword.....	3
2.	Strategic issues and focus areas	4
3.	Highlights for the period	5
4.	Financial performance	8
5.	Key Performance measures	9
6.	Māori responsiveness activities.....	10

Front cover

Sione Tuʻuvailala Monū, *ʻAo kakala*, 2021 (installation view). Plastic flowers, foam board, beads. Commissioned by Te Tuhi, Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland.

1. Foreword

The Contemporary Art Foundation (CAF) is pleased to report on the successful first six months of the 2021-22 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 deliver a rich and diverse programme, 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. Through its onsite and offsite programmes, 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 contribute to Auckland's placemaking.

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.

Auckland Council is carrying out a review of legacy CCOs, alongside a review of the Auckland cultural heritage sector as a whole. CAF has requested that any review of its CCO status be aligned with the 2020 recommendations of the cultural sector review, which it supports.

In the 2021 to 2026 period Te Tuhi faces considerable uncertainty for its future operation in Pakuranga due to the impact of Auckland Transport's Eastern Busway project, and the Reeves Road Flyover in particular. Te Tuhi is committed to engaging fully with the Eastern Busway Alliance to ensure the best possible outcomes from the design process, with a view to mitigating as much as possible any negative environmental and operational impacts, particularly around the provision of parking and access to the Pakuranga building.

However, the impact of road works, delayed until 2022 and continuing for an estimated 4 years, will have considerable impact on the ability of Te Tuhi to maintain visitor numbers and to continue to raise 60% of its operational budget from commercial activity.

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 the beginning of 2020 Te Tuhi has faced challenges from the Covid-19 pandemic, with ongoing citywide and nationwide lockdowns causing disruptions to exhibition and events schedules, classes, children's and young people's programmes and requiring the building to be closed for long periods of time.

Since 2008/09 CAF has had a real-terms decrease in funding from Auckland Council of nearly 9% or \$56,000, and an increase in depreciation charges of 319% or \$149,000. As a result, the amount of funding available for Te Tuhi's operating costs has fallen from 52% in 2008/09 to 41% in 2020/21. 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

CAF, through Te Tuhi, makes a unique and considerable contribution to arts and culture in Tāmaki Makaurau, ensuring that Aucklanders have high quality art and cultural experiences. The first half of 2021-22 has been heavily impacted by Covid-19 lockdowns, with the building closed to the public from August to November 2021. Despite these challenges, CAF has continued to deliver its core programme, as well as instigating new projects and initiatives that enhance its ability to deliver on its strategic purpose, contributing meaningfully to developing artists and their practices, audiences and the sector.

Exhibitions & Public Programmes

In August 2021, we closed our Winter season of exhibitions, which featured two groups shows curated by Tāmaki Makaurau-based curators: *They covered the house in stories*, curated by Amy Weng, and *The Inner Lives of islands*, curated by Robbie Handcock. July and August saw a successful string of public programmes associated with these exhibitions, including a film screening of the Sāmoan-language film *The Orator* and a screening and Zoom discussion with moving-image artists based in the Philippines.

In August, there was also a series of puppet shows held by Tom Tuke and Ben Martley at Papatūnga, Parnell Station, which was at capacity on each night of its three-night run.

PONO: The potential of making something that leads to nothing, 24 November 2021 – 6 February 2022, was an exhibition curated by Janet Lilo and featuring newly commissioned and existing work by Chantel Matthews and Jacob Hamilton. The artworks occupied all of Te Tuhi's exhibition spaces, across its galleries, Project Wall and Reeves Road and Parnell Station billboards. Responding to the complicated nature of hosting and being hosted in a global pandemic, *PONO* sought to reexamine notions of manaakitanga, hospitality and generosity in our current climate of physical distancing and social upheaval.

Professional Development

In December, Te Tuhi's inaugural Curatorial Assistant James Tapsell-Kururangi completed his 18-month, full-time, paid internship. This internship provides the opportunity for an emerging professional to curate a programme of exhibitions and events at Parnell Station. The internship concluded with a group show that was the culmination of a six-month curatorial and artistic exercise that saw curator and artists participate in a variety of workshops, hui and wananga, in which they learnt about the Māori histories of Parnell and a range of collaborative and critical strategies from industry professionals. Entitled *Te Pō*, the exhibition opened with a preview opening event attended by the artists and the supporters of Parnell Station, and will be open again for viewing throughout March 2022.

Between July and December, artist Jasmine Tuiā undertook a curatorial internship at Te Tuhi through the Tautai Oceania Internships Programme. Without the opportunity to curate an exhibition at Parnell Station, Tuiā assembled a group of six artists, with whom she worked to produce a publication called *Tālofa lava uō oe: I write letters, what do you do?*. The book features artwork and text by Tuiā and the six artists collected through written correspondence during Tāmaki Makaurau's extended lockdown.

Sector Development

CAF has facilitated two projects on behalf of the Aotearoa Public Gallery Directors Network (APGDN), an informal consortium of directors of publicly funded galleries from around Aotearoa New Zealand.

CAF holds a grant from Creative New Zealand on behalf of APGDN to commission and publish a fortnightly series of new independent writing on contemporary art, to be published on the website ArtNow.nz.

CAF received a seed funding grant on behalf of APGDN from Manatū Taonga the Ministry for Culture & Heritage's Cultural Sector Capability Fund to consult and identify the highest priority needs for the sector during and post the Covid-19 pandemic.

Creative Community Development

Te Tuhi has been playing an active role in our communities.

Arts Out East, the arts brokering service supported by Howick Local Board, was established to support local creatives to put on widely attended exhibitions and events in the area.

Te Tuhi, with Rescare Homes Trust and The University of Auckland, has established Aotearoa's first training café for people with intellectual disabilities. Te Tuhi Café provides in-house training and paid employment for people with intellectual disabilities through a community-based programme.

In addition to activities provided directly by Te Tuhi, other groups operating in the facility on a regular basis included:

- 24 social and support groups
- 11 music and dance groups
- 7 health and wellbeing groups
- 9 community education groups

Looking Ahead

Te Tuhi has an exciting artistic programme scheduled for the second half of 2021-22, with exhibitions held across multiple venues.

Ata koia! is a group show curated by James Tapsell-Kururangi and presented in association with Auckland Arts Festival. *Ata koia!* features the work of artists from Aotearoa and abroad, exploring what it means to make contemporary art today.

Wild Once More, also in association with Auckland Arts Festival, will be exhibited at Silo 6 in Silo Park. Curated by Christopher Ulutupu, *Wild Once More* is a moving-image exhibition featuring a suite of recent and newly commissioned artworks by a group of queer artists working in Aotearoa, surveying artistic contributions to language, representation, intimacy and desire.

A number of artists will be presenting solo projects including Areez Katki, Matthew Galloway, Chevron Hassett and Miranda Bellamy and Amanda Fauteux



Chantel Matthews, *Tides of Life*, 2021 (installation view). 200 AWWA period underwear, washing line, pegs. Available to be taken during the course of the exhibition. Commissioned by Te Tuhi, Tāmaki Makaurau 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	42,020	43,680	1,659	84,041	102,168	18,127
AC funding	302,337	302,337	0	604,673	604,673	0
Expenditure excluding depreciation	340,791	359,738	18,946	681,583	700,915	19,332
Depreciation	91,665	108,858	17,193	182,333	217,716	35,383
Surplus/(deficit)	(87,601)	(122,579)	34,978	(175,202)	(211,790)	36,588

* The increase in full year income and expenditure reflects a new area of work for CAF as the coordinating organisation for the Aotearoa Public Gallery Directors Network.

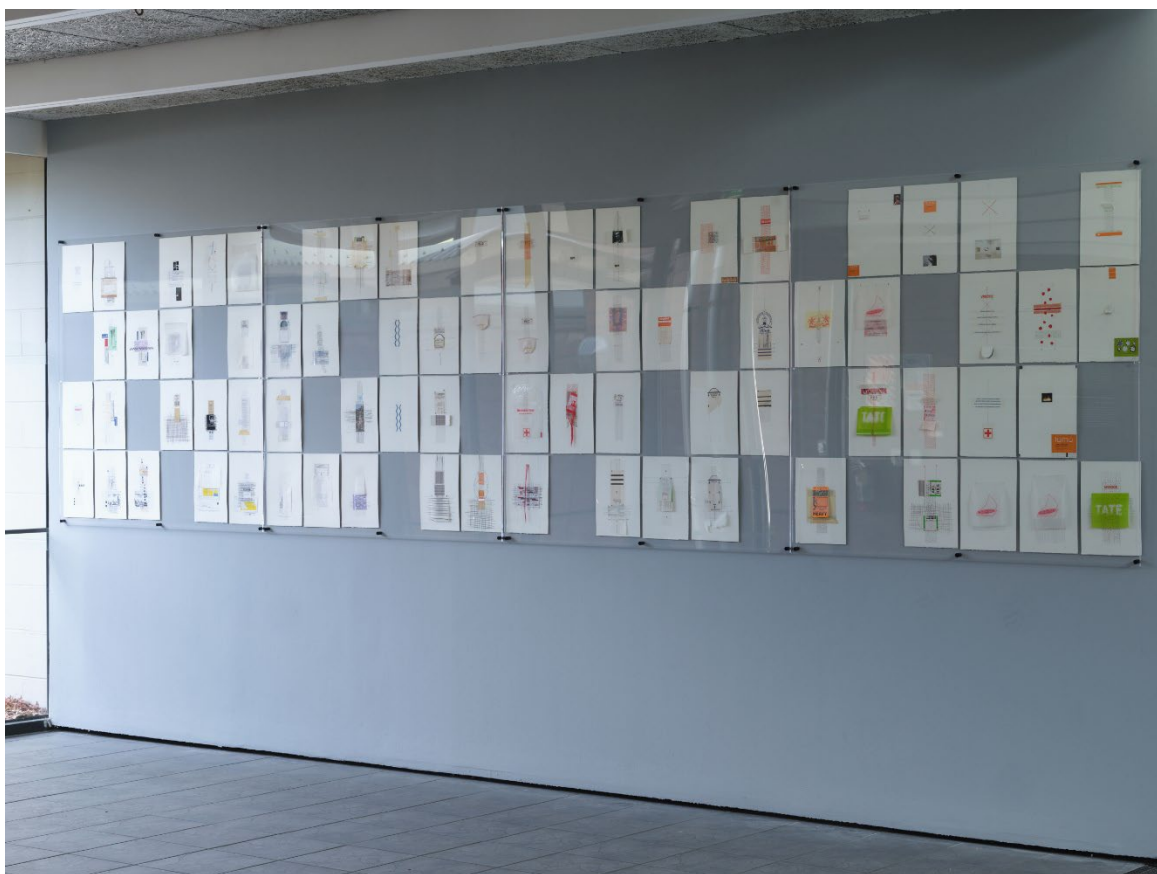


Bridget Reweti, *without skin and flesh* and *You are not alone, Toroa*, both 2021. Silver gelatin emulsion on pounamu. With thanks to Chris Charteris, Al Fraser, Sarah Hudson & the Hone Tuwhare Trust for their generosity in the making of these works. Commissioned by Te Tuhi, Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland. 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*	22,941	31/12/2021
Number of exhibitions	12	No*	2	31/12/2021
Number of artists	15	Yes	8	31/12/2021
Number of commissions	15	Yes	13	31/12/2021
Number of public events	15	Yes	6	31/12/2021
Number of school students participating in programmes	5,000	No*	635	31/12/2021
Number of workshops and classes	50	No*	10	31/12/2021

*As a result of the Auckland lockdown, Te Tuhi was closed between 18 August 2021 and 24 November 2021, significantly impacting visitor numbers. Te Tuhi re-opened its galleries to the public on 24 November, but the rest of its public activity did not resume until February 2022.



Louise Stevenson, *Someplace Else*, 2021 (installation view). Works on paper, 2000-2019. Found materials, mixed media. Commissioned by Te Tuhi, Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland. Photo by Sam Hartnett.

6. Māori responsiveness activities

Initiative	Description	How it contributes to Māori well-being or outcomes	Progress
Exhibition Programme Professional Development Programmes Public Programmes	To showcase contemporary Māori art and provide opportunities for Māori artists.	Te Reo Māori Economic Development Māori Identity and Culture Effective Māori Participation	One exhibition featuring two Māori artists and one Māori curator between July-December 2021. One full-time paid curatorial internship supporting a Māori arts practitioner.
Children & Young People's 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.	Realising Rangatahi Participation	All children and young people's programming includes Māori art, artist/s and/or te reo content.