

encouraging a creative community



A KUMEU
ARTS CENTRE

Annual Report

July 2017 – June 2018



Image of Wall 2 at the first 'Kumeu Art Awards' November 2017

Our Objectives

"To Promote and Foster a Creative Local Community"

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Exhibitions at Kumeu Arts Centre

In the past year Kumeu Arts Centre held 20 exhibitions in total. With eight solo exhibitions, one combined exhibition, six combined members exhibitions (two more than last year) and five group exhibitions. Our themed members shows have encouraged lots of new members and have been a platform for new artists to exhibit with us.

During this period the feedback from our visitors was that they enjoyed the variation on offer and the professionalism of the curation in the gallery. In 2017/2018 we have displayed a very diverse range and high standard of work. Exhibitions have included our first ever Kumeu Art Awards in November. This was a very successful event which has helped to raise our profile. We also had a fundraising art auction and exhibitions which resulted in record breaking sales for us.

All exhibitions included an opening night which served as a great way to celebrate the artists' achievements. Some of these openings were inclusive of other events, such as the Steampunk fashion show, Black and White Party and the Kumeu Art Awards Ceremony.



Black and White Exhibition 'Opening' and party with music in the gallery.

A big thank you to Creative Communities for granting us funds to assist in covering the ongoing costs of some of our members' exhibitions during this period.

Michelle Demblon – An Exhibition of Paintings

3rd – 15th July 2017



This was local Muriwai based expressionist painter Michelle's first solo exhibition. As a community based Art Centre we were proud to give her this opportunity. Michelle moved to New Zealand from Zimbabwe when she was fourteen. She says of her work "I let intuition lead my practice, and in my current body of work I hope to portray free spiritedness and the 'inner child' all of which Muriwai beach brings forth in me." The exhibition was very popular with the 255 visitors who saw it. One wrote "Lovely, spirited and ethereal artworks with restful and peaceful tones. A great exhibition." Although it did not result in any sales it helped Michelle gain good exposure and confidence.

'Get Fired' - Ceramic Members' Exhibition

17th - 29th July 2017



Work by KACI members

Our annual ceramics exhibition is always a popular one in our calendar as we have such a strong base of ceramic artists associated with KACI. For this year's exhibition, titled 'Get Fired', we made participation easier by increasing the number of entries allowed by each member and making it cheaper to enter. This meant we had lots of beautiful work to display. We introduced large white-washed planks for the 254 visitors to walk around the 68 different entries. People left very complimentary comments such as; "An amazing and inspiring exhibition. Really impressive range of art. KACI just goes from strength to strength", "So much talent displayed in such a small space", and "A really nicely presented selection". 'Get Fired' resulted in \$920 in sales.

'Celebrate the Circle' – Members' Exhibition

31st July – 12th August 2017

Our members were asked to work within a circular format for this exhibition. Twenty five artists accepted the challenge and entered 54 works. We encouraged artists to work on round cake boards which could be purchased from us to keep their prices down and create a fun, coherent and accessible exhibition for all. Children could enter for free and also create circular artworks to add to the display using resources in the gallery. There was a beautiful range of works including photographic entries, felted, mixed media and even ceramic circles. We invited spatial design graduate, Helen Bratty to curate the exhibition. One visitor wrote "Wow! This looks amazing! What a great idea". 180 people came to see the show and bought \$248 worth of circular art.



Works by our members

'Scapes' by Jane McGill

14th - 26th August 2017

New member Jane McGill explains that her work is "an exploration of mountain and sky scapes in a dream-like or mythical way. Mist and light revealing and obscuring a living theatre of harmony and tension". Jane's exhibition was another well received show. Jane sold \$1,205 of work which was seen by 248 people.



works by Jane McGill

'Aperion' – Trevor Parker

28th August - 9th September 2017

Trevor Parker's installation responds to the writings of Anaximander, a 6TH Century BC philosopher, and specifically to the many interpretations of his concept 'the origin of the universe' and the term *Apeiron*. Trevor Parker studied art in Scotland but is currently working in NZ until 2018 and acting as KACI's Vice Chairperson. His work is mostly sculptural or AV in output, presenting recent prints and drawings alongside a construction for this exhibition. The large installation which filled our gallery generated a lot of interest. One comment in the visitors' book read... "I love the way the sculpture occupies space". Trevor's works are deeply rooted in research and people responded well to the intelligence and supporting statements. 364 people came to see the exhibition and we sold \$1,005 of Trevor's prints and drawings.

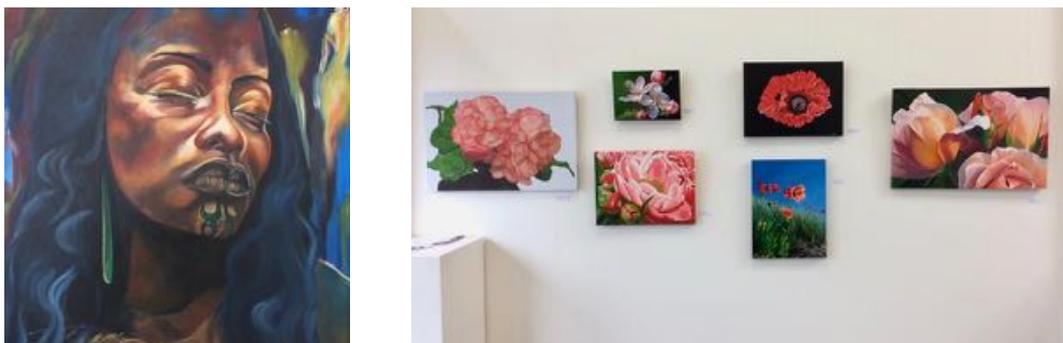


Work by Trevor Parker

Journey of Discovery – Class of Amber Emm 2017

18th -30th September 2017

Following on from the previous year's 'Journey of Discovery' exhibition, this collection of paintings once again demonstrated the extraordinary results which our painting tutor Amber Emm manages to get from her students. The 32 artworks displayed were made in oil, acrylic and watercolour. Journey of Discovery 2017 had 383 visitors and resulted in \$150 worth of sales.



Work by students of Amber Emm

'Black and White' – Members' Exhibition

2nd - 21st October



The gallery was transformed into a monochromatic world for this dramatic exhibition of entirely black and white art, held in conjunction with National Art Week. 507 people visited the exhibition and 30 attended the opening night (see events section). The show received very positive feedback. Words repeatedly used in our visitors book described the collection as 'stunning', 'striking' and 'beautiful'. Two artworks sold. Seven different artists all received equal votes for the people's choice award.

The Kumeu Photography Group

25th October - 7th November



The Kumeu Photography Group that was formed in November 2013 is a small, sociable group enjoying monthly get-togethers, photo sharing and monthly themes, outings, events and exhibitions. The group is made up of photographers at all levels, from beginner to advanced with the focus on sharing knowledge and experience, supporting and inspiring each other in pursuing a love of photography. This collection by members of the group included a range of subjects and styles from landscapes and wildlife to portraits and still life photography. They sold \$250 of prints and 540 people saw their exhibition.

The Kumeu Art Awards 2017

13th - 25th November



The first inaugural Kumeu Art Awards Exhibition was a large display of 71 artworks selected from 113 entries from 70 artists. We were overwhelmed with the response to our call for entries which attracted local artists as well as those from outside Auckland. The quality and range of entries demonstrated a superb level of talent. The awards ceremony was held on the Saturday prior to the exhibition's first day to allow attendees the first opportunity to view the exhibition and purchase works (read more about the ceremony in the Events section).

Judge Andrew Rankin awarded prizes as follows:

1st - Terry Prince for 'The Fisherman, Kare Kare'. - \$1000 Cash

2nd - Gavin Chai for 'Gazed Away'. - \$500 Cash

Highly Commended- Barbara Von Seida for 'Coastal Sunset'. - \$250 Gordon Harris Voucher

Highly Commended - Kiri Abraham for 'Tent' - \$250 – Picture Framing Voucher

Runner-up Leomie Willoughby-Ellis for 'When the Tide Retreats' - \$100 cash

Runner up- Madelaine Abey-Koch for 'Ceramics on an antique Obi' - \$100 cash

Young Artist - Andrew Marmont for 'Star Lit Driftwood' - \$50 cash

People's choice award - Anna Filimonova for 'Opportunities IV- Kea over Mt. John' - \$100



Terry Prince



Gavin Chai



Barbara Von-Seida

The exhibition was attended by approx. 800 people who left comments in our visitors book such as; 'Fabulous Show', 'Such an impressive array of work and great to see Kumeu Arts Centre moving forward', 'Wonderful display of diverse, competent works.' We sold six artworks totaling \$2800. These Awards are a successful way of raising our profile and we look forward to the next one in 2018.

Affordable Art Exhibition 2017
28th of December - 21st of December

Our regular affordable art show is always an excellent way for our members to sell their work prior to Christmas. This year the gallery was packed with 78 artworks for sale under \$400. In total 633 people came to see this exhibition which resulted in \$1,335 worth of sales. Comments in the visitor's book included... "Lovely display – so glad Kumeu Arts Centre supports the arts. Can't wait for the extension to be completed", "Well displayed – good selection. Will be back in future."



Various works by our members

Arwen Flowers – 'Journey' The last 10 years
16th January - 3rd February 2018

"This exhibition is intended to present a creative timeline that spans a decade of my life — events including marriage, children, moving house, changing jobs and completing an artist's residency have contributed to changes in my work." This personal touch behind Arwen's work made for a fascinating collective display in the gallery. Every stage of her 'journey' is executed with incredible skill although the artist is consistently evolving and experimenting with different techniques. Our visitors summed up this exhibition as... "Really inspiring" an... "Incredible display of talent". 325 people saw the exhibition and we sold \$300 worth of art works.



'Grace Colours'- Dana Dadi

5th - 17th February

Dana was born in Persia. Since immigrating to New Zealand Dana has created imaginative art work using symbols and sharp colours that create a magical world. They challenge the viewer to spend time trying to gauge its meanings. Her striking paintings and bold use of colours proved very popular with the 347 visitors who saw the show. Dana sold 4 paintings and at her opening night she also auctioned one off and donated the proceeds to the Starship Foundation.



Works by Dana Dadi

'Evolving Aotearoa' - Members' Exhibition

19th February - 10th March

Our members were asked to consider the title 'Evolving Aotearoa' and interpret its meaning. This amazing collection of work focused on topics such as the changing NZ landscape, ecology, threats, developments, even spirituality. 17 artists (including six new members) entered a total of 27 works created in a large range of mediums including drawing, wood-carving, printmaking, paintings, even thread on fabric. Three works sold totalling \$945. Around 30 people came along to a really fun opening night which was followed by an Open Mic event next door. The people's choice award went to Sue Butler for her beautifully carved wooden map of New Zealand with a poignant message titled 'As It Should Be'. Sue won a \$25 voucher from The Picture Framing Company NZ who generously sponsor our people's choice award.



'As it Should Be' by Sue Butler (Left) 'Gold Tauihi' by Cameron Wilkes (Right)

Fantasy and Abstraction– Group show

12th – 24th March



Craig Huberstone

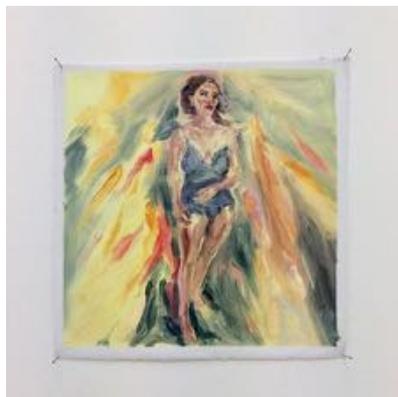


Falicity Swan

Three award winning artists; Craig Humberstone, Felicity Swan and Madelaine Abey-Koch joined forces to exhibit their work for this group show. *'The stimulation of the North Shore beaches of the mid 50's to the 70's, their natural detritus, wave motions and cavorting figures left lasting memories on these three artists.'* These themes were found in their work with each having developed their subjects from either mind or reality. The results give rise to fantastical images expressed in painting and ceramic sculpture. This was our highest ever selling exhibition with Sales totaling \$6,000. It was visited by 221 people.

Yvonne Abercrombie– Beyond Representation

12th – 24th March



"I don't paint the thing, I paint the 'idea' of the thing."

When we had a last minute cancelation in our exhibition schedule, and our newly appointed administrator was ready and willing to install a 'pop up show' of her paintings. Yvonne's approach to painting is with an affluent painting aesthetic and vivacious subject matter. She intentionally forgoes the use of literalism, in subject and context, to pursue imaginative inspiration as content for her work. The anonymous figure typifies a more intellectual representation of the figure rather than a physical portrayal. The resulting collection of works pinned to our walls was described by our visitors as 'fluid', 'outstanding', 'lovely, buttery and intimate'. It is fantastic to have an artist working for us who is able to contribute in this way.

The Kumeu Arts Centre Fundraising Auction 7th – 21st April



We organized this exhibition to help raise funds towards the on-going project to expand and improve our facilities. The plan which is supported by the Rodney Local Board will enable us to offer more of our services including exhibitions, classes, workshops and performances. By purchasing artworks from this auction people were able to help our cause while acquiring quality art works by prominent and local artists such as James Ormsby, Flox, Gavin Chai, Amber Emm, Kirsten Reid and many more. Many of the artworks were donated to us by artists affiliated with our Centre such as our staff and tutors. Visitors came to view these superb works in our gallery during the Art Auction Exhibition. They were able to place bids on the works displayed by using a tablet that was installed in the gallery, or view and bid on the artworks available online. The auction raised around \$3,210 (minus some costs deducted) which we have added to the other donations received throughout the year towards our expansion project. You can read more about this project in the 'Progress' section.

Peter Purcell 23rd April – 5th May



Peter plays the organ

Peter Purcell is well known within our local arts community for being a unique individual and for producing interesting artwork. *"These animated representations are a combination of memorabilia, and the colourful qualities that is Peter's fictional (or non) interior narratives. The pleasure of looking at Purcell's paintings is that the narrative keeps on playing. Like a good Shakespeare sonnet, it needs iterating to really come to grips with what is actually being said."* YA. Peter spent most afternoons here during his exhibition when he would play to the visitors on his organ and tell them where to find 'Rupert the Bear' in his pictures.

He sold \$1,107 worth of paintings and made lots of friends.

Steampunk Exhibition – Members' Exhibition

7th – 26th May



There were 26 entries on display by 16 different artists in this exhibition that all focused on the genre of Steampunk. 410 people visited the exhibition including around 80 who attended the opening event and fashion show. It was very popular with our visitors, especially the kids, and the exhibition even attracted the attention of the local media. Comments in our visitor's book read... *"Amazingly creative"*, *"Our first time popping in and loved it, very cool and different"*, *"One of my favourite exhibitions of the year"*, *"So much thinking outside the box"*, *"Go Kumeu!"*. The people's choice award went to Mike Walls for 'Wired Earp' and one of Neil Wouldes' amazing lights came in second place. There were two sales including one of Karen Newborns' hats and Sue Butler's wirework 'Flight of Fancy'.

The Emanating Light – Te Ahuahu – Group show

28th May – 16th June



Michelle Durrant – 'Rays of Light'

The Emanating Light – Te Ahuahu was a beautiful collection of images by 12 photographers as part of the Auckland Festival of Photography. The exhibition was seen by around 440 people who left comments such as *"wonderful"*, *"amazing"*, *"beautiful atmosphere in these photos"*. We sold four photographs totaling \$365. The People's Choice award went to Michelle Durrant for 'Light Rays' (seen above). Michelle (who has an exhibition here in October) won a voucher from the Picture Framing Company in Kumeu who kindly sponsor this award.

Sara Shekarachi – Story of a Journey

18 – 30 June

“The Pilgrim disembarked from the bus. What a pure sky”

Her flyer was torn, painted on, collaged - a juxtaposition of a designer's delicate considered touch, alongside raw experimentation. It was representative of the artistic qualities Sara imbues in her work. Layers of paper suggested layers of time, the exhibition being a reflection of Sarah's personal and physical life journey. In this exhibition, every surface was adorned. Canvases, furniture and objects intricately decorated. The gallery transformed into a visual feast of line, pattern and colour. A glimpse into a personal story- of learning, exploration and migration, tracing the steps of an artist and a life. The public responded extremely well to Sara's 'Story' and her own comments book was brimming with affirmation. 10 pieces of work sold, totaling \$1,985.



work by Sara Shekarachi (including her suitcase)

EVENTS

Give a Kid a Blanket June- August 2017

Kumeu Arts Centre was proud to support the brilliant cause 'Give a Kid a Blanket' again in 2017 as an official drop-off point. We received a large number of blankets from our local community that we were able to pass on to be distributed to those in need.





National Poetry Day Friday the 25th of August

To celebrate National Poetry Day this year we ran a free 'Poetry Meets Art Workshop', in collaboration with the Huapai Library, with local artist Claire Delaney. Participants were invited to bring along a printed photocopy of a poem they had written in the 'book spine' competition at Kumeu Library to this workshop. Then Claire Delaney showed them how to create beautiful mixed media artworks to take home using their poem. 11 people signed up for this workshop and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Thank you to Phantom Billstickers for funding this event.



The Kumeuknitty Crossing is donated to Auckland Museum

November 2017

The ladies from the 'Kumeuknitty group' who meet here every Tuesday had one last chance to hold up the traffic with their knitted zebra crossing when it was ceremonially donated to a representative from the Auckland Museum. It will now remain there as part of their collection on community empowerment.



Arts in Action

Saturday 16th of September 2017

This annual event was once again a huge success. It was a really enjoyable experience for the 450 people who came and tried their hand at the many varied arts based activities on offer. This year there were lots of exciting new things for adults and children to try including; an interactive drawing wall, rock painting, card making, botanical art, rainbow slime, natural collage, U.V face-painting and photography, clay kick-wheel and sculptures, street art, spin art bikes, maori wood carving. There was also an art market upstairs and attendees could buy good quality food and coffee from the Melt food truck.

Arts in Action, the highlight of our calendar and goes from strength to strength. This fun, free day brings our community together in joy and creativity. As one parent wrote in her review ... *"We had so much fun learning how to make things with clay, how UV paint works, and just all the clever things artists do. We cannot wait for the next one. Thank you for your guidance through our tour of your awesome centre"*.

Watch a video about the day here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w9H-zBcz4Ng>



Arts in Action experienced by Evie Rose our Instagram hashtag competition winner

Thank you to Pub Charity for funding totaling \$7000 for this event.

Black and White Party

October 7th 2017

In conjunction with our Black and White Members' exhibition and Art Week we held a party. This included black and white themed, movie projections, food, drink, clothing and musical performances from Ms Peach and Guy Wishart. Around 30-40 people came along. The best dressed award went to our Vice-Chair Trevor Parker who looked very dapper in his tuxedo.



The Kumeu Art Awards Ceremony

Saturday 11th November 2017



The awards ceremony was attended by around 100 people, including artists, Local Board members, sponsors and families and friends. It was a lovely occasion and opportunity to celebrate our creative community. KACI Chair Christine Rose spoke to a packed out Kumeu Arts Centre. She talked of about Kumeu Arts Centre's journey and our desire to expand. She thanked all our sponsors, such as Gordon Harris, The Picture Framing Company, Art News, as well as the Local Board and Creative Communities who supported this event. Wine from local winery the Hunting Lodge and beer from local brewers Hallertau was served at our bar (donated for the night by local props company Rollercoaster) and food was given to our guests. Prizes were announced and given to the winning artists by our Judge Andrew Rankin as well as representatives from some of our sponsors.





The Kumeu Children's Art Club's 20th Year Birthday Party

Christine Rose says that ... "Twenty years ago over a cup of tea, me, Steve Rose and Darren Anderson decided to set up the Kumeu Children's Art Club. A safe place where kids could do art to support a culture of peace, where the only rules are to be kind and love art." On the 7th of April 2018 children, tutors, founders and families came together to mark this important occasion in our history. They celebrated with a fantastic Carnival Parade and the Children wore the wonderful creations they had produced.

Steampunk Month & Fashion Show 12th of May 2018

May 2018 was Steampunk month at Kumeu Arts Centre with an exhibition of sculpture and artwork made by our members as well as the Steampunk community. We also offered Steampunk workshops and drawing sessions to coincide with the exhibition. At the opening event, we teamed up with the 'Auckland Air Krakens' Steampunk group to host a fashion show. This was a really fun, well attended event with around 100 guests enjoying the art, mulled wine, costumes on display and the descriptions by the participants. Steampunk seems so popular we are considering making this an annual event.



Kumeu Live



In the past year KACI Committee member, Guy Wishart has continued to build on the success of the previous year with his not-for-profit music nights Kumeu Live. Kumeu Arts Centre is now recognised within the music scene as a great venue for hearing some top quality acts. Kumeu Live's reputation has been cemented over the last year and attracted some big names throughout 2017 and 2018 such as as Guy Buttery, Jordie Lane, Mel Parsons, Graeme James, Bernie Griffin, and Greg Johnson. The Arts Centre has regularly been at maximum capacity with people coming from far and wide to enjoy some fine music at very reasonable entry rates. Kumeu Live has become one of the jewels in our crown and has helped to build our profile with a new audience as we continue to develop.

A vertical poster for the Kumeu Live 2018 calendar. At the top, it reads "KUMEU LIVE PRESENTS • 2018 CALENDAR". Below this is a grid of 16 small posters, each featuring a different artist or band and their performance date. The artists listed are: Jordie Lane & Clare Reynolds (9 Feb), Zarek & Albi (16 Feb), Mel Parsons (2 Mar), Graeme James (16 Mar), Greg Johnson (23 Mar), Martha Louise (24 Mar), Caitlin Smith (7 Apr), The Broken Heartbreakers (21 April), Richard Gilewicz (5 May), Candice Milner (19 May), The Bads (2 June), Bernie Griffin & The Thin Men (15 June), Helen Dorothy (30 Jun), Stretch (14 Jul), Derek Lind (28 Jul), and Anthony Tonnon (11 Aug). Below the grid, the text "KUMEU LIVE" is written in large, bold, blue letters. Underneath that, a list of featured acts is shown: "MEL PARSONS • GREG JOHNSON • CAITLIN SMITH" and "THE BADS • BERNIE GRIFFEN • ANTHONIE TONNON". At the bottom, it says "GREAT MUSIC - GREAT VIBE" in large blue letters. The very bottom contains event details: "AT THE KUMEU ARTS CENTER • BYO DRINKS - GLASSES PROVIDED • 7.30PM", "TICKETS ON EVENTFINDA OR AT THE DOOR • WWW.KUMEULIVE.CO.NZ", and a Facebook icon.

Progress

Kumeu Arts Centre is still moving forward in a positive direction. Over the last year we can confidently say that although there is still much to be done, we continue to make good progress in three of the four main areas identified in our 10-year strategic plan as outlined below.

1. PEOPLE- Increase participation and diversify audience

Although our data suggests we have had less 'participants' in programmes (see data in the synopsis section) we have actually offered far more programmes throughout the year. We lost some of our regular ongoing user groups early on in the year due to tutors leaving, and numbers in holiday programmes were poor in the first half of the year. However, in the last quarter we have seen a steady increase and we are now, pleasingly, seeing more participation in a variety of areas from a wider demographic of the community.

A collaboration with educational facilitator Mandy Jakich at Creative Matters has been successful in the goal to both increase participation and diversify our audience but did not happen until the second half of the year. Creative Matters have their own strong brand identity and extensive database which meant they were able to promote and run many interesting and diverse workshops and classes throughout 2018. We have also been joined by ABC language school who now run three separate classes in French and Spanish every week as well as other new tutors offering singing and acting. These new user groups have also helped to introduce more people to our facility. We are also pleased that Connect mental health recovery group have held regular classes here over the last year offering a valuable service within the community. Kumeu Live 'performances' have also consistently brought many more people to our Centre and helped our total number of visitors surpass last year. For the third year running we've had over ten thousand people through our doors.

Mandy Jakich of Creative Matters, who has a background in the educational department at Auckland Art Gallery, wrote programmes for tutors such as artist Tanya Blong who ran a term of classes here called 'Portrait Revolution'. These appealed to a younger, alternative age audience to our existing painting classes as its focus was more contemporary in nature. Clay classes with new tutor Lily Weeds have consistently been fully booked and many participants had never been here before. A range of exciting and innovative themes for one off workshops such as 'The Department of Repair' in which participants upcycled 'unloved' clothing', Shibori and 'Joining Generations' workshops have all brought us new participants. Read more about this collaboration on Creative Matters blog at <http://www.creativematters.co.nz/blog>



Creative Matters Monday Night 'Youth collaboration art class'

Although our Kumeu Children's Art Club has always been highly successful (celebrating its 20th year) we continue to strive to appeal to more younger participants. Mandy has attracted a range of applicants by offering many 'youth' classes such as evening collaborative classes for teens, daytime classes for home-schooled teens and running full holiday programmes for both children and teens. Creative Matters have also created workshops that tie in to our gallery schedule in which the children have been invited to respond to the exhibitions in a variety of ways. Our own carving workshops (funded by Creative Communities) have also proved great ways of reaching young people and offering them unique art experiences. As well as learning carving skills and techniques, students also learnt much about the cultural significance and context of Maori wood carving from their knowledgeable tutor. Many of the children who took part said that this was an aspect of the course which they really enjoyed and for some of them a genuine connection to their own culture. Sadly, the carving tutor we found moved away. Workshops and classes with cultural significance and particularly Maori outcomes are still something we need to try to hold more of in future. In early July 2018, we have organized a pingao weaving workshop for Matariki which is being run by an experienced Maori art facilitator whom we hope to work with more. This is an area for improvement in the 2018 – 2019 year.



Carving Classes at KACI. Term 4 2017

The gallery too has brought new audiences to us and the diverse range of artists over the last year has created more engagement with local people, and also people further afield. A recent example of this was an exhibition by Sara Shekarchi. Sara, who is an immigrant from Iran helped introduce the gallery to a new ethnic community. Her show was a vibrant introduction to many of our members to a different culture and tradition of art and design. The exhibition opening included Middle Eastern food and drink and it was lovely to see our gallery used by a minority ethnic group. Our pairing up with some of the Steampunk community also brought large numbers to us both physically and online, helping to raise our profile. Posts on Facebook of the opening night were the most viewed we've ever seen. The artwork itself seemed more accessible to local people and we saw many new visitors come into the gallery from the street as a large 'robot' was visible from the road. Other examples of KACI reaching new audiences were during exhibitions by known artists such as Craig Humberstone, Arwen Flowers and Peter Purcell. All of these artists have their own strong followings and exhibition openings have been notably busier this year.



The Exhibition Opening of 'Fantasy and Abstraction'



Peter Purcell's Opening

2. PLACE- Improve and expand on building and facilities

Unfortunately, in relation to this goal we had hoped that the project to expand on our building would have moved on further by now. In fact, the architects plans that were in place at the time of writing last year's Annual Report were found to be unaffordable.

"The Rodney Local Board is working with the Kumeu Arts Centre to provide a relocatable building that will give them additional space. This will not be the Pacific Environments design that was discussed in June 2017. That design was going to cost in the vicinity of \$500,000 to build and neither the local board nor the arts centre had sufficient resourcing to pay this much. The Rodney Local Board has allocated \$300,000 for the arts centre extension. Originally it was hoped that additional funding might be raised by the arts centre and the local community to assist in the cost of building the Pacific Environments design. It was soon realised that this was very ambitious and could take a long time.

A complicating factor that emerged earlier this year was the fact that the adjacent library has significant issues with damp and its lifespan is limited. At this stage, we do not know

how long it will last, what might be needed to prolong its life and what the impact will be on the overall site. In this situation, the local board have decided to get on and see if we can build something quickly that will meet the art centre's needs and is within the allocated budget. A specialist consultant is now working with the Arts Centre on ideas and designs for a prefabricated relocatable building that will provide the much-needed additional space as quickly as possible."

We are grateful to the Rodney Local Board for their continued support for our expansion. Since the RLB issued the statement above in May work with the specialist consultant has begun and we have seen much better progress. We are now hopeful that we will see an additional building on site by the end of 2018. The new building is currently being developed by a local company Eco Pods <http://ecopodconcepts.nz> We are pleased that a local company that is environmentally friendly will be used and we look forward to seeing our long-standing plan to expand be realized.

The Huapai Hub project behind the Arts Centre is also progressing. The area behind our building is being developed into a community recreational space. Fruit trees, landscaped gardens, seating and other features will eventually replace the gravel carpark. We have been working closely with the Huapai Hub convening group to ensure this integrates well with our own development plan and believe we that when the two projects are completed they will add much value to the Arts Centre and the wider area. One concern from our members is that they will they still have easy access to the Centre and park nearby. We have had reassurance from the RLB that adequate parking is a requirement they must provide us with, especially with increased capacity to the Arts Centre and the Huapai Hub.



Eco Pod example

In the last year we have made improvements to our existing building with help from Lotteries grants. Part of the upstairs workroom was re-painted and plastered which has given the well used and loved space a lift. Also, the small back 'Clay' room had a major clear out and can now act as a smaller space to work in. It includes a workbench with tools and equipment that is accessible to all. We also purchased a new controller for the kiln which allows more flexibility for users to fire ceramics here.

3. PERCEPTION- Improve our image brand.

Market research and conversations with our community told us that we needed to improve how we are seen from the outside. But also, that we are seen more often. In our Strategic Plan we outlined some strategies to help change the public perception of Kumeu Arts Centre and address how we could raise our profile stating that we want “KACI to be a cool place”.

Over the last year we have continued to implement some of these strategies and believe that we are gradually changing public perceptions of KACI. Realizing this goal is closely interlinked with realizing goal number one- people. By introducing fresh and innovative new classes and events (as previously discussed) we have also changed the perception of what happens here. Targeting youth and reaching wider audiences with events such as Kumeu Live have also helped. The Art Awards was hugely successful in terms of gaining recognition from a wider group of artists. The standard of work, curation and documenting of exhibitions, as well as the continued improvements in the retail area have all meant we are viewed as a more professional organisation than previously.

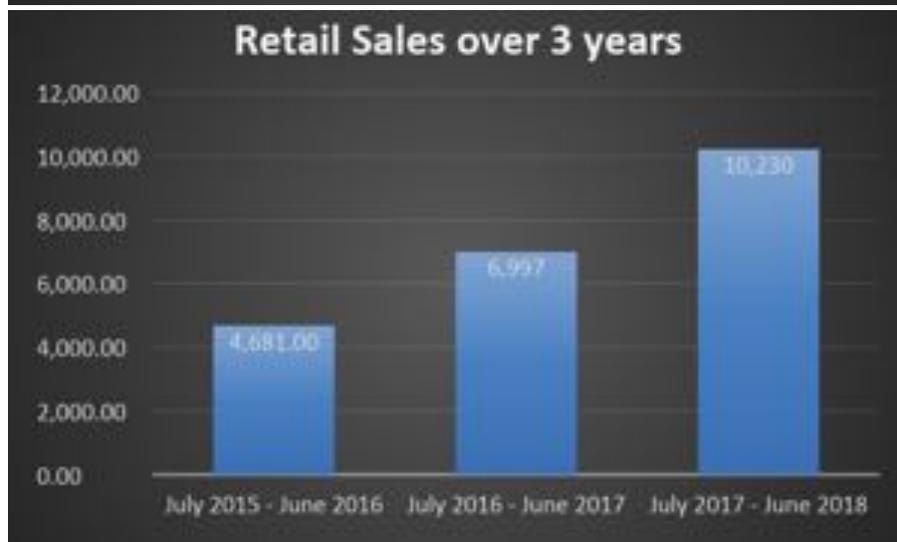
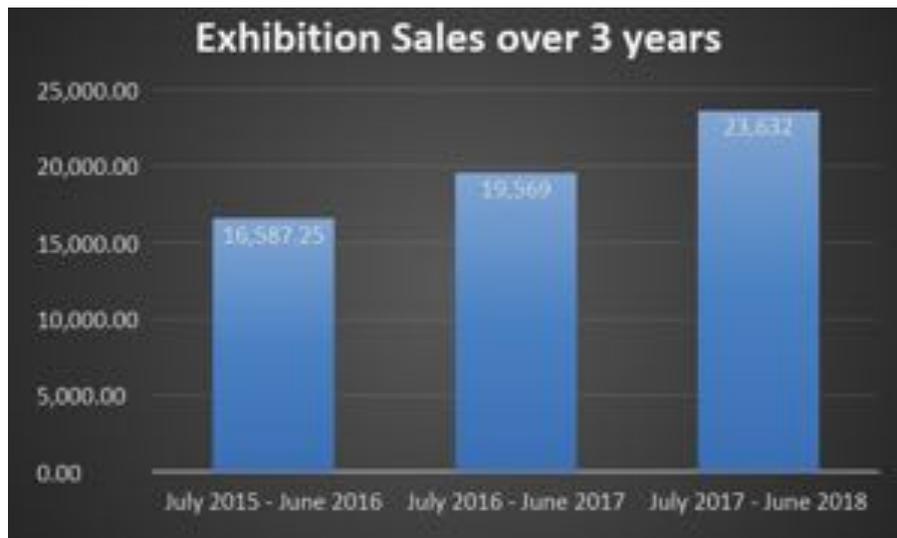
Plans to rebrand and launch a new logo and website will hopefully coincide with the opening of a new building next year and further changes to our image. We would also like to add an online shop to our new website. In the meantime, we are using more consistency in design elements on flyers and adverts so that our existing brand is more coherent. More consistent use of social media marketing tools has helped give us a greater online presence as we utilize more video content and regular sharing of posts. Our Facebook and Instagram profiles continue to build a larger following. We are also beginning to incorporate more modern technology with the use of a tablet in our gallery.

One issue we have always faced is that we are hard to find. We have a lack of road side presence and cannot be seen from the road. Many local people do not know we are here. We have decided not to invest in new signage until the logo design is finalised. We choose however to see our limitations as our strengths. We are now ‘The Hidden Gem’ of Kumeu. Flyers handed out at the Kumeu market and other venues challenge people to ‘discover us’ – a secret to be found.

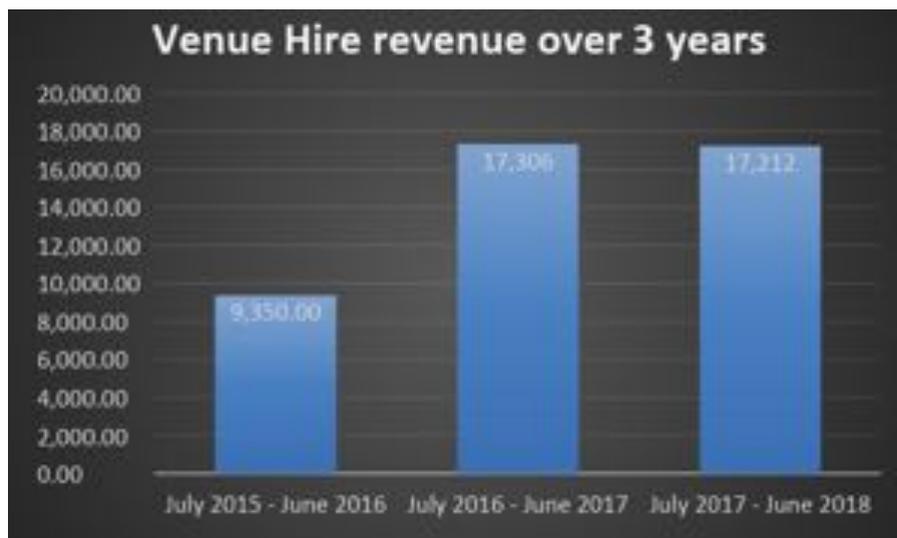
4. PROFIT- Generate a larger profit.

In order to become more self-sufficient and not rely so heavily on grants we aim to generate more revenue. Our three main revenue streams are Venue Hire, Retail Sales and Exhibition Sales.

Here we can see how there are upward trends in both exhibition and retail sales.



Note both graphs above show the full income from sales. KACI received 30% of these totals.



Venue hire increased significantly between the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 year but has remained fairly static over the last two years. If we gain a new building, the addition of a new workroom would increase our potential for an increase in this area. However, operating expenses will also increase.

User Groups/Classes at Kumeu Arts Centre

Kumeu Arts Centre is the home for many artistic and community groups. These include both unstructured groups and tutored classes. We and are very proud of the range of classes and workshops we offer. From August 2017 to July 2018 these groups included:

Ongoing Classes:

Adults' Clay:	Weekly Classes
Children's Clay:	Weekly Classes
Kumeu Children's Art Club:	Weekly Classes (two sessions per week)
Amber Emm Painting:	Weekly Classes (five sessions per week)
Access to Art:	Weekly Classes
Botanical Art:	Weekly Classes
Meditation Evenings:	Weekly Classes
Guitar Lessons:	Weekly Classes (two sessions per week)
Photoshop Lessons:	Weekly Classes (one session a week)
Connect Recovery:	Weekly Classes
Printmaking:	Weekly Classes
Home-School Teens Class:	Weekly Classes
Teens Collaborative Art class:	Weekly Classes
Joining Generations Classes:	Weekly Classes
Portrait revolution Painting:	Weekly Classes
Spanish Classes:	Weekly Classes
French Classes:	Weekly Classes (two sessions per week)
Acting Classes:	Weekly Classes
Singing Classes:	Fortnightly Classes



A participant in Botanical Art Classes

School Holiday Classes:

Creative Matters: Beading, Painting, Christmas Card Making, Printmaking, Screen Printing, Papier-Mache Animal and Polymer Clay Mini Food Model making.

Julie Moselen: Scrapbooking

Eion Bryant: Painting

Victoria Walker: Clay and mosaic



Ongoing User Groups:

Kumeu Photography Group: Monthly sessions

KumeuKnitty: Weekly sessions

Life Drawing Group: Weekly sessions

Periodic and one off classes/workshops:

Encaustic Painting with Nicki Stewart	19/20 th August 2017
Amber Emm Painting Workshops	Periodically through 2017 – 2018
Amber Emm Pastel Workshop	Periodically through 2017 – 2018
Auckland Council Events:	Periodically through 2017 – 2018
Print Workshops:	Periodically through 2017 – 2018
Volunteer Events:	Periodically through 2017 – 2018
Carving workshops for Youth	October - December 2017 (9-week course)
Poetry Meets Art Workshop	August 25 th 2018
Abstract Painting workshop	Periodically through 2017 – 2018
Evan Woodruffe Fluids demonstration	18 th November 2017
Gelatine Printmaking Workshop	24 th March 2018
Shibori Workshop	9 th December 2017
The Department of Repair Workshop	May 12 th 2018
Lynn Walters Ukelele Workshops	Periodically through 2017 – 2018
Composting Workshop	10 th February 2018

Synopsis

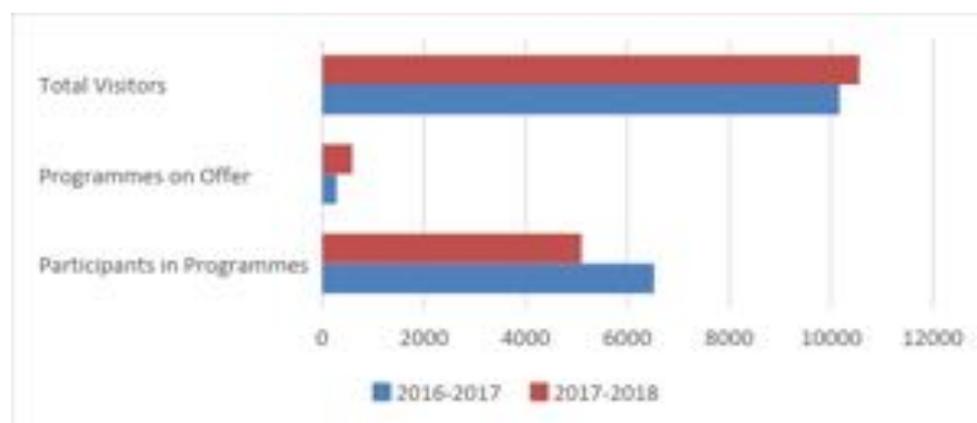
Our membership currently stands at 358 members (up from 317 members in 2016- 2017) with 640 database contacts also receiving direct information from us regarding our events and activities via email, 911 page followers on Facebook and 365 Instagram followers.

Between July 2017 and June 2018 Kumeu Arts Centre had:

- 592 Programmes on Offer
- 5097 Participants in Programmes
- 10558 Visitors to our Centre

Compared to July 2016 and June 2017:

- 283 Programmes on offer
- 6525 Participants in Programmes
- 10171 visitors to our Arts Centre



A year in review

This has been one of our new initiatives as well as steady improvements to existing operations. There have been many highlights such as The Kumeu Art Awards, The Steampunk exhibition and fashion show, Arts in Action, and many nights of excellent music. There have also been lots of excellent exhibitions and workshops. The 20th year anniversary of the Kumeu Children’s Art Club is a truly historic occasion that illustrates the depth and reach that our organisation has had by connecting many local young people to art and creativity.



Tutors past and present of the Kumeu Children's Art Club at their 20th year party this April

There have been set backs this year too. As stated earlier we had hoped our expansion would have developed more and much still rests on the outcome of this project. We look forward to more certainty and space to operate in soon.

Classes run by long standing tutors such as Amber Emm, Lesley Alexander and Julie Moselen continue to offer not only art tuition, but a social outlet and a means for many to meet here and bond with others. Lots of participants come here for the people interaction as much as the art. We are proud we can offer a friendly place for our community and we strongly adhere to our vision to "To Promote and Foster a Creative Local Community".

We were sad to see Kelly Kensington leave us in early 2018 as she was such a competent and dedicated administrator. However, happily Kelly still supports us in the background as our treasurer. This is a great reassurance to KACI. Her replacement Yvonne Abercrombie is an artist as well as working in administration and accounts, therefore has brought a new skill set to our team. Since joining us in February 2018 Yvonne has helped hugely with curating shows, supporting artists and helping them at exhibition openings. Her knowledge of art and how the art world operates is a great asset to us and she has personally secured many sales.

We also said goodbye to our good friend and Vice-Chair, Trevor Parker, who is returning to the U.K at the end of July 2018. Trevor has been hugely influential here and will be greatly missed by everyone at Kumeu Arts Centre.

In summary, Kumeu Arts Centre will continue to strive to make improvements whilst offering a great service. We believe that we are in a positive position but still with room for much improvement. We are on the cusp of major changes at an exciting time in our history.

Thanks to....

As a not for profit, registered charity, we run via a dedicated committee and two paid employees one full time and one part-time (0.3 FTE). These committee members, our coordinator, our administrator and our large database of volunteers, allow us to achieve great things and we are very proud of all successes. Heartfelt thanks to the KACI committee and members, who volunteer their time, energy and skills to help us achieve our objectives.

Our thanks also to the following funders and their financial support of our organisation:

Jul 2017	NZ Book Awards	\$200.00	National Poetry Day 2017
August 2017	Rodney Local Board	\$40,000.00	Operational Costs
Oct 2017	Creative Communities	\$1,422	Art Awards 2017
Feb 2018	NZ Lotteries Board	\$20,000.00	Operational Costs: Multi Year (year 3 of 3)
May 2018	Pub Charity	\$7,000.00	Arts in Action 2018
May 2018	Creative Communities	\$500	8 Exhibitions in 2017-2018
May 2018	Foundation North	\$20,000.00	Operational Costs

These funds are gratefully received. They are a continual support and recognition of our services to the community and are much appreciated. Without this funding we would no longer manage to sustain our services and continue them in the future. We rely on these grants to provide our services and to cover the significant ongoing costs of administration, maintenance and coordination.