

# Curriculum Vitae: Robyn M Webster

My practice continually questions and respectfully explores ways of being a pakeha artist within biculturalism. not only because I live and work in Aotearoa, but because of my extensive and prolonged engagement with harakeke / NZ flax / Phormium Tenax.

My practice is fuelled by a constant shifting between two and three dimensions. It is a prolonged experiment in boundary riding. Between art and craft, image and object, natural fibre and man-made materials, the precious and the valueless, and the use of feminine craft practices such as weaving, plaiting and stitching, to make fine art. It's about the transformation of materials through my labour and by association. In my sculptural work I have mostly explored rigidity with flexibility, by using tension and gravity, usually to open soft forms or to evoke movement. Sometimes movement has been paramount, in which case I have collaborated with dancers and musicians; the people supply the movement. My printmaking has evolved to employ harakeke as a drawing medium from which to print. My paintings have evolved to bridge the other two fields. I like to recycle ideas and materials in new ways, seeking connection and emotional resonance in a way that is of use to the world.

## Exhibitions

### 2022

Harakeke Installation, "Approach": Tai Tapu Sculpture Garden

Group Show, Eastside Gallery, Linwood, Christchurch

### 2021

Printmaking Show, Chambers Gallery, Christchurch

"Labyrinth 4", Tai Tapu Sculpture Garden

### 2020

Printmaking, Group Show, Cardboard Cathedral, Christchurch

Sculptural Harakeke Installation "Labyrinth 3", South Quad, Arts Centre Christchurch. Collaboration with Fleur de Thier, dancers, and Nicole Reddington

Industrialised Harakeke Sculptures, Tai Tapu Sculpture Garden

Sculptural Harakeke Installation "Labyrinth 2", with additional performance of music and dance

within the South Base Gallery, Turanga Christchurch Central Library

## **2019**

Sculptural Harakeke Installation "Labyrinth", inauguration of the Ron Ball Studio, Town Hall, Christchurch. Collaboration with Cathy Irons, CSO musician, and her trio, plus dancers.

"Loves of Our Lives" Printmaking with Llew Summers, Sculptor; Little River Gallery, Canterbury

"Shared Lines Kaikoura", Printmaking, Old Cheesemongers, the Arts Centre, Christchurch

Industrialised Harakeke Sculptures, Group Show at Tai Tapu Sculpture Garden

"How to Stand" Harakeke Sculpture, "ZAAFA" Women's Exhibition, Ashburton Art Gallery

Printmaking "Molly Morpeth Canaday Award" finalist exhibition, Te Koputu a te Whanga a Toi, Whakatane Library and Exhibition Centre

Harakeke Plesiosaur, Sculpture on the Peninsula, Loudon Farm, Banks Peninsula.

"Shared Lines Kaikoura", Printmaking Group Show, Kaikoura

## **2018**

Harakeke Object "Christmas Show", Inge Doesburg Gallery, Dunedin (2018-19)

Harakeke Objects "The Cutting Edge - Beyond Textiles", Group Show, Oxford Gallery

Sculpture and Printmaking "Harakeke Variations", Solo Show, Chamber Gallery, Rangiora Library

Harakeke Object "Ka Awatea", Lyttelton Museum Pop Up, Lyttelton

Industrialised Harakeke Sculptures "Sculpture in the Garden", Hawarden

Printmaking "Suffrage 125", Diversion Gallery, Picton

Printmaking "Pathways Forward", Group show, Diversion Gallery, at Bowen House, Parliament, Wellington

Harakeke Installation "The Spaces Between", Sculptural Installation/ Collaboration with Choreographer Fleur de Thier (and dancers), Lyttelton Arts Factory (LAF)

Printmaking and Sculpture from "The Space Between", with Photography derived from my work in

Spaces Between, by Bina Iris, "Derived from Dance" Eastside Gallery, Christchurch

"Physis", Solo Show of printmaking and sculpture, Chambers 241 Gallery, Christchurch

"Tai Tapu Sculpture", Industrialised Harakeke, Group Show at Tai Tapu Sculpture Garden

Printmaking/ Installation ZONTA Female Art Awards Exhibition, Group Show, Ashburton Art Gallery

"Post-Christmas Show", Printmaking Group Show, Inge Doesburg Gallery, Dunedin

## **2017**

"Tai Tapu Sculpture", Group Show at Tai Tapu Sculpture Garden

"Sculpture on the Peninsula", Industrialised Harakeke Group Show, Loudon Farm

"Figure and Form", Printmaking, Diversion Gallery, Picton (with Llew Summers)

"Shared Lines", Harakeke Objects, Group Show, Thistle Hall, Wellington

"From the Rivers to the Shore", Travelling Group Show of Printmakers' works, Oxford Gallery, Devonport (Depot Gallery) Rawene, Hokianga

Harakeke Object/ Installation, Printmaking "Warp and Weft", Dilana Rugs, First Thursdays, Sydenham, Christchurch

## **2016**

Harakeke and Found Object Installation "Anchor Point", Pop Up Collaborative work with choreographer Fleur de Thier, a lighting designer, musician (live) and six dancers at CoCA, Christchurch

Printmaking "Fine Lines" Diversion Gallery, Picton (Group Show with Graham Bennett, Bing Dawe, and Denise Copland)

"Too Many Dinner Parties", Group Show, Eastside Gallery, Linwood

"Tai Tapu Sculpture", Group Show at Tai Tapu Sculpture Garden

## **2015**

"Matakaea, Shag Point", Harakeke Sculpture: Plesiosaur, and paintings, in collaboration with poet Bernadette Hall, Ashburton Public Art Gallery (2015-2016)

"Sculpture on the Peninsula", Industrialised Harakeke Sculpture, Group Show, Loudon Farm

"Tai Tapu Sculpture" Group Show, Tai Tapu Sculpture Garden

"Lucid", Dance / Sculpture Collaboration, choreographed by Fleur de Thier and Megan Platt, around sculpture by Llew Summers and Robyn Webster with dancers and musicians, at our home in Mt Pleasant, Christchurch

"Paper Scissors Rock", Group Show, First Thursdays in Sydenham, Curated by Warren Feeney

"Boundary Unbound", My sculpture and her photographs. Collaboration with Dance Photographer Bina Klose, Sumner Art Window

"Masks of Humanity", Group Show, Eastside Gallery, Linwood, Christchurch

## **2014**

"Compendia", Curated Group Show, Harakeke Sculpture City Art Depot, Christchurch

"The Signing/ Belonging", Harakeke Sculpture, Curated Group Show, Academy Gallery, Wellington

"Stand Tall" Community Show, ("Zeraffe" giraffe) Christchurch, with Llew Summers

"Biorama", Solo Show/Installation, Harakeke Installation Sumner Art Window

"Toy", Group Show, Paper Works Pop Up, @ The Colombo, Curated by Warren Feeney

"Tribute", Printmaking, sculpture, & paintings, Solo Show, Chamber Gallery, Rangiora Public Library

## **2013**

"Scattershot", Industrialised Harakeke, Group Show Pop Up, Redcliffs, Christchurch

"[In] Box", Group Show, Art Box Gallery, Christchurch

"One Night Wonder" Harakeke/ Printmaking object, Group Show, Lopdell House, Titirangi, Auckland

"Shared Lines", Harakeke Sculpture and Printmaking: International Travelling Exchange Group Show, SoFA Gallery, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, and Sendai, Japan

"Recollected Love", Solo Show / Installation, Industrialised Harakeke Installation with Paintings, Sumner Art Window, Christchurch

## **2012**

"Convolvulus Infinitum", Solo Show/ Installation of woven Convolvulus, CoCA Window, Christchurch

"Summer Exhibition", Wire Sculpture: Curated Group Show, Waitakaruru Arboretum/ Sculpture Park

"Te Whai Ao", Invited Group Show, Harakeke Sculpture: curated by Areta Wilkinson, Chamber Gallery, Rangiora Public Library

"History and Biology", Open Home and Studio Show with Llew Summers at our home. I showed paintings and sculpture

## **2011**

"Be a Brick", Painting: Group Show Fundraiser for Martin Whitworth, Paper Graphica, Christchurch

"Sculpture on the Peninsula", Industrialised Harakeke, Group Show, Loudon Farm, Banks Peninsula

"A Gathering", Industrialised Harakeke: Group Show, Curated by Grant Banbury, Christchurch Polytech Atrium

## **2010**

"The Art of Nanotechnology", Industrialised Harakeke, Group Show, Our City / Otautahi in conjunction with Canterbury and Otago Universities' Physics Departments

"Blend", as above; Group Show: a touring version of the "Art of Nanotechnology", ROCDA Gallery, Dunedin

## **2009**

"Twist", Industrialised Harakeke: Solo Show, CoCA, Christchurch

Canterbury Art Teachers Exhibition at (AANZAE) National Conference, Dunedin

## **2008**

"Preview", Harakeke Sculpture: Curated by Warren Feeney. Travelling group show: CoCA, Christchurch and Temple Gallery, Dunedin

Emerging Artist Scheme, Industrialised Harakeke Sculpture Solo Show, North Gallery, CoCA, Christchurch

“Catch All”, Canterbury Art Teachers Association Exhibition, CoCA, Christchurch

## **2007**

“Indulgences”, Canterbury Art Teachers Association Exhibition, CoCA, Christchurch

## **2006**

“Connect”, Canterbury Art Teachers Association Exhibition, CoCA, Christchurch

## **2005**

“Layers”, Canterbury Art Teachers Association Exhibition, CoCA, Christchurch

## **2002**

“Look This Way”, Woven Harakeke Sculpture: Christchurch College of Education Centenary Exhibition, curated by Bronwyn Taylor; COCA, Christchurch

## **1999**

Canterbury Art Teachers Association Exhibition, Group Show, COCA, Christchurch

## **1997**

Commissioned Sculpture, Harakeke, installed at Otago Polytechnic School of Physiotherapy

“Whariki”, Harakeke Commission, Julanne Morris and Michael Wallace (Private Collection)

“Internal Objects”, Harakeke with Steel, collaboration with Heather Kilgour: Group Show, Bond St Gallery, Dunedin

## **1995**

“Holding On and Letting Go”, Mixed media, harakeke sculptures: Graduating Honours Solo Show, Bond St Gallery, Dunedin

“Takitahi”, Raranga Group Show, Kete and Harakeke Sculpture, Curated by Helen Telford, Dunedin Public Art Gallery

“Dancing”, Harakeke Commission: Diane Halstead (Private Collection)

## **1994**

“Icon Projections”, Harakeke Sculpture: Icon Project Group Show, No.5 Gallery, Dunedin

## **1993**

“Women on Women”, as above: Group Show, Curated by Linda Tyler, Dunedin Public Art Gallery

“Icon Project”, as above: Group Show, Art House Gallery Dunedin, Suffrage Centenary Grant

## **1992**

“Myself as A Bag”, woven industrial plastic sculptural installation and performance: Solo Show South Island Art Project Grant, Solutions Gallery, Dunedin, in connection with “The Body of the Land” Dunedin Public Art Gallery

## **Qualifications**

**Diploma In Teaching**, Christchurch College of Education, 1997

**Honours Diploma in Sculpture**, Otago Polytechnic School of Art, 1993

**Diploma of Fine Art**, Dunedin Polytechnic School of Art, Sculpture Major, 1990

**Intensive Puipui Course**, Maori School of Arts and Crafts, Whakarewarewa, Rotorua, under Emily Schuster, 1986

**Raranga Apprenticeship**, (P.E.P. Scheme), Whakatutu Marae, Nelson, under Hene Kerekere and Erenora Puketapu Hetet, 1984