



Susannah Law

I am a qualified artist (graduating in 2005 from Hungry Creek Art school in Puhoi, Auckland) as well as a registered teacher and have had a professional art career in visual arts for many years. I studied design, art history, majored in painting, life drawing, pottery and sculpture. I have a studio based at home at present and continue tutoring youth (aged 7-16yrs), painting for exhibitions and commissions. I have been working in Early childhood education since the 90's. My mother, Lesley and I set up the Happy Rainbow centres on the Hibiscus coast after I completed training at Auckland teachers College, (at one stage Lesley ran 4 centres). Mum and Dad, (John Law) went onto set up and run a private primary school in Wainui until 2006 when they retired. My sisters carried on running childcare centres and I recently managed their local ECE centre Snowflakes beside Snow planet in Silverdale alongside my art career, until it sold in 2018. I enjoyed working with local families and children implementing the NZ Te Whaariki curriculum as well as tutoring trainee teachers and supporting parents with diverse needs children (specialising in behavioural management and social emotional development).

I have been involved with the opening and set up of Estuary Arts centre in Orewa since 2006 joining the TAFI (The arts Forum INC) group who initiated the project, and we sourced the building and developed business plans. I volunteered on the front desk for many years working with other artists and creating the newsletters. I eventually became a trustee and committee coordinator for the education side of the centre for several years. In this role I organised the centres education programme and advertised classes and organised bookings and fundraising events.

I set up teaching from there to youth aged 7-16yrs from 2007 - 2023. Lessons usually included using a New Zealand artist as a reference point and creating 2D and 3D art forms, such as stone carving, pottery, painting, printing, drawing, design, and modelling, etc. This included involving diverse learners and some of my long-term art students went to Elam or animation universities.

In 2010 I set up and ran an art studio cooperative space for artists with a boutique gallery in Orewa town until 2018. Over that time, we coordinated promotions, openings and ran a small retail gallery space, we allowed the public to visit any time and engage with us while we worked on our art. I was involved in local projects doing numerous murals and overseeing other artists and at times supporting art students on projects.

I ran three to four art classes per week regularly there for many years. I set up and applied for funding in the arts many times for youth shows and various holiday programmes such as a local regional art competition for youth. I created a series of paintings sponsored through a group of students for the Mangere refugee camp. I have also relieved as an art teacher in all secondary levels and been invited by Graeme Irving (HOD) at Orewa college twice to assist as a specialist art teacher for art students and help coordinate paintings for their outdoor area displays in the junior and high schools as well as judging in the arts at times.

I volunteered again on the local artists studio trail committee from 2014 that was set up by Kim Boyd and Kym Burke and chaired this committee in 2017, working with a group of dedicated artist volunteers gaining successful funding applications to set up and operate this weekend event so that the public could visit artists in their own studios around the HBC coast, Auckland area.

In 2018 I took a 3-month contracted managing role organising the running/sponsorship and the setup of the first group art show at Millwater gallery in Millwater.

Recently I coordinated a teenage workshop funded by local business and Estuary arts centre to teach youth to create a mural, this was on plyboard and hangs outside at EAC, Orewa. I have fundraised and created a large mural for The Silverdale Pioneer Village in 2023. Throughout 2024 I have written and illustrated towards a children's book over many months as well as continue teaching part time. My recent exhibition are from October through to January in Orewa and on the Northshore.

Work History

Artist-Self-employed since 2005- owner of Red Beach studio 2018-current

Art teacher & Teacher 1988 onwards

Owner/operator of Red door studios- artists Cooperative 2010-2018

Committee member/chair of the HBC art studio trail event 2014-2017

Trustee of The Estuary Arts Charitable Trust Board, Orewa 2007-9

Education Convenor at Estuary Arts Centre 2008-9

Editor of The Arts Journal 2007-08

Previous specialist Art Teacher for primary and secondary school levels;

- Estuary Arts Centre 2007-2018

- Orewa College 2014/2017

- Stella Maris School 2011

- Hungry Creek Art and Craft School, Puhoi 2006

- Koru Grove Primary School 2003-05

AWARDS

""2024"" Selected Finalist for ILT art awards in Southland NZ

""2023"" Winner 2D premier award -HBC Bays Art awards

""2022"" Winner 'Our people our place' award- Waitakere Art Trust Show, Henderson.

""2021"" Merit -MAC members show, Mairangi Bay.

""2020""

Premier winner -HBC Bays Art Awards, Orewa (open to NZ residents)

Figurative Award EAC members show, Orewa

People's choice award- MAC members show. Mairangi Bay, Auckland.

""2017""

Supreme award 1st place- The Great Summer Art Show Snells Beach, Rodney.

Finalist- HBC Bays Art Awards at Mairangi Art Centre.

""2016""

Merit award in painting - regional HBC Bays Art Awards at Estuary Arts, (open to NZ residents)

Finalist – NZ Annual portrait awards show-The Portrait gallery Wellington, selected to tour in NZ.
'I am Daniel'

""2017"" Selected to exhibit at The Little Black Gallery, Kerikeri

""2015""-Selected to exhibit at Art on Tyne in Oamaru

""2013""-Selected to exhibit at Bird Song Gallery, Pirongia

""2012""-Selected to exhibit at Weka-Estuary Arts as a shop artist

""2012""-Selected to exhibit at Lakehouse Arts as a shop artist

""2008""

Second Place, "Winter's Song" Members Exhibition of Estuary Arts Centre, Orewa.

""2007""

1st place in the Acrylic Section, "Pohutukawa Paradise" Rodney Art Awards.

""2006""

Merit- Rodney Art Awards, "Patu-Paiarehe o Pohutukawa"

""2002""

Second place- Warkworth Hospital Art Awards. "Taonga o Moana"

""2001""

Finalist- Telecom Art Awards, "Daniel at Little Manly Beach"

""1985""

Selected- Star Art Show "Sondra"

(One out of five/400 paintings selected for critique by a top art critic in Auckland published in Auckland Star NEWSPAPER).

EXHIBITIONS (this list contains some of the more notable shows only

"2023"

'Magical Aotearoa' March - EAC Orewa

'HBC Bayes Art Awards' – February -EAC Orewa

""2022""

'Kainga'-Emma Jean Gallery Silverdale

'Predator free NZ 2050' - EAC and Auckland Botanical Gardens, Manurewa.

""2021""

'Winner's exhibition', Estuary arts centre, Orewa

""2020""

Arts trail artists show at EAC

EAC and MAC members show

""2019""

'Creatures' Emma Jean Gallery Silverdale.

'The Travellers' Selected for HBC Bayes Art Awards Mairangi art Centre.

""2018""

'1st Exhibition' inaugural show at Millwater Gallery, Millwater

""2017""

'The Great Summer Art Show' Snells Beach, Warkworth

'HBC Bays art awards', Mairangi Arts, Northshore

'Art Fusions', Carmel College, Milford- selected fundraising show

""2016""

'Adam portrait awards', selected for NZ tour until 2017 from Wellington around NZ;

The Pah Homestead, Auckland, Percy Thomson Gallery, Strafford Taranaki, Millennium Gallery, Blenheim City Gallery, Invercargill and Aigantighe Art Gallery, Timaru.

""2015""

'Art Fusions'- at Carmel College, Milford

""2014""

'Novel Ideas' at Estuary Arts Centre

""2013""

'Matariki' at Estuary Arts Centre

""2012""

'Winters Song' at Lake House Arts Takapuna

""2011""

'Portrait Show' at Mairangi Arts Centre

""2010""

'Transform it' at Estuary Arts Centre

""2009""

'Birds all around us' collaboration at Estuary Arts Centre

""2008""

'Members Show' at Estuary Arts Centre

""2007""

'Birds' show at Estuary Arts Centre

""2005""

'Exposed' Depot Art Station, Devonport- Graduates show

""2004""

'Dimensions' Waitoki Hall

""2003""

'Collaboration' Warkworth Masonic Hall

""2002""

'Students Show' Settlers Gallery, Silverdale

""2001""

'Warkworth Hospital Art Awards', Warkworth

""2000""

'Splash' Orewa Library

""1999""

'See what leapt out!' Peter Muir Petford Gallery, Queen st, Auckland

'The Lawrence Group' Bruce Mason Centre Takapuna- Students of John Lawrence from MAC.

""1985""'Star Art Students Show' Downtown building, Auckland.