

# iNDx

ART EXHIBITION

MEET THE ARTISTS

11 to 23 August 2018  
Free, 11am–3pm daily  
H D Skinner Annex, Otago Museum

**The iNDx Art Exhibition showcases the amazing depth of artistic talent in both the local and wider autistic community.**

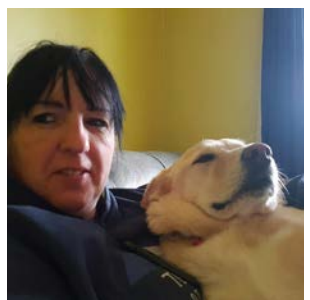
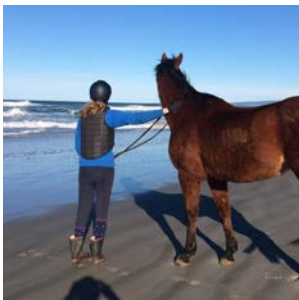
**Artworks range from paint on canvas to vlogs, with the exhibition providing a platform for these artists to publicly display their work.**

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You will notice that some artists have not included a biography, description of their art, or a photograph of themselves. It is important that each artist is able to present their work and themselves in whatever way they feel is 'right', therefore exhibits, biographies and any other information are exactly as the artist delivered them to us, reflecting each artist's unique and wonderful personality.

We understand the format is not 'traditional' or streamlined, however we think that adds to the theme of the Exhibition. Individuality, appreciation for autonomy and a celebration of how diverse and unique Autistic people are.

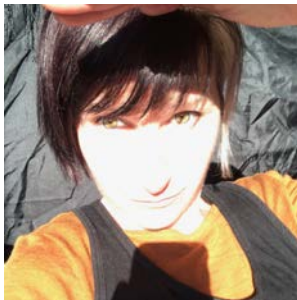
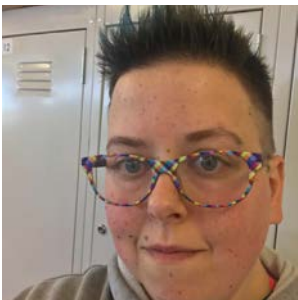
There is also work submitted by several limited speaking Artists, and their support people didn't feel comfortable writing words on their behalf. We'd rather the artist didn't see a 'reframed' or 'edited' bio and description and feel that someone thought they needed to change in order to 'fit in'. This is the opposite of what our intentions for this exhibition are.



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ARTISTS**



# KYLEE MITCHELL

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Kylee Mitchell 43 From Oamaru.

Have just Recently in the Last Few Years, Took Up Doing Art. I started Colouring Books with Bright Colour. Took up Doing Different Types of Mediums & Becoming More Interested in Doing Different Things.

Mostly Do Drawings, Paintings, Mixed Media, Oil Pastels. Still Learning & Developing My Skill.

I Will Be Putting in This Picture, Done on the Back of a Brown Paper Prescription Bag.



My name is Darryl Breen and I paint and draw at Art Space, it's an art focussed daybase run by IDEA Services in Dunedin.

I love to make art, it makes me feel happy and calm. I have exhibited at the Blue Oyster in a collaboration with Saskia Leek, and I enter the IHC Art Awards every year.

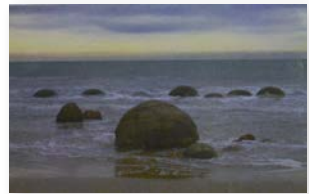
I have painted a volcano with acrylic paint, I like the smoke that comes out the top and the bright red lava.



# JOSH QUINTRELL

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Josh Quintrell was born in Palmerston North, New Zealand in 1991.

Given a camera at an early age by his father sparked his love of photography and the mysterious processes surrounding this newfound arcane art and thus began a lifelong obsession.

The interest was further cultivated in later years and further developed when he decided to pursue his Bachelor's Degree in Photography at Ara institute in Canterbury. During his study, various alternative photographic processes were shown to him and this began his further study in to alternative media and photography techniques. Mediums that are not normally used or are unheard of are a basis of his experimentation and are often unusual, striking and frequently become a conversation piece alongside the image itself.

Alongside the photographic process, Josh incorporates textures and layering using hand crafted techniques which makes the images entirely unique.

Josh has also gained recognition from the NZIPP Iris Awards with a bronze in 2016, 2017 and 2018 and a silver in 2018 respectively.





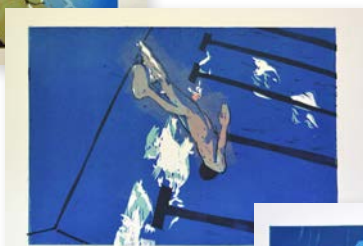
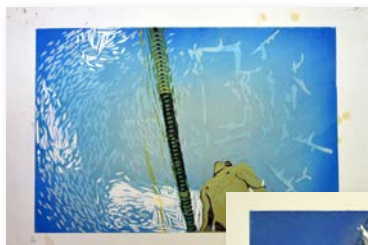
I am a Dunedin Artist, who paints New Zealand scenery. I paint weekly at Dunedin Artsenta. I am an artist member of the Otago Art Society and have previously had my paintings selected for their exhibitions. My paintings are also being hung in a gallery called Studio 110 in Dunedin.

In 2014 I became a finalist in the IHC Art Awards in Wellington.

# JULIAN DUNCAN

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Julian is a Dunedin based artist who spent his childhood in Papua New Guinea where he developed a love for nature. As a self-proclaimed 'coastal mungi' Julian is inspired by the natural world, specifically aquatic habitats. This inspiration is captured in his psychedelic abstract expressionist work. As a multidisciplinary artist Julian has combined paint, ink, pen pigment and screen printing in the selected works on display at iNDx. Julian has exhibited work in Dunedin a number of times in the past and aims to expand his practice through further exposure in the future.



Jeanette Purkis is an autistic artist, author and public speaker. Jeanette has been a practicing artist since 1993. They are also the author of six published books on elements of autism and a prolific blogger. Jeanette has presented at TEDx Canberra in 2013 and as a keynote presenter at a number of major autism conferences. Jeanette facilitates a support group for women on the autism spectrum in Canberra, Australia and has received a number of awards including the 2016 ACT Volunteer of the Year and finalist in the 2017 ACT Woman of the Year award. Jeanette lives in their art-filled house known as Whimsy Manor with their feline friend Mr Kitty.

Both pieces are untitled. The colourful evening sky one is watercolour on paper and the blue one is chalk pastel on paper. They are part of a series I have been working on since 1995. They are reflections of my inner world. They are done very quickly and with no intent or planning. They evoke emotions that I struggle to articulate.

# ANTONIO BRINKLEY

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Hello, my name is Antonio and I am 17 years old. I live in Southland where I have been learning about photography in my home school environment with my teacher aide.

I love to take photos of things I find interesting. This is the first art exhibition I have entered and I am excited to show you my work.

This is the world through my eyes; all my work is untouched and unedited.



Joanne was diagnosed as autistic at the age of 48.

She has been married for 33 years and has two adult children - one of whom is also autistic. She is passionate about photography and spends a lot of time doing this when walking her dog on her local beach in Kapiti, an hour north of Wellington.



# HARA JAMES

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Hi I'm Hara and I have been doing art for number of years. I do mixed media and paintings and carving of green stone and wood. I studied my certificate in visual art design in 2009 and carried on to do diploma in painting level 5 and 6. I have had work exhibited before and presently doing level 6 mixed media through learning connection as I did level 5 last year. I enjoy art and see it as a process of creative expression and a spiritual connection for me too. I have been diagnosed with Asperger's syndrome and do to have art in a exhibition for people on the spectrum is a positive move forward and a way to connect with others through my art. Thank you. Hara



Catie moved to NZ from England when she was 12 years old. She has always had a love for drawing and creating, and especially enjoys drawing surreal pieces the most. Catie loves seeing her art displayed in people's houses because then she knows that other people are enjoying them too. Catie is a busy person with a full time job and many pets to care for at home, so she doesn't often have time to draw or paint. Catie's special interests are horses and being outside with them.

The swan pic and the octopus pic are both about my sensory stuff, I love beautiful long hair and I always imagine it being this amazing soft, easy thing that's a part of you (swans) but I can't stand it touching me, sometimes it feels like I'm being overwhelmed by my hair (octopus) and it stresses me out.

The water colour lady is just something that worked out, I play with watercolour a lot and sometimes I hate what I create and it doesn't look how I want. This one is simple and just worked.



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Dunedin Digital Artist.

Comics, Music and ....Movies.

Currently studying Communication design at Otago Polytechnic  
Studied previously at Century College in Minnesota, and Arts Institutes  
International in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

We actually do exhibitions as part of our classwork at Otago, and  
even the first time I took the degree in 2006 - we held exhibitions for  
student work.



Masterton

I am not sure what drives the process, I just get the paint and canvas and what ever comes to mind ends up on the canvas

# NRETSEW

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My names Nretsew, i studied creative studies for a year and have been very into making art since high school, however after i finished my studies i somewhat retired from the art world, as i've been focused on other things irl, personally i don't like to tell people what my work is about, and much rather like people drawing up there own interpretations mutch the same way i do when i look at things or hear music.

The work i am showing here is the first new piece of work i have made in over 2 years, i am using clip studio paint and the assets and materials provided with it.

Nretsew sits upon the throne

The throne he fought for

The throne he bleed for

The throne he killed for

The throne he did not  
even want

Nretsew sits upon the throne

The throne his father sat

The throne his brother was  
meant to sat

The throne that was taken  
from him

The throne that was rightfully his

Nretsew sits upon the throne

A throne he did not want

A throne not meant for him

But it is a throne he must take

A people he must rule

For the times to come

For the war to come

Nretsew sits upon the throne



## *It's Autism* by Katy Kenah

This short video looks at how autism is described in ways that focus on the negative, and challenges us to look at the positive aspects of these traits. See the possibilities rather than only the difficulties.

Running time: 7 mins

Katy followed her 'special interest', moving to Hawkes Bay, NZ (from the UK) in 2005. Now aged 32, she works as a tertiary tutor for young adults with a range of supported learning needs. Katy focuses on students strengths and interests, using positive language to help both them and their families realise their potential. Her current passions include sailing, skiing, stone carving and photography.

# ANONYMOUS

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Name: remaining anonymous

Location: Dunedin

What drives my art: I like to create art to give to people, and I also like the intense focus it provides. I put money that I earn from my art towards my horse and riding.

medium used: pencil on card

technique: Using a reference picture, I sketched the horse and rider out onto a plain piece of a3 paper, and then transferred it onto the card so I wouldn't have the rough lines from sketching. I then used a 6B, 4B and 2H pencil, and worked my way up from the bottom.

inspiration: I made this piece especially for iNDx, and I decided to do a pencil piece rather than my usual digital work because I wanted to do something a little different.



Me, based in Hamilton. I don't really consider myself as artist – to me art is paintings hanging on a wall.

Pallet Pyrography (aka burning letters into scrap wood with a \$30 Super Cheap Auto soldering Iron)

"Tangata Whaitakiwātanga" From Te Reo Hāpai – technically it is "person with Autism" but Tangata Whenua is – " people of the land", so to me it means " People with Autism". Aka my Tribe.

The motorbike (Trike 3- wheels) is a very loose representation? / replica? Off of VW Beetle – based Trikes.

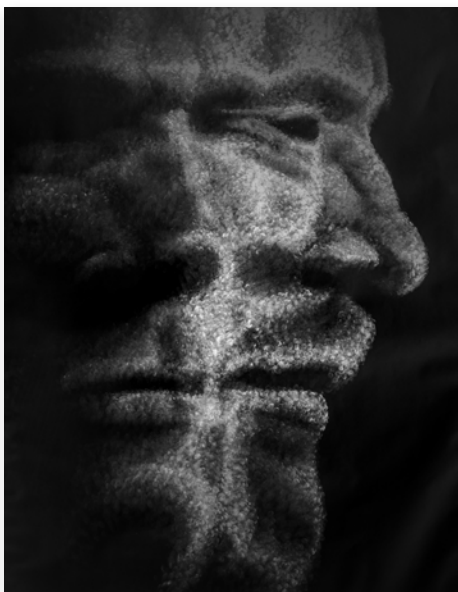
The other is just a two-wheel motorbike-ish thing.



# TOM FOX

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Tom Fox is a Dunedin based artist and is a member of the iNDx group, a graduate of the Dunedin school of Art.

He works in a variety of mediums with a main focus on photography, painting and chalk pastel and paper works.

His art practice investigates the effect of trauma and sensory conditions on an individual's perception of the world.

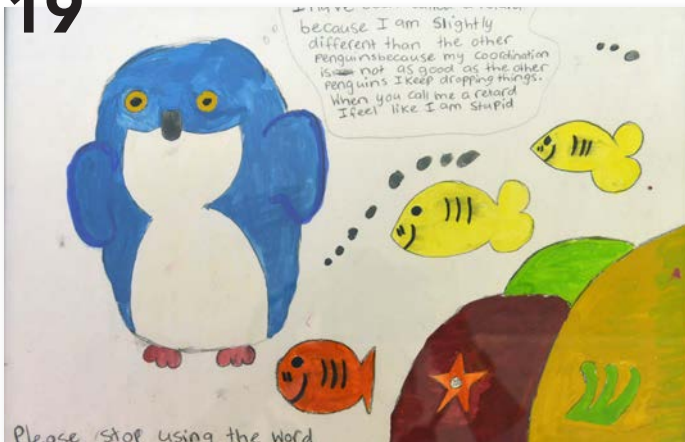
He will have a chalk pastel work in the iNDx show, his chalk pastel works are usually large in scale portrait drawings that are built up using a fingerprint technique, repetitions and distortions.





I am 19 years old. I have been making art at Studio 2 for about 4 years. I like making up and drawing my own dinosaurs. I am now designing sentai robots for further tokusatsu shows I am wanting to do here in New Zealand for a future entertainment company

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Julia is a finalist in this years IHC Art awards and predominantly creates art at Artspace and Studio 2.

A lot of her art works feature her ever growing collection of lemurs and other toy animals that serve a very important role as communication aids.

Environmental awareness and belonging and being included are issues that feature in a lot of Julia's art.

Julia has her own show on Otago Access Radio called 'The positivity show' and co-hosts 2 others.

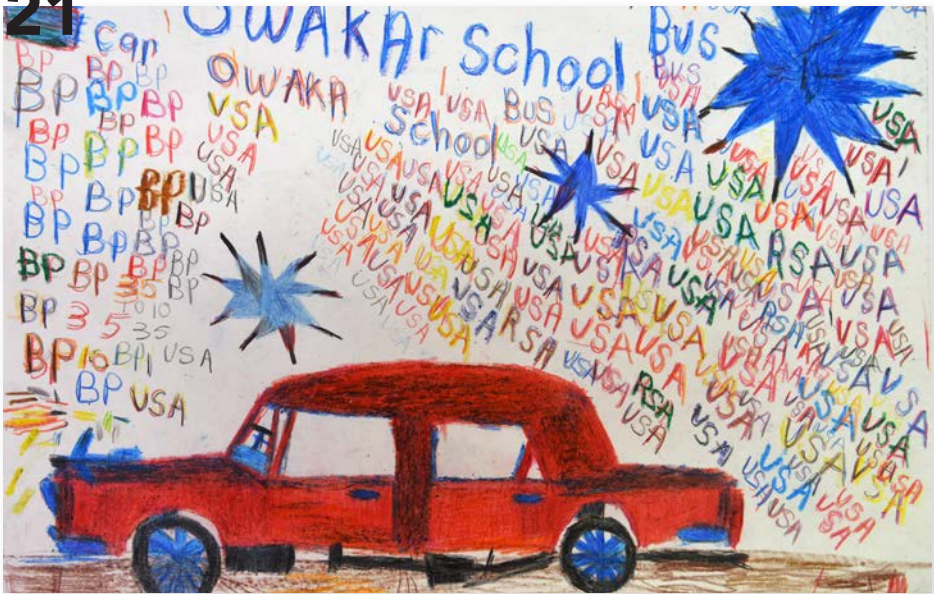


Andrew loves to draw and has a very focused and specific style.

Cars, houses and the date the drawing is done are all major components of his art works.

His drawings are saturated in colour and delightful in their naivety.

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Ivan hails from Owaka and we think references to this part of his life are predominantly what appear in his art.

He loves to draw and will work on the same piece for many weeks until there is literally no more space on the paper then will start all over again. Happy and content.



Philip lives a very creative life and is involved in theatre performance and puppetry and art.

He loves colour and has a very specific style of drawing.

This year he worked with Studio 2 arts facilitators to write a story and create puppets from his drawings and performed a puppet show in the Dunedin Fringe Festival.



# ANONYMOUS

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*The Head*

*What do you see?  
It's always changing  
Sometimes dark, grey, quiet  
Lurking and waiting  
Taking it all in, thinking, reflecting  
Being busy being, heartily inside  
You, which never leaves*

*Another day, it's different  
Smiling, laughing  
Being present, making connections  
Still taking it all in  
Reflecting back, always reflecting  
No meaning, understanding  
Could have, should have, always right*

*So what do you see?  
Nothing?  
Stop?  
Something else?  
Is there a world?  
One or more still?  
I wonder, what would that be like?*

*What am I?*

*Is this me?  
I don't know what "me" is  
I am a little, somehow?  
Am I "different", am I "normal"?  
What else that you mean?  
One of actually another?  
This story made its heart where I fit  
What my habit is...*

*Why do I have to take?  
What will I be with it?  
I can't stop what I am without it,  
Or am I?  
Maybe then... should I?  
Will they think, difference of me?  
Or I can't?*

*The Old Lady*

*It feels so old and sad  
Seeing the silence  
And the confusion  
The degradation of what was once so strong*

*Thinking back  
And feeling that light  
Soft, dry skin  
So many tears, showing the story of that life*

*The morning  
Of another day  
And suddenly she  
The world and all, no they love their bodies*

*The old lady  
Based on these days  
The shame and embarrassment  
As the people move and then up*

*It's hard, getting old  
Being really old  
The day as we walk  
Knowing, one day, it will be us*

I write to get things out of my head. I have only started writing poetry this year. Each poem is triggered by an emotional reaction I've had to something I have experienced, seen, read about, etc. If I don't write down the words when I feel these emotions, it's like there is a pain or build up of something in my heart that will burst! I like quiet and spending time on my own reading, knitting, crocheting and being with my dog. I have two children, one of whom is also autistic.



Warren is a local Dunedin Artist who excels at turning others' trash into Cosplay treasure using self-taught techniques. He has been making costumes since he was 11 yrs old. Warren's costumes have featured in numerous charity parades, community events and expos across New Zealand.

"I don't really make costumes for myself, more for others' enjoyment. I make characters that I think other people would like to see and will make them happy. It feels good to help other people. It makes me feel like I have more purpose"



# HELENE DUPRES

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I am on the outside looking in  
I see you in there  
You laugh  
You talk  
You drink your coffee

I stand outside  
I see the sky  
I hear the birds  
I feel the rain

You do not look at me  
I try to walk inside  
But the door is locked  
So I pretend

I laugh  
I talk  
I drink my coffee  
We have good conversations through the glass

You use words to describe me  
Eccentric quirky unique  
These are meant to compliment me  
These are meant to control me

"It is hard not to be inside"  
I say  
You smile at me  
"There is no such thing as inside"  
You try to reassure me

I realize you cannot see the sky  
Or hear the birds  
Or feel the rain  
You think "outside" is a bad word

Do not tell me  
From your warmth and light  
With all your friends who safe inside too  
That my life has not been different

Do not comfort me by saying  
"We all get that sometimes"  
My world is not sometimes  
The sly is always there  
The birds will always sing  
I cannot control the rain

Do not silence me  
Do not ignore me  
I am outside looking in  
And that is okay

I write to communicate easier what's going on in my head.

My poetry tends to be my way of processing my feelings.  
Published in Resist and Triumph - A Charity Anthology

Poetry  
People try and make me feel  
"better" about being Autistic by saying "there's no such  
thing as normal".

This is an idea that is the luxury of the normal.



Hello my Name is Nick

I'm 38 years old and live in Christchurch I've been doing bits and pieces with photography for a number of years right from when I got my first digital camera. I've always liked Trains and buses and have an extensive collection of photos and am always adding to them.

My passion has always been there but even more so since I'm proudly an autistic adult

this is the first time I've felt confident enough to show off my photography skills and am happy to consider selling copies of photos if there is enough interest in my work.

The only editing that has been done to these photos is that its been resized but the original held by me.

# GABRIELLE HOGG

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Hello my name is Gabrielle and I am 30 years old. I live in Auckland, and I've taught myself to knit. I got interested in knitting as my nana who I knew briefly before she passed away when I was 6 1/2 years old was a knitter and her daughter my Aunty also knitted, she too sadly passed away when I was 19. A counselor also got me into knitting as a tool to help me battle self cutting, and it does help to keep my hands busy. When I first started I was a fast knitter, but as the years have gone on I've found out I have neuro psychological condition called Catatonia in the context of Autism, this means I've had a regression in abilities due to stress and trauma. So I'm a bit slower now but I'm ok with this.

This is my second art exhibition and I'm feeling pretty fantastic about sharing my work.

Tanea has experience as both a Mental Health and an Addiction services client and more recently as a substance use practitioner and Autistic advocate.

Tanea's oldest son describes her Autism Dx as a "reverse mid-life crisis". Since then she has spoken at workshops from her lived Autistic perspective, as well as drawing from hyperfocus around all things Autism.

Writing is a process that helps her to navigate the world.

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## **You can find more information about Autism and support groups here:**

**Autistic Self Advocacy Network**  
[www.autisticadvocacy.org/](http://www.autisticadvocacy.org/)

**Altogether Autism**  
[www.altogetherautism.org.nz/](http://www.altogetherautism.org.nz/)

**Autistic News Feed Facebook Page**  
[www.facebook.com/autisticnewsfeed/](http://www.facebook.com/autisticnewsfeed/)

**Autism NZ**  
[www.autismnz.org.nz/](http://www.autismnz.org.nz/)

**Disabled Persons Assembly**  
[www.dpa.org.nz/](http://www.dpa.org.nz/)

**Disability Information Services**  
[www.disabilityinfo.co.nz/](http://www.disabilityinfo.co.nz/)

**Art for Autism**  
[www.the-art-of-autism.com/](http://www.the-art-of-autism.com/)

**Arts Access Aotearoa**  
[www.artsaccess.org.nz/](http://www.artsaccess.org.nz/)

**Arts Access Advocacy Service**  
[www.artsaccessadvocates.org.nz/](http://www.artsaccessadvocates.org.nz/)

**Artsenta**  
[www.artsenta.org](http://www.artsenta.org)

**Studio 2 Facebook Page**  
[www.facebook.com/MargaretFreemanGalleryAndStudio2/](http://www.facebook.com/MargaretFreemanGalleryAndStudio2/)

**Want to get in touch with the iNDx crew or  
purchase some of the artworks on display?**

[indx.nz@gmail.com](mailto:indx.nz@gmail.com)





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