

Lorene Taurerewa

Lorene Taurerewa's work is influenced by her Polynesian and European heritage. Her creations embody the stark contrast and disparity of native traditions such as the duty of remembrance, the lives of ancestors through mind and blood-lineage, and their presence beyond death, with the bleak history of a colonial society. The artist's native New Zealand is a country isolated from the homogenizing currents of international exposure where the strains of a very recent migrant history and a fractious cultural interface has played out to create a unique culture.

Lorene Taurerewa's large-scale figurative charcoal drawings, are distinguished for the inscrutable, monumental, still figures which occupy a middle-distance; an inaccessible space visually created by dense black fields combined with graceful lines. In tangent, her delicate ink work captures tiny figures caught in fluid, seeping black, which visually enacts bizarre narratives in small drawings on dura-lar. These narratives are formed intuitively, running and turning in the flowing of the ink, resulting in strange, quirky, picaresque scenes representing the fraught memories of fragmented lives. The unsettled ghosts and lost souls of her native New Zealand inhabit her figures, visually generating power, grace, loneliness and fragility who play out the narratives of Taurerewa's work.

Taurerewa spends her time in both New York and New Zealand. She recently completed a residency at the National Art Studio of the Korean National Museum of Contemporary Art. She has recently exhibited in Paris and Los Angeles at the New Zealand Consulate General Residency and will be exhibiting at the Queensland Art Gallery and the National Gallery of Victoria in Australia in 2010. She is part of private and public collections world-wide, with recent acquisitions including the Queensland Art Gallery, Australia, and the James Wallace Arts Trust in New Zealand. Taurerewa was recently awarded a Creative New Zealand Arts Council Grant and is featured in the newly published *Seen This Century*, by NZ art critic Warwick Brown. Taurerewa is going to be a subject in an upcoming New Zealand arts documentary produced by Kirsty McDonald, the filming of which coincided with and took place at the opening of her solo exhibition, *Eccentriks*, in New York 2008.

Education

- 2001 Year of Study, MA Program, Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand
- 1998 Diploma of Teaching, Secondary Fine Art, Massey University, New Zealand
- 1996 BFA Painting, Quay School of Fine Arts, Wanganui, New Zealand

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2009 Chaffers Gallery, More Eccentricity, Wellington, New Zealand
- 2008 American Indian Community House Gallery, Eccentriks, New York
New Zealand Consulate Residence, Santa Monica, Los Angeles
- 2008 McCarthy Art Gallery, Martin Hughes Retro Exhibition, Auckland, New Zealand
Oedipus Rex Gallery, Psychopompe, Auckland, New Zealand
Chaffers Gallery, Sensible World, Wellington
- 2007 Oedipus Rex Gallery, Degrees of Separation, Auckland, New Zealand
- 2006 National Museum of Contemporary Art, Changdong Art Studio, Seoul, Korea
Pataka Museum, Lorene Taurerewa Drawing, Porirua, New Zealand
Sarjeant Gallery, Journey of 1000 Miles, Wanganui, New Zealand
Fifty2gallery, Lorene Taurerewa, Here and Now, Wellington, New Zealand
- 2005 Lopdell House Gallery, Big Drawings, Auckland, New Zealand
Lane Gallery, Solitude for the Imagination, Auckland, New Zealand
- 2004 Pataka Museum, Inherited Bodies, Porirua, New Zealand
- 2003 Neut Gallery, Body Speak, Wellington, New Zealand
- 2000 Community Arts Center, Wanganui, New Zealand

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2009 Chrysalid, Amelia Johnson Contemporary, Hong Kong
Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, Australia
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia
Pataka Museum, New Zealand, forthcoming
Gallery Korea, Soul Ideologie, New York
Oedipus Rex Gallery, Works on Paper, Auckland New Zealand
- 2008 New Zealand Embassy, Paris, France
Sarjeant Gallery, Samoa Contemporary, New Zealand
Pataka Museum, Samoa Contemporary, New Zealand
Tauranga Public Art Gallery, Samoa Contemporary, New Zealand
- 2007 Karanga Gallery, Flat White/Black Pearl, Auckland, New Zealand
Asian Fusion Gallery, New York
Drawing Center Viewing Program, New York, New York
Artists Space, Irving Sandler Artists Files, New York
- 2006 Mark Hutchins Gallery, 3 persons show, New Zealand
Martin Hughes Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand
- 2005 Sydney Art Drawing Fair, Sydney, Australia
- 2004 Te Wa Gallery, Wahine Pasifika, Wanganui, New Zealand
- 2003 Pataka Museum of Arts and Cultures, Dolly Mix (W)rappers, Provirus, New Zealand

- 2002 Te Wa Gallery, Summer Show, Wanganui, New Zealand
ArtsStation, Ponsonby, Auckland, New Zealand
- 2001 Waikato Museum of Art and History, Dolly Mix (W)rappers,
Hamilton, New Zealand
XSpace Gallery, CosmoPolitan, Auckland, New Zealand
- 2000 Quay School of the Arts Gallery, Wanganui, New Zealand
Sarjeant Gallery, Pacific Blue, Wanganui, New Zealand
Te Wa Gallery, Wanganui, New Zealand

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- Greenpoint Gazette, New York, 'Art exhibition by Greenpoint based New Zealand artist Lorene Taurerewa' 10 October 2008
- TJ McNamara, 'Painted canvas reflects better than a mirror', NZ Herald, May 1, 2008
- Mark Amery, 'Samoan Shadow Play' Dominion Post, May 2008
- Abbey Cunnane, 'Samoan. Sort of', NZ Listener, May 3 2008
- Spasifik Mag.com, Lorene Taurerewa, October, 2008
- Diana Dekker, 'From the heart', The Dominion Post, February, 25, 2008
- ArtAsiaPacific, Almanac, New York, pg 251 2007
- T.J. McNamara, 'City and Suburbs', Auckland Herald, 21\4\2007
- Wolgan Misool, Korean Arts Monthly Magazine, February issue pp. 55, Korea 2007
- 'No Made' Catalogue: The National Arts Studio: National Museum of Contemporary Art, Seoul, Korea, 2007
- Spasifik Magazine 'Connecting with the Past', January\February, PP 90, 2007
- Rebecca Rice, 'Julian Dashper, Te huringa/Turning Points, Lorene Taurerewa', Art New Zealand: pp. 44-45 Spring Issue 2006
- Catalogue, Journey of 1000 Miles, Sarjeant Gallery, Wai-te-ata Press, Victoria University of Wellington, 2006
- Catalogue, 'IASK' Curated by The National Arts Studio: National Museum of Contemporary Art, Seoul, Korea, 2006
- Robyn McLean, "Making Marks on a Grand Scale", Dominion Post, ARTS, Section B10, 21/4/2006
- Mary Bryan, 'Results of amazing Journey on display at Sarjeant Gallery' Wanganui Chronicle, p3, August 2006

'Lorene takes off' B4 Arts section New Zealand Herald, November, 2006
Korea Herald, Article, December 2006
Asia New Zealand Foundation Magazine, Article, 2006
'Lorene Taurerewa' Tautai Contemporary Pacific Arts Newsletter, June 2006
Frontseat: TV ONE, produced by Gemma Gracewood, 30/4/2006
Owen Davidson, 'Spirit and Form, The Art of Lorene Taurerewa' Art New Zealand, pp 58-61, November 2005
Gail Bailey, 'Refusing to sit still' The Arts Guide, The New Zealand Herald 18/2/2005
T.J. McNamara, 'Painting goes back to its pure roots' The New Zealand Herald 18/2/2005
Linda Chalmers, 'The Arrival of Contemporary Pacific' New Zealand Investor Monthly, p.3, March 2005

Media

Lorene Taurerewa in forthcoming episode for Kete Aronui Arts Program for KIWA FILMS, NZ
ABC Radio Australia, Interview with Lorene Taurerewa, The Pacific wave in New York, May 2009

Teaching Employment

2001-2008 Lecturer for Drawing (tenured), School of Design, Victoria University, Wellington, NZ



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