

ARTIS

G A L L E R Y

NEIL DAWSON CNZM
(b. 1948 – Christchurch NZ)

Dawson is primarily known for his large scale civic sculpture - in cities throughout New Zealand (Christchurch, Wellington, Masterton and Auckland). In 1994 his work *'Horizons'* was commissioned by Alan Gibbs, to be one of the first large scale sculptural works that are at *Gibbs Farm* - the largest sculpture park in the Southern Hemisphere.

Dawson was born in Christchurch in 1948. He attended the University of Canterbury from 1966-1969, where he gained a Diploma of Fine Arts (Hons) and then spent a year at Teachers' College. This was followed, with the help of Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council grant, by a Graduate Diploma in Sculpture from the Victoria College of the Arts. Melbourne, in 1973.

Dawson's sculpture is individual, unique and easy to recognise – his sculptures flout convention in their lightness of feel and their transparency.

During 1984 Dawson participated in the exhibition *Magiciens de la Terre* at the *Pompidou Centre* in Paris and in 2005 his sculpture *'Fanfare'* was suspended from the Sydney Harbour bridge to welcome the 2005 year. Dawson has held solo exhibitions regularly throughout New Zealand and in Australia. In 1989 the National Art Gallery in Wellington (now Te Papa Tongarewa) presented a survey exhibition of Dawson's work – *Neil Dawson Site works 1981 – 1989*.

In 1990 Dawson was awarded the *New Zealand 1990 Commemoration Medal*. He received the Arts Foundation of New Zealand *Arts Laureate Award* in 2003 – and in the 2004 New Year Honours, he was appointed a *Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit*, for services to sculpture.

ACADEMIC:

- 1970 Diploma of Fine Arts (Hons) University of Canterbury, Christchurch, NZ.
- 1971 Diploma of Teaching. Christchurch Teachers College. N.Z.
- 1972 Awarded Queen Elizabeth 2 Arts Council Grant.
- 1972 Attended Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne, Australia.
- 1973 Gains Graduate Diploma in Sculpture.
- 1980 Awarded Queen Elizabeth 2 Arts Council Travel Grant.
- 1985 Awarded Queen Elizabeth 2 Arts Council Establishment Grant.
- 2003 Laureate Award. New Zealand Arts Foundation.
- 2004 Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit.
- 2006 Antarctica New Zealand Arts Fellowship

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INSTALLATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMISSIONS:

- 2016 Vortex — Tai Tapu Sculpture Garden, Christchurch, NZ
- 2015 Fanfare — Chaney's Corner, Christchurch, NZ
- 2014 Spires — Latimer Square, Christchurch, NZ
- 2013 Blue Feather — Private Commission, Wellington, NZ
Boats and Birds — ANZ Tower, Auckland CBD, NZ
- 2012 Feather From Afar — International Finance Centre, Shanghai, China
- 2010 Feather and Ripples — Christchurch City Council Building, NZ
Sky Lens — Cashel Mall, Christchurch, NZ
Cubes — St Andrew's College, Christchurch, NZ
- 2009 Feather — Two Paddocks Winery, Central Otago, NZ
- 2006 Anchor — Victoria Point, Docklands, Melbourne, Australia
Wellsphere — Goulton Square, Rochdale Road, Manchester, UK
- 2005 Bomber Command — Australian War Memorial, Canberra
H2O — Lincoln University, NZ
Mahana Ceiling Dome — Woollaston Estate Winery, Motueka, NZ
Raindrops — Lumiere Building, Manchester, UK
- 2004 Fanfare — Sydney Harbour Bridge, Australia
- 2003 Chevron — Kate Edger Commons, University of Auckland
Corro Dome — Private Commission, Sydney, Australia
- 2002 Lapped Sphere — Christchurch Girls' High School, Christchurch, NZ
Suntrap — Hastings District Council, Hastings, NZ
Diamonds — National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
Other Peoples' Houses — Private Commission, Waiheke Island, NZ
- 2001 Flying Steps — Hunter Courtyard, Victoria University, Wellington, NZ
Cones — Dunedin Public Art Gallery, NZ
Chalice — Cathedral Square, Christchurch, NZ
- 2000 Skies — West Main Entry Artwork, Stadium Australia, NZ

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INSTALLATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMISSIONS: (continued)

- 1999 Sphere, Cone, Cylinder — Designworks, Wellington, NZ
Starferns — APEC Conference, Auckland Town Hall, NZ
Feathers — East Main Entry, Stadium Australia, Sydney
Ripples and Rays — Clear Communications, Takapuna, Auckland, NZ
- 1998 Ferns — Wellington Civic Square, Wellington, NZ
Expansion — Pyne Gould Corporation, Christchurch, NZ
Plumage — Phileo Damansara, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Butterflies — Phileo Avenue, Kuala Lumpur, NZ
Tranquility — Tsing Yi MTR Station, Hong Kong
Flora — Private Commission, Governors Bay, NZ
- 1997 Vanishing Stairs — Phileo Promenade, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Leafsphere — Wisma Perkasa, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 1996 Decoy Feathersphere — Private Commission, Te Horo, NZ
Decoy Down — Private Commission, Te Horo, NZ
Majestic Earth — Majestic Centre, Wellington, NZ
- 1995 Down — Private Commission, Auckland, NZ
Canoe — SkyCity Casino, Auckland, NZ
- 1994 Steps — Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, NZ
Nor'West Arch — Lincoln University, Lincoln, NZ
Kahu — Takahanga Marae, Kaikoura, NZ
Horizons — Private Commission, Kaukapakapa, NZ
Different Skies — Osaka Business Park, Japan
Flying Chairs — Private Commission, Kaukapakapa, NZ
Globe — National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
- 1993 Lens — Petrocorp Building, New Plymouth, NZ
Untitled — High Court of New Zealand, Wellington, NZ
Flying Chairs — Sculpture in the Gardens, Christchurch, NZ
Canopy — Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, Australia
- 1992 Snap — Adelaide Festival Centre, Australia
Wave Screens — Private Commission, Auckland, NZ
Throwback — Albert Park, Auckland, NZ
Echo (re-installation) — Arts Centre, Christchurch, NZ
Globe Installation — Gow Langsford Gallery, Auckland, NZ
Vertigo — Gallery Kobayashi, Tokyo, Japan
Perception Room — Capital Discovery Place, Wellington, NZ

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INSTALLATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMISSIONS: (continued)

- 1991 Orb — Private Commission, Taranaki, NZ
Awakenings — Hastings Boys High School, NZ
Jetset Globe — Jetset Tours Building, Melbourne, Australia
Spectra — Aotea Centre, Auckland, NZ
- 1990 Macaw Feather — Private Commission, Wellington, NZ
Leadlight — Private Commission, Wellington
Blue/Green — The Bath House, Rotorua, NZ
Globe Down Under — Sargeant Gallery, Wanganui, NZ
Featherlight — Aotea Centre Foyer, Auckland, NZ
- 1989 Globe — Magiciens de la Terre, Musée National d'Art Moderne, Paris, France
Framework — National Art Gallery, Wellington, NZ
Get The Picture — Wellington Railway Station, NZ
- 1988 Vanity 1 — The Australian Biennale, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney, Australia
Vanity II — Melbourne Concert Hall, Melbourne, Australia
- 1986 Going For Broke — Govett Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth, NZ
Ripples — Waikato Museum of Art and History, Hamilton, NZ
Plumbobs — Private Commission, Christchurch, NZ
- 1984 The Rocks — Bank of New Zealand Centre, Wellington, NZ
Paper, Scissors, Rock — Robert McDougall Art Gallery, Christchurch, NZ
5 Large Works — Graduate Center Mall, City University of New York, USA
Lightwell — Private Commission, Wellington, NZ
- 1981 Echo — Arts Centre, Christchurch, NZ
Vanishing Points — Auckland City Art Gallery, NZ
Reflections — National Art Gallery, Wellington, NZ
- 1980 Street Show: Street Grid — Robert McDougall Art Gallery, Christchurch, NZ
Airspace — Wairarapa Arts Centre, Masterton, NZ
- 1979 Seascape Installation — Robert McDougall Art Gallery, Christchurch, NZ

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS:

- 2022 Equipoise — Jonathan Smart Gallery, Christchurch, NZ
- 2021 Feathers 2021 — Milford Galleries, Dunedin, NZ
- 2020 Feathers — Milford Galleries, Dunedin, NZ

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- 2019 Clouds and Feathers The Central Art Gallery, Christchurch, NZ
- 2018 New Works Milford Galleries, Dunedin, NZ
- 2017 On Reflection The Central Art Gallery, Christchurch, NZ
Reflections Milford Galleries, Dunedin, NZ
- 2016 2nd Look Jonathan Smart Gallery, Christchurch, NZ
Selected Works Milford Galleries, Queenstown, NZ
- 2014 Spires Page Blackie Gallery, Wellington, NZ
- 2013 Silver Linings Milford Galleries, Dunedin, NZ
- 2012 Orange Zone Page Blackie Gallery, Wellington, NZ
- 2011 Pulse Page Blackie Gallery, Wellington, NZ
Incident 1992/2011 Jonathan Smart Gallery, Christchurch, NZ
- 2010 Five Years Milford Galleries, Queenstown, NZ
Deck: Second Hand Milford Galleries, Dunedin, NZ
Deck: Three of a Kind Page Blackie Gallery, Wellington, NZ
- 2009 Deck: First Cut Jonathan Smart Gallery, Christchurch, NZ
- 2008 Old/New/Borrowed/Blue Milford Galleries, Dunedin, NZ
Selected Works Milford Galleries, Queenstown, NZ
- 2007 Vanishing Points Anna Bibby Gallery, Auckland, NZ
Recent Work Milford Galleries, Queenstown, NZ
Recent Work Jonathan Smart Gallery, Christchurch, NZ
- 2006 Thoughts on Ice Janne Land Gallery, Wellington, NZ
- 2005 Craters Anna Bibby Gallery, Auckland, NZ
Recent Wall Sculptures Milford Galleries, Dunedin, NZ
- 2004 Wall Sculpture 2004 Jonathan Smart Gallery, Christchurch, NZ
- 2003 New Wall Sculptures Peter Webb Galleries, Auckland, NZ
Wall Sculptures Janne Land Gallery, Wellington, NZ

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SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS: (Continued)

- 2002 Domes City Art, Christchurch, NZ
- 1994 Steps and Stages Jonathan Jensen Gallery, Christchurch, NZ
- 1993 New Work Jonathan Jensen Gallery, Christchurch, NZ
- 1992 Untitled exhibition Luba Bilu Gallery, Melbourne, Australia
Untitled exhibition Jonathan Jensen Gallery, Christchurch, NZ
Untitled exhibition Infomuse Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
- 1991 Untitled exhibition Sue Crockford Gallery, Auckland, NZ
Untitled exhibition Jonathan Jensen Gallery, Christchurch, NZ
- 1990 Untitled exhibition Sue Crockford Gallery, Auckland, NZ
Untitled exhibition Jonathan Jensen Gallery, Christchurch, NZ
Untitled exhibition Luba Bilu Gallery, Melbourne, Australia
- 1989 Site Works 1981–89 National Art Gallery, Wellington, NZ
- 1988 Untitled exhibition Sue Crockford Gallery, Auckland, NZ
Untitled exhibition Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney, Australia
- 1987 Untitled exhibition Sue Crockford Gallery, Auckland, NZ
Site Related Work Centre for Contemporary Art, Hamilton
- 1986 Untitled exhibition Janne Land Gallery, Wellington, NZ
Overhead Hardware Brooke Gifford Gallery, Christchurch, NZ
- 1985 Mirrors Bosshard Gallery, Dunedin, NZ
New Wall Works Denis Cohn Gallery, Auckland, NZ
- 1984 Sunset Constructions Denis Cohn Gallery, Auckland, NZ
Rock Constructions Brooke-Gifford Gallery, Dunedin, NZ
- 1982 Holes Robinson Brooker Gallery, Christchurch, NZ
Land Escapes Denis Cohn Gallery, Auckland, NZ
- 1981 Here and There Denis Cohn Gallery, Auckland, NZ
Escapes Peter McLeavey Gallery, Wellington, NZ
Boundaries Brooke-Gifford Gallery, Christchurch, NZ

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SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS: (continued)

- 1980 Recent Series Denis Cohn Gallery, Auckland, NZ
Here and There NZ Chancellery, Washington DC, USA
- 1979 Interiors Elva Bett Gallery, Wellington, NZ
Order/Chaos Bosshard Gallery, Dunedin, NZ
- 1978 House Alterations Brooke-Gifford Gallery, Christchurch, NZ
- 1975 3 Black Holes CSA Gallery, Christchurch, NZ
- 1973 Graduate show Pinacotheca Gallery, Melbourne, Australia
- 1972 Untitled exhibition Pinacotheca Gallery, Melbourne, Australia