

ARTIS

G A L L E R Y

ANDY LELEISI'UAO
b. 1969

Andy Leleisi'uao is one of the most significant Pacific artists living and working in New Zealand today. Over the past twenty years his style has morphed from highly volatile, expressive paintings and sculpture into sophisticated stories reflecting the artist's personal beliefs.

A full time artist since 1996, Andy was awarded a scholarship to attend AUT and received a Master of Fine Arts with Honours in 2002. He has exhibited throughout New Zealand and been involved in solo and group exhibitions in Australia, Rarotonga, Germany, Taiwan and the USA.

In 2021 Andy was awarded the Senior Pacific Artist Award by Creative New Zealand.

Andy tells the story of what we can be as a species, regardless of our cultural stature, skin colour, sexual orientation or religious convictions. He is an "artist of diaspora" - an artist whose family migrated from one part of the world to another - and who express their diverse experiences of culture and identity in the work they make; often expressing alternative narratives and challenging ideas and structures.

Immigrant communities and their experiences are central to Andy's works - he is the son of first generation immigrant Samoans, who came to Auckland in 1965. His work is reflective of his experience as a New Zealand born Samoan and his parents and their generation's narratives will always be an integral part of his work.

Through his more recent paintings, Leleisi'uao has created alternative universes, emergent societies populated by strange creatures that are free of traditional human prejudice. It is a genesis point, a veritable human reset button. His influence ranges from ancient & modern history, literary history, art history, pop culture history, world headlines and personal experiences. The lands and villages are non-existent, unique new worlds that he "visits" in his mind.

Whether he is confronting the issues of Samoan diaspora or narratives of human and family relationships, Andy's prescient talent for seeing who we are, what we are like and what we do, is a signature of his art.

His work is included in the permanent collections of Pataka Museum and Art Gallery, Te Papa Tongarewa, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki, the Chartwell Collection, the Wallace Arts Trust collection, Casula Powerhouse, Sydney and the Museum of Ethnography, Frankfurt, Germany.

Andy Leleisi'uao has been represented at ARTIS Gallery since 2020.

ARTIS

G A L L E R Y

ACADEMIC:

Awarded a scholarship to attend AUT, Auckland- and received a Master of Fine Arts with Honours.

2002: Master of Fine Arts (with Honours), Auckland University of Technology

2000: Bachelor of Visual Arts and Design, Auckland University of Technology

AWARDS:

2021: Senior Pacific Artist Award by Creative New Zealand.

2017: Paramount winner of the Wallace Art Award receiving a 6 month residency in New York.

2010 Team McMillan BMW Finalist Art Awards

2006 Charles Southwell Award, Association of Rationalists & Humanists

2004 Martin Hughes Contemporary Pacific Art Award

2001 James Wallace Post Graduate Award

1997 Certificate of Appreciation, Mayor of Manukau for supporting local arts

1996 Merit Award, Pumphouse Art Awards, Pumphouse Gallery, Auckland

RESIDENCIES:

2018 Artist in Residence, International Studio & Curatorial Program (ISCP), New York, USA

2013 Artist in Residence, Bridge Guard, Stuvovo, Slovakia

2012 Artist in Residence, Unitech, Auckland

2010 Asia New Zealand Foundation residency with the Taipei Artist Village, Taiwan

2009 BCA Artist in Residence, Rarotonga, Cook Islands

1999 Artist in Residence, M B Centre, Ilam, University of Canterbury

1998 Artist in Residence, Casula Powerhouse, Liverpool, Sydney, Australia

1994 Artist in Residence, Mangere Community Arts Centre

ARTIS

G A L L E R Y

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS:

- 2024 Aotearoa Art Fair with ARTIS Gallery, Auckland, NZ
- 2023 Aotearoa Art Fair with ARTIS Gallery, Auckland, NZ
- 2022 Aotearoa Art Fair with ARTIS Gallery, Auckland, NZ
- 2021 *An Uncanny Catharsis of Unrequited Bones*, ARTIS Gallery, Auckland, NZ
- 2019 Andy Leleisi'uao: *Kamoan Mine*, Hastings City Art Gallery, NZ
- 2018 *A Clouded Diaspora*, Milford Galleries, Queenstown, New Zealand
- 2017 *UFO Islands*, Bergman Gallery, Rarotonga, Cook Islands
- 2016 *Ubiquitous People of Erodipolis*, Milford Galleries, Dunedin, New Zealand
- 2015 *Atmosphere People of Moana*, Milford Galleries, Dunedin, New Zealand
- 2014 *Waking up to the Oculus People*, Milford Galleries, Queenstown, New Zealand
- 2013 *Le Tumau*, Whitespace, Auckland, New Zealand
- 2012 *The Quixotic Crucifixion of Iesu*, Whitespace, Auckland, New Zealand
- 2011 *The World of Erodipolis*, Milford Galleries, Dunedin, New Zealand
- 2010 *Cryptid Illuminati*, Whitespace, Auckland, New Zealand
Andy Leleisi'uao, Taipei Artist Village, Taipei, Taiwan
- 2009 *Mangere Aroha*, Whitespace, Auckland, New Zealand
- 2008 *Angipanis of the Abanimal People*, Whitespace, Auckland, New Zealand
- 2007 *Scriptures from the West* (with Mahiriki Tangaroa), BCA Gallery, Rarotonga, Cook Island
Lost Kamoans of the Godly and Godless, Whitespace, Auckland, New Zealand
- 2006 *Catch a Sparkling Spirit*, Salamander Gallery, Christchurch, New Zealand
I Need to See Alien, Whitespace, Auckland, New Zealand

ARTIS

G A L L E R Y

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS: continued

- 2005 *We're Not Black*, Salamander Gallery, Christchurch, New Zealand
- 2004 *Dressed to Kill*, Salamander Gallery, Christchurch, New Zealand
- 2003 *The Umu Collection of Titles*, Whitespace, Auckland, New Zealand
- 2002 *Minoi, Minoi Mai*, Salamander Gallery, Christchurch, New Zealand
- 2001 *The Brown Corner*, Salamander Gallery, Christchurch, New Zealand
Tired of Silence, Dowse Art Museum, Lower Hutt, *Wellington, New Zealand*
- 2000 *Crashed Presbyterian*, Te Taumata Art Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand
- 1999 *Patterns of My Lavalava*, Ilam University, Christchurch, New Zealand
- 1998 *The Brownest Dawn*, The Pumphouse, Takapuna, Auckland, New Zealand
- 1997 *Waking Up To My Polynesian Spine*, Aotea Centre, Auckland, New Zealand
- 1996 *Selected Works*, Aotea Centre, Auckland, New Zealand
- 1995 *Early Escapades*, Mangere Community Arts Centre, Auckland, New Zealand

SELECTED ARTICLES:

- 2017 Pasifika painter claims Nation's oldest art prize, Dionne Christian, New Zealand Herald
- 2017 Wallace Art Awad winner Andy Leleisi'uao feels the magic, Dionne Christian, New Zealand Herald
- 2010 Refusing to do the frangipani thing, Adam Gifford, New Zealand Herald
- 2009 Strange creatures of the mind's eye, T.J. McNamara, New Zealand Herald
- 2003 High Noon in downtown Mangere, Rosa Shiels, The Press
- 2003 Artist has brush with childhood, Jenny Keown, East & Bays Courier
- 2002 Making waves, Kathryn Webster, Sunday Star Times
- 2001 Samoan silence, The Dominion
- 1997 Pacific art empowers the people, Sunday Star Times

ARTIS

G A L L E R Y

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

- 2021 250 Years Of New Zealand Painting, Gill Docking, Michael Dunn, Edward Hanfling
- 2019 *KAMOAN MINE*, Bergman Gallery, TSB Bank Wallace Arts Centre, Wallace Arts Trust
- 2017 *Time to Shine*, Julian McKinnon, Art News New Zealand
- 2014 *Faith, discipline and solitude*, Art News New Zealand
- 2012 *Artnotes Pacific: Immigrant mind*, Billie Lythberg, Art Monthly Australia
- 2012 *An alien yet familiar world*, Art News, New Zealand
- 2011 *Fusing Worlds*, David Eggleton, The Listener
- 2011 *Retaining Identity*, Robin Woodward, Asian Art News
- 2011 *Keeping it current*, Art News, New Zealand
- 2011 *Samoan art histories*, Sean Mallon, Art and Asia Pacific
- 2010 New York, Art News, New Zealand
- 2010 *No Compromise*, Deborah White, Art All
- 2009 *Captain Kirk in the South Pacific*, Art News New Zealand
- 2009 Andy Leleisi'uao: Recent Works, Pamela Zeplin, Ron Brownson, Caroline Vercoe, Landfall Magazine
- 2005 Cheeky Darkie, Aaron Watson, Artzone
- 2004 Andy Leleisi'uao: *The ballad of Tinou'amea and Pep*

COLLECTIONS:

Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa BERGMANGALLERY.COM

Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki

Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetū

Pātaka Art + Museum, Lower Hutt, New Zealand

Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre, Australia

Museum der Weltkulturen (Museum of World Cultures), Frankfurt, Germany

Chartwell Trust

The Arts House Trust

Auckland Council

University of Auckland