

ARTIS

G A L L E R Y

MARTE SZIRMAY

b. 1946

Marte Szirmay was born in Budapest, Hungary and emigrated to New Zealand with her parents as refugees in 1957.

Szirmay has long been regarded as one of New Zealand's most accomplished sculptors. Creating sculptures for Szirmay, is about creating a language of signs and symbols that transcend cultural and social limitations.

After leaving Elam School of Fine Arts in 1968, Szirmay went on to complete a Diploma in Teaching at the Auckland College of Education and taught in Hamilton and Auckland secondary schools for over forty years. She was the youngest ever awarded *The Frances Hodgkins Fellow* at the University of Otago in 1971 and her output was so exceptional that she was offered the Fellowship for a further year in 1972.

Szirmay has work in public and private collections throughout New Zealand, Australia, Europe and USA. Her work has been exhibited annually at the Sculpture Exhibition at the Auckland Botanic gardens since 2010. Szirmay's work is displayed in several public areas within New Zealand - currently her large sculpture '*Smirnoff*', is installed in Newmarket Park, Auckland.

In November 2019, Marte Szirmay was named the curators' choice for the Supreme Award for Sculpture in the Gardens 2019/20. The judges praised her work '*Contained and Protected*' for demonstrating superior skills of craftsmanship - expressing her concerns for the fragility of nature and humanity's abuse of it.

Szirmay is a founding member of the Medal Artists of New Zealand (MANZ) which she formed in 1990, along with Betty & Paul Beadle, Terry Stringer, Christine Massey and Marian Fountain. ARTIS is the host Gallery for this Group, which exhibits biennially – the upcoming exhibition is in February 2027.

Szirmay has been represented in ARTIS Gallery since 2012.

ACADEMIC:

1969	Dip. Teaching, Auckland College of Education
1968	Graduated DFA (Hons), University of Auckland, Elam School of Fine Arts
1960-1964	Auckland Girls' Grammar School

AWARDS:

2019	Supreme Award 2019/20 - Curators' Choice Sculpture in the Garden at Auckland Botanic Gardens
2002	Award, Art Addiction, Sweden, The 6th International Miniature Art Exhibition

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AWARDS (Continued):

2000	Merit Award, World Festival of Art on Paper, Kranj-Slovenia
2002	Award, Art Addiction, Sweden, The 6th International Miniature Art Exhibition
2000	Merit Award, World Festival of Art on Paper, Kranj-Slovenia
1998	Honorary Selection, Art Addiction, Venice. International 'Masks in Venice Exhibition'
1997	Honorary Selection, Art Addiction, Sweden. International Miniature Art Exhibition
1994	Selected as a Woman of the Year, International Biographical Centre, USA
1983	Visiting Artist, Governors State University, Illinois, USA
1982	Visiting Artist, Johnson Atelier, Princeton, New Jersey, USA
1982	New Zealand Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council Award
1978	New Zealand Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council Award
1973	New Zealand Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council Award
1971/1972	Frances Hodgkins Fellow, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand
1968	Air New Zealand Sculpture Award
1967	DFA Senior Scholar Fine Arts, University of Auckland, New Zealand

MEMBERSHIPS:

Medal Artists of New Zealand
Art Educators of Aotearoa, New Zealand
Artists Alliance, Auckland, New Zealand
Federation of International Medallists, France
International Sculpture Centre, Washington DC, USA

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS – New Zealand:

2022	<i>Earthlight</i> , ARTIS Gallery
2009	nkb Gallery, Auckland
2004	McPherson Gallery, Auckland
2002	McPherson Gallery, Auckland
1999	Drawings, Gallery, Auckland
1997	Drawings, Gallery, Auckland
1995	Lopdell House, Titirangi, Auckland Drawings, Gallery, Auckland
1992	Gow Langsford Gallery, Auckland
1991	Gow Langsford Gallery, Auckland
1989	Gow Langsford Gallery, Auckland
1988	Fisher Gallery, Auckland
1987	Lopdell House, Titirangi, Auckland

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SELECTED EXHIBITIONS – continued:

1986	Denis Cohn Gallery, Auckland Janne Land Gallery, Wellington
1984	New Vision Gallery, Auckland
1983	CSA Gallery, Christchurch New Vision Gallery, Auckland
1981	Janne Land Gallery, Wellington New Vision Gallery, Auckland The Hocken Library Gallery, Dunedin
1980	New Vision Gallery, Auckland
1978	Bosshard Galleries, Dunedin Manawatu Art Gallery, Palmerston North New Vision Gallery, Auckland Victoria University, Wellington
1977	CSA Gallery, Christchurch
1976	Barry Lett Galleries, Auckland Bishop Suter Gallery, Nelson Bosshard Galleries, Dunedin Brooke-Gifford Gallery, Christchurch
1974	Barry Lett Galleries, Auckland
1973	Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth
1972	Barry Lett Galleries, Auckland Dawson's Gallery, Dunedin Waikato Art Gallery, Hamilton
1971	CSA Gallery, Christchurch Dawson's Gallery, Dunedin
1970	Barry Lett Galleries, Auckland

COMMISSIONS:

2011	Aotearoa New Zealand Association of Art Educators Service Award
2004-6	Woollaston Estate, Nelson, New Zealand
1997	Commemorative Presentation Medal, Consulate of the Republic of Hungary, NZ
1992	Glendowie College, Auckland
1987	Hawkins Development, Hurstmere Plaza, Takapuna, Auckland Chase Corporation, Stock Exchange Plaza, Auckland Auckland City Art Gallery Survey Exhibition 1 Hawkins Development, Auckland
1984	New Zealand Peace Foundation, Media Peace Prize Bexley Development, Marac House, Manukau City

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COMMISSIONS – continued:

- 1982-83 New Zealand Foreign Affairs Department, Singapore
- 1979 New Zealand Housing Corporation Building, Manukau City Centre
- 1976 Auckland Architectural Association (Monier Awards)
- 1975-76 Otago University Medical School, Dunedin
University of Auckland Medical School, Auckland
- 1974 St. Cuthbert's College, Auckland
- 1972 St. Paul's Cathedral, Dunedin
- 1969 Newmarket Borough Council (Smirnoff Award)

PUBLICATIONS:

- An Auckland Icon - Mark Stocker, Art New Zealand #177, Autumn 2021
- Medal Artists of New Zealand (25th Anniversary Exhibition Pah Homestead 2015)
- Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand
- Art Diary Publications, Milan, Italy
- Art History Department, University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand
- Auckland City Art Gallery Library, Auckland, New Zealand
- Dictionary of International Biography, Cambridge, UK
- Hocken Library, Dunedin, New Zealand
- International Sculpture Centre, Washington DC, USA
- International Women's Art Archives, Boston, Mass., USA
- New Zealand Education Department/ University Entrance Board, New Zealand
- Painting, Sculpture, Architecture film / tapes
- New Zealand Education Department/ University Entrance Board Video slide set
- NZSSPA "Artists' Talk" videotape. Distributed via Education Department
- Women's Art Archives, National Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand