

ARTIS

G A L L E R Y

PAMELA WOLFE
b. 1950 England

Pamela Wolfe immigrated to New Zealand in 1953, at the age of three. She studied at Elam School Fine Arts, Auckland University from 1968 to 1971, graduating with a Diploma of Fine Arts.

After completing her studies Wolfe moved to Christchurch with her husband Richard and daughter Emily, where she held her first solo exhibition at the Labyrinth Gallery in 1976. Wolfe and her family returned to Auckland in 1977 and she has continued to exhibit regularly over the past fifty years.

Over her long career, Wolfe's subject matter has varied from highly coloured representations of the local landscape, to detailed still-life studies and then on to what she is so widely known for today – her larger than life, richly textured paintings of flowers over their life cycles. The subtle technique in which Wolfe portrays the fragility of these specimens has been honed over nearly twenty years and highlights the transient nature of beauty.

The contrast of the sumptuous blooms and foliage against either black or grey textured backgrounds, gives an extravagant sensuality to the works and references Dutch still-life painting of the 17th century. The motif is also suggestive of the rich soil from where the delicate blossoms begin their lives.

Wolfe enlarges the flowers to fill the picture plane and enhances the feeling of seeing these blooms from a butterfly's perspective. Her works can be found in corporate, private and public collections throughout New Zealand, and in private collections in Australia, UK and USA.

Wolfe has been represented by ARTIS since 1998.

ACADEMIC HISTORY:

1969 - 1971 Elam School of Fine Arts, University of Auckland

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS:

- 2025 *Force of Nature*, ARTIS Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand
- 2023 *The Tangled Bank*, ARTIS Gallery, Auckland
- 2022 *Transplant*, ARTIS Gallery, Auckland
- 2020 *Florophilia*, ARTIS Gallery, Auckland
- 2018 *Fantasia*, ARTIS Gallery, Auckland
- 2017 *Fugitive*, ARTIS Gallery, Auckland
- 2016 *Pleasure Garden*, ARTIS Gallery, Auckland
- 2015 *Savage Beauty*, ARTIS Gallery, Auckland
- 2014 *Penumbra*, ARTIS Gallery, Auckland
- 2012 *Tempus Fugit*, ARTIS Gallery, Auckland
- 2011 *Fertile Grounds*, ARTIS Gallery, Auckland
- 2010 *Nature Study*, ARTIS Gallery, Auckland
- 2009 *Painting 09*, ARTIS Gallery, Auckland
- 2008 *Natural Selection*, ARTIS Gallery, Auckland
- 2006 *Capturing Perfect Beauty* ARTIS Gallery, Auckland
- 2005 *Recent Painting*, Dobson Bashford Gallery, Christchurch
- 2004 *Recent Painting*, ARTIS Gallery, Auckland

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SELECTED EXHIBITIONS – continued:

- 2003 *Recent Painting*, ARTIS Gallery, Auckland
1999 *Painting 1999*, ARTIS Gallery Auckland
1998 *Painting 1998*, ARTIS Gallery, Auckland
1995 *Grandiflora*, Lane Gallery, Auckland
1993 *Recent Work*, Lane Gallery, Auckland
1992 *Recent Paintings*, PKF Gallery, Christchurch
1991 *Birds of Paradise*, Portfolio Gallery, Auckland
Wetlands & Headlands, 33 1/3 Gallery, Wellington
1990 *Wings and Water*, RKS Art, Auckland
1989 33 1/3 Gallery, Wellington
Portfolio Gallery, Auckland
1988 Portfolio Gallery, Auckland
From the South Pacific, RKS Art, Auckland
1987 *Scenes of Auckland*, RKS Art, Auckland
33 1/3 Gallery, Wellington
1984 *Colouring In*, Last & First Café, Auckland
1983 *A Piece of Cake*, Last & First Café, Auckland
1982 *Painting the Town*, RKS Art, Auckland
1979 Outreach Gallery, Auckland
1977 Brooke Gifford Gallery, Christchurch
1976 Labyrinth Gallery, Christchurch

SELECTED COLLECTIONS & COMMISSIONS:

Robert McDougall Art Gallery, Christchurch
United Building Society Masters Collection
Simpson Grierson Butler White, Auckland
Reserve Bank, Wellington
Department of Conservation, Wellington
Auckland Girls' Grammar School
Railways Corporation
Postbank, Auckland
Mercy Hospital, Auckland
Greenpeace New Zealand Artists Collection
Fletcher Challenge
Air New Zealand (Los Angeles, Singapore, Auckland)
Starship Children's Hospital
Auckland Regional Council
Woodford House, Havelock North
New Zealand High Commission, Singapore
Auckland Casino Hotel (fabric design)
Telecom Phonocard Artists Collection
Cancer