

Geoff Dixon

1954

Born Bluff, New Zealand

1974–75

Studied graphic design at Christchurch Polytechnic, Christchurch NZ.

1988

Group exhibition: Art Collectors Starter Kit, D C Art, Sydney, Australia

1989

Solo exhibition: Paintings on Wood I, D C Art, Sydney, Australia. New Paintings on Wood, Bowen Galleries, Wellington NZ.

1990

Group exhibition: Galeria Cartoon, Barcelona, Spain.

1992

Solo exhibition: New Paintings I, Bowen Galleries, Wellington NZ. New Paintings II, Claybrook Gallery, Auckland NZ. Group exhibition: A Breath of Fresh Art, Bath House, Rotorua NZ.

1993

Solo exhibition: Paintings on Wood II, Brooke Gifford, Christchurch NZ. Competition: Visa Gold Art Award Exhibition, Wellington NZ

1994

Solo exhibition: Paintings I, Victor Mace Gallery, Brisbane, Australia. Group exhibition: Tempest, Legge Gallery, Sydney, Australia. Art for New Zealand Children, Life Education Trust, Wellington NZ. Straight from the Studio, Bowen Galleries, Wellington NZ.

1995

Solo exhibition: Paintings II, Legge Gallery, Sydney, Australia. House, Bowen Galleries, Wellington NZ. Competition: James Wallace Art Awards Exhibition, Auckland NZ.

1995–1999

Competition: Finalist Sulman Prize Exhibition, Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney, Australia.

1996

Group exhibition: New Zealand Icon, Bowen Galleries, Wellington NZ. Competition: Visa Gold Art Award Exhibition, Auckland NZ.

1996/97

Solo exhibition: Between Two Worlds, Southland Museum and Art Gallery, Invercargill NZ.

1997

Solo exhibition: Animals, Technology and the Desert, Bowen Galleries, Wellington NZ. Competition: First Prize, LT Annual Art Award, Southland Museum and Art Gallery, Invercargill NZ. SAS Wearable Art, No Labels, Southland Museum and Art Gallery. Cleveland Art Awards, Dunedin

1998

Solo exhibition: Sun Lovers and Strange Creatures, Bowen Galleries, Wellington NZ. New Paintings, Brooke Gifford, Christchurch. Qafilah, Gregory Flint Gallery, Auckland NZ. Group exhibition: Recent Acquisitions, Southland Museum and Art Gallery, Invercargill NZ.

1998/99

Group exhibition: Dealer's Choice, Manawatu Public Art Gallery, Palmerston North. Artists of North Queensland, Cairns Regional Gallery, Cairns, Australia.

1999

Group exhibition: Flights of Fancy, Bath House, Rotorua NZ

2000

Solo exhibition: Extremities, Cairns Regional Gallery, Cairns, Australia. Group exhibition: Guest Artist Spring Exhibition, Anderson House, Invercargill NZ

2001

Solo exhibition: Bird Portraits, Bowen Galleries, Wellington NZ

2003

Paintings, Bowen Galleries, Wellington NZ.

2004

Solo exhibition: Paintings and Sculptures, Bath Street Gallery, Auckland NZ. Group exhibition: New Works, Bowen Galleries, Wellington NZ. Group Exhibition: Corresponding Latitudes, Kick Arts Contemporary Art Space, Cairns, Australia

2005

Solo exhibition: What bird is that? New work, Bowen Galleries, Wellington NZ. Sentinel, KickArts, Cairns, Australia. Residencies: Christchurch Polytechnic. KickArts Contemporary Arts Space, Cairns, Australia

2006

Solo exhibition: Birds, the Art of New Zealand Bird Life, Pataka, Wellington NZ.

2007

Solo exhibition: Bath Street Gallery, Auckland NZ. Orbit, Bowen Galleries, Wellington NZ. Residency: Artist in residence Christchurch NZ Art Centre, Christchurch NZ, October 2007

2008

Group Exhibition: Moving Towards a Balanced Earth - Kick the Carbon Habit, Curated by The Natural World Museum for World Environment Day at Te Papa Tongarewa Museum (National Museum NZ), Wellington, New Zealand

2009

Group exhibition: Torrid Zone, Cairns Regional Gallery, Cairns, Australia. Snare/ Mahanga, Robert McDougall Gallery and Canterbury Museum, Christchurch NZ.

2010

Solo exhibition: Sightings, Bowen Galleries, Wellington NZ.

2010–2013

Solo exhibition: Into Art, Maitland and on tour, Australian Regional Galleries.

2011

Solo exhibition: Mass Awareness of a Certain Avian Variety, Bowen Galleries, Wellington NZ. Game on, Hastings City Gallery, Hastings NZ

2012

Solo exhibition: A Short Ride in a Fast Machine, Bath Street Gallery, Auckland NZ

2014

Solo Exhibition: Infrequent Visitor, Bowen Galleries Wellington, NZ
Represented by Bowen Galleries, Auckland Art Fair, NZ

2016

Solo exhibition: Catbird Seat, Bowen Galleries, Wellington, NZ

2017

Solo Exhibition: Pareidolic Song, Bowen Galleries, Wellington, NZ

2019

Solo Exhibition: bird Portraits, Bowen Galleries, Wellington, NZ

Collections

Artbank Australia Christchurch Art Gallery Christchurch Polytechnic
George Patterson James Wallace Arts Trust Manawatu Art Gallery
Southland Museum and Art Gallery Wingnut Films

Publications: Art New Zealand, Artist Profile

Bowen Galleries

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I really like a statement from 2006 by curator Ken Hall, who said:

“Splat! This painting might look like it’s out of control, but the artist Geoff Dixon is thinking about serious things here! Like the wonders of nature, flight and space, of defying gravity, and of the planet and its survival.”

I tend to operate in layers, as much as in the way I get through each day as in the way I use paint. The past, influences of cultural heritage, history, both individual and collective experience, as well as the present are intrinsically connected, as if we are operating in parallel dimensions that inform each other.

I prefer to paint a moment frozen in a time when that information appears spontaneously and simultaneously within a place where origin and outcome seem to collide to reveal the future – an epiphany moment. My use of birds is a device both to define and anchor us within a somewhat chaotic, misunderstood and immense natural arena. My use of birds has a global significance. People in Australia want me to paint Aussie birds, people in NZ want me to paint NZ birds – however, it’s not so much a fact of where the birds come from, but what they represent as a broad overview of our relationship to our global environment.

The works are of birds, but about people. If there were birds in space I would paint them. No limits. This is how I use paint. On a recent visit to Tiritiri Matangi Island, a rebooted natural reserve in Auckland harbour, I enjoyed the parallel this reconstructed.