

Recent Books from New Zealand– Feb 2023

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Art

The Illside of Town: Auckland City Graffiti 2004 – 2011 / N. Hazlett
New Zealand: N. Hazlett (Self-Published), 2022
1v.
9780473650889
\$ 110.00 / HB
1262gm.

At the turn of the century, Auckland City's graffiti scene was thriving. The streets were constantly evolving with active graffiti artists pushing everything from tags to large scale productions, with the wall's showcasing who was getting up, and a reminder of who once was. When New Zealand was selected to host the Rugby World Cup in 2011, plans were made to clean up the streets in preparation for thousands of incoming international visitors. In the 5 year build up to the tournament, Auckland City Council spent over 19 million taxpayer dollars buffing it's city streets, motorways and train lines. Years of Auckland's graffiti history was wiped out in exchange for lifeless grey walls. The Illside Of Town takes a look back into Auckland's graffiti landscape between 2004 - 2011, while the city streets were alive with colour, culture and creativity.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=842652>

Inkon Paper: Aoteroa New Zealand Printmakers of the Modern Era / Peter Vangioni
Christchurch: Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetu, 2023
184p.
9781877375774
\$ 65.00 / HB
1032gm.

Revolutionised by the introduction of the linocut, early to mid twentieth-century printmaking is one of the most progressive and dynamic periods in Aotearoa New Zealand's art history. This exquisitely illustrated book features ambitious and delightful etchings, lithographs, wood-engravings and linocuts by some of the country's finest artists. Highlights: - Engaging introduction to the establishment of printmaking in Aotearoa by Peter Vangioni. - Short biographical texts on each artist. - Full page colour illustrations of more than 100 artworks. - Etchings, lithographs, wood-engravings and linocuts drawn from collections around the country. - Beautifully designed hardcover book with dust jacket and marker ribbon.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=842655>

The Collection Te Kohinga / Julia Waite
Auckland: Auckland Art Gallery Toi O Tamaki, 2022
348p.
Includes Artists Index

9780864633354
\$ 65.00 / HB
1328gm.

Since opening in 1888, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki has become home to one of the largest public art collections in Aotearoa New Zealand. This collection handbook illustrates more than 220 important and beloved New Zealand and international artworks in the Gallery's permanent and loan collections, and includes a detailed history of how the collection, numbering some 17,000 works, was built.

The essay, by curator and art historian Julia Waite, shows how turning points in the Gallery's history reflect New Zealand's cultural and political shifts over the past 135 years and demonstrates the power art has to speak cross-culturally. The Collection Te Kohinga beautifully presents.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=842660>

Heavy Trees, Arms and Legs / Nicola Farquhar & Sorawit Songsataya (Eds) Hamish Petersen and Gwynneth Porter

Christchurch: The Physics Room, 2022

140p.

9780473618131

\$ 40.00 / PB

2332gm.

Developed following The Physics Room exhibition *Heavy trees, arms and legs: Nicola Farquhar and Sorawit Songsataya* at the Suter Art Gallery Te Aratoi o Whakatū in April 2021, this book contains contributions from Abby Cunnane, Nicola Farquhar, Gregory Kan, Sorawit Songsataya and Rebecca Tamás. 'Heavy trees, arms and legs' is a line from Rebecca Tamás' poem Palermo. The weight of limbs—branches, bones, roots, tendons—was a foundational reference in this exhibition of new works by Nicola Farquhar and Sorawit Songsataya: the idea of gravity as a compositional force that shapes us as living bodies, and connects us with elements in the natural world. The publication is intended as a way to continue a dialogue after the exhibition, and includes new page works by Songsataya, a series of texts by Farquhar, essays by Kan and Cunnane, and Tamás' poem from which the project as a whole borrows its name.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=842661>

Biography/Memoirs

Every Sign of Life: On Family Ground / Nicholas Lyon Gresson (Ed) Jeanette Cook (Foreword) C.K. Stead

Christchurch: Quentin Wilson Publishing, 2022

736p.

Includes Index; Bibliography

9780995143777

\$ 90.00 / HB

1392gm.

Respectable families hold on to their myths, contain the violence, uphold the Establishment. There was always going to be a story. It couldn't be overlooked, and this one will set the skeletons rattling and the gin bottles clinking up and down the country. The story is exposed through the life and times of Nicholas Lyon Gresson, enlivened by his passion for justice. Overall it is a story of survival. This memoir is a New Zealand social history with first-hand accounts of crime and justice,

psychiatry, advocacy for those who suffer injustice, community and family. It is also a saga of five generations of the well-known Gresson family giving an authentic context to the life of the author's father, Justice Terence A. Gresson, who was appointed to the Supreme Court judiciary in 1956 at forty-two and died by suicide at fifty-three. His forebear Henry Barnes Gresson emigrated from Irish soil in the 1850s and became first resident judge of Canterbury. Justice Sir Kenneth Gresson became president of the Court of Appeal, and another great-uncle, Justice Sir John Edward Denniston, was knighted for services to the judiciary. Unforgettable characters from all walks of life claim an authentic place with their idiosyncrasies and inclinations. Anecdotes, letters and diaries provide insights into Canterbury's founding fabric and inherited values. The author sought a life pursuing challenges abroad, learning first-hand the vagaries of survival on foreign shores. But there is always a price to be paid for desertion. Following his father's tragic death Nick endured the greatest of trials. The reader is left gasping as events unfold. This comprehensive exploration of a life on a road less travelled confronts the reader with tender and brutal honesty, sustaining an irresistible momentum to the final pages – all this reverberating upon a rich setting of family ground.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=842662>

Peacemonger – Owen Wilkes: International Peace Researchers / (Eds) May Bass & Mark Derby
New Zealand: Raekaihau Press & Steele Roberts Aotearoa Publishers, 2022

196p.

9781991153869

\$ 45.00 / PB

424gm.

The life and work of outstanding New Zealand peace activist Owen Wilkes. Tributes from friends and associates.

Born in Christchurch, Owen Wilkes was an internationalist and a dedicated New Zealander – a subsistence farmer on the West Coast (where his self-built eco-home was demolished by the local council), an archaeologist, tramper and yachtsman.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=842663>

The Queen's Wife: A Memoir of a Turbulent Time – and a Chess Game that Broke All the Rules /
Joanne Drayton

Auckland: Penguin Random House New Zealand, 2023

336p.

Includes Index

9780143776772

\$ 45.00 / PB

502gm.

A modern love story- whakapapa, archaeology, art and heartbreak. A memoir of a turbulent time - and a chess game that broke all the rules. In 1989, two married women met by chance. They instantly hit it off, but little did they know that their new relationship would turn their lives upside-down. This is the true story of that relationship, which threatened to cost them their children, families and friends and forced them to reassess their sexuality, identity and heritage. Along the way, one - an acclaimed biographer - was to explore the power of objects, while the other - a painter - was to follow her whakapapa back to the first Maori king, Te Wherowhero. Against the odds, the couple's new life together became rich in laughter, travel, unusual encounters, investigations into Viking raids, the Kingitanga movement, the death of a New Zealand artist, chicken claws, ghosts, eccentrics and much more. A fascinating read on so many levels, this is an important view of our country from its very edge.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=842664>

The Very Last Resort: Memoirs of a Motel Manager: A True Story / Sandra Waters
New Zealand: Sandra Waters (Self-Published), 2022
172p.
9780473650643
\$ 40.00 / PB
270gm.

A remarkable, revealing, and riotous insight into the management of guest accommodation and transitional housing in a New Zealand motel. This true story follows the experiences of a couple whose introduction to accommodation management begins in a run-down New Zealand motel where the challenge of hosting independent guest accommodation alongside transitional social housing is revealed in candid detail. Any assumption that motel management is an easy job is thrown out the window in this revealing expose on the demands of guest hosting and the volatility of managing an eclectic community of New Zealand's transitional homeless. Navigating an intricate dance of diplomacy and discipline, delight and despair is a daily challenge in this diverse, often unpredictable environment making this story compelling, and at times confronting. The Very Last Resort is a unique insight into life from the other side of the Reception desk.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=842665>

The Redhead Gets The Gig: A Musical Memoir / Linn Lorkin
Wellington: Steele Roberts Aotearoa Publishers, 2022
288p.
Includes Index
9781991153852
\$ 40.00/ PB
454gm.

You may have heard Auckland's beloved 'Piano Bar Lady' Linn Lorkin performing live, or reading her racy memoir on National Radio. Standing Room Only recently featured her hilarious recounting of her time with David Lange at Otahuhu College and her subsequent musical OE in Europe in the '60s, from swinging times in London, Copenhagen and Paris to an unfortunate fall from grace in an Italian jail. Here is the inside story of all those colourful escapades and Linn's adventures in the Big Apple in the '70s and early '80s, from downtown \$20-a-night gigs to uptown's swanky ivories, with stops along the way for marriage, divorce and a baby. The Redhead Gets the Gig is a rollicking yarn - with a heart.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=842666>

General Books

Collectors Anonymous – Aotearoa/New Zealand: Over 1,500 Vintage, Retro, Antique, Pre-Loved, Industrial, Mid-Century and Secondhand Shops, Auction Houses and Charity Stores / Collectors Anonymous
5th Edition
New Zealand: Collectors Anonymous, 2022
272p.
Includes Index
9780473656348
\$ 35.00 / PB
312gm.

You're making a great choice in purchasing Collectors Anonymous and we look forward to introducing you to the over 1,500 vintage boutiques, antique stores, secondhand traders, op shops and charity stores contained within its pages. Whether you're looking for beautiful vintage clothing or homewares, art or secondhand office equipment, preloved baby gear or 90s street wear it's all here.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=842667>

History

A Young Man's Antarctic Discovery (1901-1903) : Diary of New Zealander Clarence Hare on Captain Scott's First Expedition / (Compiled) Maureen Lee
Wellington: Maureen Lee (Self-Published), 2022
182p.
Includes Index; Bibliography
9780473644178
\$ 60.00 / PB
556gm.

1901. A likeable young Christchurch man talks his way into joining Robert Falcon Scott's Discovery expedition to remote Antarctica. Also on board as the ship departs New Zealand: 46 men, 25 dogs, 3 cats and 50 sheep. Clarence (Clarry) Hare's diary, now being published for the first time, records life on a small wooden ship in sub-zero temperatures without modern comforts, and includes a thrilling account of being lost in a blizzard for 46 hours.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=842668>

From Crime to Care: The History of Abortion in Aotearoa New Zealand / Felicity Goodyear-Smith
Wellington: Verity Press, 2023
242p.
9780473663063
\$ 65.00 / PB
382gm.

From Crime to Care presents the history of abortion in Aotearoa New Zealand from pre-colonial times to the present, weaving in stories and experiences from key people on both sides of the debate. After the first abortion clinic opened in 1974 there were protests and pickets, and the issue shaped our politics in the 1970s. Moral crusaders, activists, legislators, abortion-providers and many others put their reputations and sometimes their lives on the line to do what they thought was right. The abortion struggle serves as an illustration of our changing political and social landscape, with a public move from conservative towards more liberal values. Finally, after 180 years, abortion in Aotearoa is a health rather than a criminal concern. However, the issue continues to divide people, and events in the United States have shown how quickly change can occur, with their Supreme Court overturning Roe v. Wade and several states banning abortions.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=842669>

Literature

Mad If Y' Do / David Kolff
New Zealand: David Kolff (Self-Published), 2022
474p.
9780473629663

\$ 45.00 / PB
734gm.

It was past midnight, and I was only a few kilometres from my destination when I noticed flashing blue lights in my rear-view mirror ...

It's the summer of 1980 and Sam, a charismatic young man of eighteen years, leaves New Zealand seeking adventure. A series of dramatic events unfold, trapping Sam on the South Coast of NSW. He meets and befriends expat Kiwis while hitching, discovers love amidst the summer heat, experiences bizarre events and lusting women who never seem to take 'No' for an answer, all while reporting daily to the local police station.

Sam's entire world unravels as a heat wave descends and the only place to seek relief and solace is in the ocean.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=842670>

Birnam Wood / Eleanor Catton
Wellington: Te Herenga Waka University Press, 2023
432p.
9781776920648
\$ 44.00 / PB
574gm.

Birnam Wood is on the move ...

A landslide has closed the Korowai Pass in the South Island of New Zealand, cutting off the town of Thorndike, leaving a sizable farm abandoned. This land offers an opportunity to Birnam Wood, a guerrilla gardening collective that plants crops wherever no one will notice. But they hadn't figured on the enigmatic American billionaire Robert Lemoine, who also has an interest in the place. Can they trust him? And, as their ideals and ideologies are tested, can they trust each other?

A gripping thriller from the Booker Prize-winning author of *The Luminaries*, Birnam Wood is Shakespearean in its wit, drama and immersion in character. A brilliantly constructed tale of intentions, actions and consequences, it is an unflinching examination of the human impulse to ensure our own survival.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=842671>

Dead Man's Axe: Guitar Store Mysteries, Vol. 1 / Bing Turkby
Guitar Store Mysteries Series
Palmerston North: Guitarmerston North Books, 2022
248p.
9780473620776
\$ 30.00 / PB
314gm.

Business is dead at the Pick Me guitar store. But that's not the only thing that's dying in town. Gene Stevens owns a gorgeous rare guitar – his favourite 'axe'. He wouldn't be seen dead without it. Until one day, he's seen dead with it. Somebody has murdered him with his own axe, and left it lying next to him, covered in blood. He'd be rocking and rolling his grave if he could see it now. Guitar store owner Dana Osborne is determined to track down the killer. She's joined by her young employee Brody, and guitar store cat Paws McCartney. Can this amateur band bring the case to an irrefutable coda, or will justice in the guitar-infested backwaters of Aotearoa simply fade out like an 80s hair-metal anthem? The finely-tuned first book in the Guitar Store Mysteries series.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=842673>

Letter to 'Oumuamua / James Norcliffe

Dunedin: Otago University Press, 2023
96p.
9781990048517
\$ 25.00 / PB
160gm.

In Letter to 'Oumuamua, James Norcliffe makes succinct observations about human life that traverse the personal and political. Grounded in the local but encompassing the global, they range through subjects such as commuting, insomnia and faltering health to the contemplation of current events and issues such as gun violence and climate change.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=842674>

My American Chair / Elizabeth Smither
Auckland: Auckland University Press, 2022
104p.
9781869409609
\$ 25.00 / PB
146gm.

White lies, hip replacements and ballet with a sawhorse. Parisian drycleaners and the brush of the grass in Central Park. In My American Chair, Elizabeth Smither leads us through serendipitous encounters, the uncanny in the ordinary, the intricacies of friendship and ruminations on mortality. Assured, intimate, witty, revealing – this is a poetry collection to treasure from one of our most beloved voices.

When you purchase them you must allow –
five stems, fifteen buds, only two half-
open – for their circumference to come
flouncing, bowing, bending in two days' time
like fifteen girls who have changed into
white debutante dresses or five women
who have danced all night and come home with the milkman.
— 'The white lilies open'

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=842675>

Threads / Karen Zelas
Christchurch: Pukeko Publications, 2022
130p.
9780473656867
\$ 35.00 / PB
252gm.

A book about family – the genetic strands that run through generations; the ties of love and belonging that bind parents and children, siblings and cousins. But it's also about damage and grief, and how to negotiate your way through dark passes – lockdown, cancer, a family history pieced together from fragment, myth and discovery. Uneasy poems for uneasy times, but woven through with love, beauty and hope. Poems as an embroidery of memories, so that they are made beautiful, so that they become art. But also poems as sutures – binding wounds, repairing harm. So that the work of healing can begin. So that the patient – all of us – might survive.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=842676>

A Lack of Good Sons / Jake Arthur
Wellington: Te Herenga Waka University Press, 2023
76p.

9781776920112
\$ 30.00 / PB
118gm.

I am seconds away from everything.
I am the bullseye of the world.

A Lack of Good Sons is a book of poetry that carries us through many realms – Greek myth, the Bible, dream, and the earthly world, with all its beauty and violence. An eclectic range of speakers, from deities to inanimate objects, describe encounters and turning points in their lives. A ship's mast remembers itself as a tree. A boy is held hostage by his hair. A gardener is abducted by aliens. And the three Fates – spinning, snipping, sewing through the various ages of men – abruptly run out of thread.

Opening with a bizarre sight through a window and closing with a love letter, Jake Arthur's wonderfully unsettling, funny and romantic first book keeps readers guessing what will come next.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=842678>

Splendid Bush / Clare Havell-Shufflebotham
Wellington: Left of the Equator Press, 2022
92p.
9780473662639
\$ 25.00 / PB
154gm.

Splendid Bush is a queer reckoning with love, its warpath, motherhood and ghosts (of capital, of violence, of sweet lemon trees). Part protection spell, part map of self-dissolution, this collection is an ode to hookgrass and an offering of dirt. The works are at times ruthless, at times tender nano-essays on the rebound, queer haunting, the parties you should have left, and all that you want to stay. This is not a break up album, although the greatest hits do make an appearance. Rather, it takes the wounds that motherhood lays bare, and produces queer nature magic as antidote and as mirror. Written in the crucible that is suburbia with young children, Splendid Bush questions the spaces between ourselves and 'nature', macho colonial bodies, violent bodies of the state, and our own. Above all, it is about the power of Bush.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=842679>

Stream Light / William Direen (Artworks) Scott Flanagan
New Zealand: South Indies Text and Music Publishing, 2023
72p.
199116713X ; 9781991167132
\$ 30.00 / PB
94gm.

Stream Light begins with Direen's life in Dunedin, New Zealand, after his shift there from the small rural town of Middlemarch (described in companion volume Seasons (2022)). He then takes us on a read through the suburbs and CBD of Dunedin ('Skirting'), with visits to regional Otago and Canterbury (Oamaru, Tekapo, Cave and Pukaki). But behind much of the book lies the city both Direen and artist Scott Flanagan once called home - Christchurch, New Zealand. Detailed Notes make up a kind of autobiographical novella going back to the 1970s. Flanagan has also provided notes to his artworks, some completed after his recovery from cancer and its treatment.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=842680>
