

## Michael Parekowhai

Michael Parekowhai's narratives can be complex; he draws on an abundant range of both vernacular and collective vocabularies which he re-manufactures into the narrative structures and formal languages of his work. Although key themes of his practice could be described as deliberate takes on notions of introduced species and culture, any potentially overt political dimensions, however, are downplayed. Ideas of camaraderie, tools of teaching and childhood learning, as well as quotes from the canon of modern art history and popular culture openly play out in many of Parekowhai's stories. While his work is often described as emphasising the extraordinariness of the ordinary, each body of work has layers of potential for meaning and significance – they are open to any depth of interpretation and storytelling.

Michael Parekowhai is one of New Zealand's most important contemporary practitioners. In addition to an extensive exhibition history, his work is held in all significant public and private collections throughout New Zealand and Australia, as well as major works in permanent collections across the Asia-Pacific region and Europe. Michael Parekowhai has been included in many important exhibitions, including the Asia Pacific Triennial (2006-2007), the Gwangju Biennale (2004); Sydney Biennale (2002), Headlands, MCA, Sydney (1992); and the major art fairs in Basel, Art Basel (2006, 2007) and LISTE (2007). A major volume cataloguing Michael Parekowhai's practice was recently published by Michael Lett, Auckland (2007). Parekowhai's work has been reviewed in most major international art periodicals, and covered by every major art periodical in Australasia.

Michael Parekowhai was born in Porirua, New Zealand in 1968, of Maori (Nga Ariki / Ngati Whakarongo) and Pakeha descent. Parekowhai graduated with a BFA (1990) and MFA (2000) from the University of Auckland's Elam School of Fine Arts, and in 2001 became an Arts Foundation of New Zealand Laureate. Michael Parekowhai currently holds the position of Associate Professor in Fine Arts at the University of Auckland. His exhibition history spans almost two decades of practice.

Michael Parekowhai lives and works in Auckland.

1968	Born, Porirua, New Zealand (Nga-Ariki, Ngati Whakarongo)
1987-90	BFA, Elam School of Fine Arts, University of Auckland
1991	Teaching Diploma, Auckland College of Education
1998-00	MFA, Elam School of Fine Arts, University of Auckland
2001	Arts Foundation of New Zealand Laureate Award
2006	Associate Professor, Elam School of Fine Arts, University of Auckland

### SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

(\* denotes solo project)

2011

\* On First Looking into Chapman's Homer, 54th Venice Biennale 2011, New Zealand Pavilion

2009

\* The Moment of Cubism, Michael Lett, Auckland, New Zealand

\* Seldom is Herd, Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney, Australia

Jim McMurtry, Planet Festival, Onatrio, Canada

Jim McMurtry, The New Dowse, Lower Hutt, New Zealand

\* Yes We Are, One Day Sculpture, Wellington, New Zealand

2008

\* Jim McMurtry, Maori Hall / Michael Lett, Auckland, New Zealand

Dateline, City Gallery Kiel, Germany

Dateline, City Gallery Sindelfingen, Germany

2007

\* The Song of the Frog, Michael Lett, Auckland, New Zealand

Love Chief, Auckland Art Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand

Dateline, Neuer Berliner Kunstverein, Berlin, Germany

Hei konei mai: We'll meet again, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki, Auckland, New Zealand

\* My Sister, My Self, Michael Lett, Auckland, New Zealand

\* Liste Art Fair, Michael Lett Stand, Basel, Switzerland

\* Cosmo McMurtry, NGV International, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia

Reboot, The Jim Barr and Mary Barr Collection, Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetu, Christchurch, New Zealand

\* Jim McMurtry, Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetu, Christchurch, New Zealand

Picturing Eden, Museum of Photographic Arts in San Diego, California, USA

Picturing Eden, University of Iowa Museum of Art, Iowa City, Iowa, USA

2006

\* Eerst me fiets (First My Bike), Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney, Australia

\* The Big O.E., Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington, New Zealand

Toi Te Papa Art of the Nation, Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington, New Zealand

Reboot, The Jim Barr and Mary Barr Collection, Dunedin Public Art Gallery, Dunedin, New Zealand

Asia Pacific Triennial, Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, Australia

Beaufort Inside, PMMK, Museum of Modern Art, Ostend, Belgium

Beaufort Triennial 2006, Belgium Coast Line, Ostend, Belgium

Hei konei mai: We'll meet again, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki, Auckland, New Zealand

The Armory, Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery Stand, New York, USA

Melbourne Art Fair, Special Projects, Melbourne, Australia

Melbourne Art Fair, Michael Lett Stand, Melbourne, Australia

Phoenix, Gus Fisher Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand

Picturing Eden, George Eastman House, International Museum of Photography and Film, New York, USA

Random Access, McClelland Gallery + Sculpture Park, Langwarrin, Victoria, Australia  
High Tide: currents in contemporary New Zealand & Australian Art, Zacheta National Gallery of Art, Warsaw, Poland  
High Tide: currents in contemporary New Zealand & Australian Art, Contemporary Art Centre, 2006, Vilnius, Lithuania  
2005

\* Driving Mr. Albert, Michael Lett, Auckland, New Zealand  
\* Rainbow Servant Dreaming, Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney, Australia  
Letters to the Ancestors, Waikato Museum of Art and History, Hamilton, New Zealand  
NADA Art Fair, Michael Lett Stand, Miami, USA  
Commodity & Delight: Views of Home, Sarjeant Gallery, Whanganui, New Zealand  
The Koru Club, Pataka, Porirua, Wellington, New Zealand  
Small Town, Big World; Contemporary Art from Te Papa, City Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand  
Te Hei Tiki, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki, Auckland, New Zealand  
Gallery Artists, Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery, Sydney, Australia  
High Chair, St. Pauls Street Gallery, AUT, Auckland, New Zealand  
Remember New Zealand, Artspace, Auckland, New Zealand  
Te Moananui a Kiwa, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki, Auckland, New Zealand

2004  
\* The Consolation of Philosophy: piko nei te matenga, Govett-Brewster Gallery, New Plymouth, New Zealand  
\* Selected Works 1989 – 1994, Michael Lett, Auckland, New Zealand  
Remember New Zealand, Sao Paulo Biennale, San Paulo, Brazil  
A Grain of Dust A Drop of Water, Gwangju Biennale, Korea  
Melbourne Art Fair, Michael Lett Stand, Melbourne, Australia  
Earthly Delights, George Perry Gallery, Tauranga, New Zealand  
Art Showcase, Grace Joel, Auckland, New Zealand  
The Suter, Nelson, New Zealand  
IKI and thanks for all the IKA, Artspace, Auckland  
State of Art, George Perry Gallery, Tauranga, New Zealand  
In Flower, Pataka, Porirua, Wellington, New Zealand  
Animals in Art, North Art, Auckland, New Zealand  
35K, Artspace, Auckland, New Zealand  
Urban Legends, Bartley Nees Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand  
Paradise Now?, Asia Pacific Society, New York, USA

2003  
\* Kapa Haka, Michael Lett, Auckland, New Zealand  
Judy Darragh & Michael Parekowhai, Jonathan Smart Gallery, Christchurch, New Zealand  
Traffic, Crossing Currents in Indigenous Photomedia, Australian Centre for Photography, Sydney, Australia  
Pacific Harbours, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki, Auckland, New Zealand  
Opening Exhibition, Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetu, Christchurch, New Zealand  
9 Lives, Auckland Art Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand  
Indians and Cowboys, (touring Gallery 4A, Sydney, Australia, Canberra Artspace, Canberra, Australia)  
Thompson, Frank, Paterson, Gimblett, Parekowhai, Gow Langsford Gallery, Sydney, Australia

2002  
\* Michael Parekowhai, Gow Langsford Gallery, Sydney, Australia  
\* All there is / The Consolation of Philosophy: piko nei te matenga, Jonathan Smart Gallery, Christchurch, New Zealand  
Chartwell Collection: Recent Acquisitions, New Gallery, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki, Auckland, New Zealand  
Pataka Art Museum, Pataka, New Zealand  
(The World May Be) Fantastic, Biennale of Sydney, 2002, Sydney, Australia  
Katharina Grosse, Melinda Harper, Michael Parekowhai, Gow Langsford Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand

2001-2002  
\* All there is, Gow Langsford Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand

2001  
\* Patriot: Ten Guitars, The Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh, USA  
\* The Consolation of Philosophy: piko nei te matenga, Gow Langsford Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand  
Good Work, the Jim Barr and Mary Barr Collection (touring Dunedin Public Art Gallery, Dunedin, New Zealand, City Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand)  
Purangiaho: Seeing Clearly, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki, Auckland, New Zealand  
Techno Maori, City Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand  
Multistylus Programme, Recent Chartwell Acquisitions, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki, Auckland, New Zealand  
Bright Paradise: the 1st Auckland Triennial, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki, New Zealand  
Prospect 2001, City Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand  
Let There Be Light, Gow Langsford Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand  
Catalogue Exhibition, Gow Langsford Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand

2000  
\* The Beverly Hills Gun Club, Gow Langsford Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand  
\* The Beverly Hills Gun Club / True Action Adventures of the Twentieth Century, Jonathan Smart Gallery, Christchurch, New Zealand  
Language Matters, Adam Art Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand  
The Numbers Game, Adam Art Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand  
Noumea Biennial, Tibaou Centre, Noumea  
Old Worlds/New Worlds, Art Museum of Missoula, U.S.A  
Melbourne Contemporary Art Fair, Melbourne, Australia

Flight patterns, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, U.S.A  
Simpson Grierson Season - works from the collection, Auckland Art Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand  
Wonderlands, Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth, New Zealand

1999-2000

\* Patriot: Ten Guitars, touring exhibition (Artspace, Auckland, New Zealand, Beyond the Future, The Third Asia-Pacific Triennial, Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, Australia, City Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand, Govett-Brewster Gallery, New Plymouth, New Zealand, Dunedin Public Art Gallery, Dunedin, New Zealand)  
Beyond the Future: The Third Asia - Pacific Triennial, Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, Australia

1999

\* Kitset Cultures, Djamu Gallery, The Australian Museum, Sydney, Australia  
Home and Away, Auckland Art Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand  
Taonga Maori, Artstation, Auckland, New Zealand  
The Promoter, Auckland, New Zealand  
Who Do I Think I Am, Artspace, Auckland, New Zealand  
Wonderlands: views on life at the end of the century, at the end of the world, Govett - Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth, New Zealand

1998

\* Recent Paintings, Jonathan Smart Gallery, Christchurch, New Zealand  
Dream Collectors, Te Papa Tongarewa, Museum of New Zealand, Wellington, Auckland Art Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand

1997

\* Recent Paintings, Gow Langsford Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand  
\* Recent Paintings, City Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand

1996

The World Over / de wereld bollen: art in the age of globalisation, City Art Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam  
"Here I give thanks", Dunedin Public Art Gallery, Dunedin, New Zealand

1995

Cultural Safety, Waikato Museum of Art and History, Hamilton, City Gallery, Wellington, Ludwig Forum, Aachen, Frankfurter, Kunstverein, Frankfurt, Germany  
The Nervous System, Govett Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth, New Zealand  
Korurangi, New Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand

1994

\* Kiss the Baby Goodbye, Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth, New Zealand  
\* Kiss the Baby Goodbye, Waikato Museum of Art and History, Hamilton, New Zealand  
\* A Capella, Gregory Flint Gallery, Auckland, New Zealand  
Art Now, Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington, New Zealand  
Changing Signs, Artspace, Auckland, New Zealand

1993

After McCahon, Cubism, Wellington, New Zealand  
Shared Pleasures, Waikato Museum of Art and History, Hamilton, New Zealand  
International Festival of the Arts, Wellington, New Zealand  
Stop Making Sense, Wellington City Art Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand

1992

Homemade Home, Wellington City Art Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand  
Vogue/Vague, CSA Gallery, Christchurch, New Zealand  
Hit Parade: contemporary art from the Paris Family Collection, Wellington City Art Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand  
W.A.R Whatu Aho Rua, Tandanya Gallery, Adelaide, Australia  
Headlands: thinking through New Zealand art, National Art Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand  
Headlands: thinking through New Zealand art, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, Australia

1991

Light Sensitive, Artspace, Auckland, New Zealand  
Cross-pollination, Artspace, Auckland, New Zealand

1990

Kohia Ko Taikaka Anake, National Art Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand  
Choice!, Artspace, Auckland, New Zealand  
Light'arted, Artspace, Auckland, New Zealand

AWARDS

2001

Arts Foundation of New Zealand Laureate Award

## SELECTED PUBLIC & PRIVATE COLLECTIONS

Arario Museum, Cheonan, Seoul, Korea  
Musée du quai Branly, Paris, France  
Robert McDougall Art Gallery, Christchurch, New Zealand  
Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia  
National Library Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand  
Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth, New Zealand  
Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki, Auckland, New Zealand  
Chartwell Collection, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki, Auckland, New Zealand  
Christchurch Art Gallery Te Puna o Waiwhetu, Christchurch, New Zealand  
Dunedin Public Art Gallery, Dunedin, New Zealand  
Jim Barr and Mary Barr Collection, Wellington, New Zealand  
Les and Milly Paris Collection, Wellington, New Zealand  
Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington, New Zealand  
Saatchi & Saatchi Collection, Wellington, New Zealand  
Sweeney and Vesty Collection, Wellington, New Zealand  
Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, Australia  
Thanksgiving Trust, Auckland, New Zealand  
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Amery, Mark, 'Know Just Where You Are', Review, Listener, 24 June 2000  
Barr, Jim & Mary, 'The Indefinite Article', Art Asia Pacific 23, pp72-76  
Barton, Christina, Art Now, Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington, New Zealand, 1994, p9, 11, 66-67, 90  
Butler, Connie, 'West of everything' Parkett 57, pp189-194  
Burke, Gregory, 'Michael Parekowhai', Review, Art & Text, No. 69, May - July 2000  
Burke, Gregory, Cultural Safety, Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt; City Gallery, Wellington, 1995  
Burke, Gregory, 'Michael Parekowhai', Home and Away: Contemporary Australian and New Zealand Art From the Chartwell Collection (ed. William McAloon)  
Cochrane-Simons, Susan, 'Maori Custom is Worth Remembering', Sydney Morning Herald, Sydney, Australia, 18 April 1992  
Dale, Richard, 'Reviews Third Asia-Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art', Eyeline 41, Summer 1999 / 2000  
Dream Collectors, Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa, Wellington, Auckland Art Gallery, 1998  
Flight Patterns, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, U.S.A. 2000  
French, Blair, 'Michael Parekowhai', Reviews, Art Asia Pacific, issue 26, p92  
Gibson, Jeff, 'Third Asia-Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art', Artforum International, January 2000  
Headlands: thinking through New Zealand art, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, 1992  
Headlands: thinking through New Zealand art, National Art Gallery, Wellington  
Hewitson, Michele, 'On the Wild Side', NZ Herald, 19 June 2000  
Hit parade: contemporary art from the Paris Family Collection, Wellington, City Art Gallery, 1992  
Intra, Giovanni, 'Being Brown, Making flutes and Dying', Stamp, #12, Auckland, New Zealand, 1990  
Jahnke, Robert, Korurangi, New Gallery, Auckland, 1995  
Judd, Craig, 'Gwangju Biennale 2004: A Viewer-Participant Memoir', Eyeline # 56, Summer 2004/2005, pp18 - 20  
Leonard, Robert, 'Against Purity: three word sculptures by Michael Parekowhai', Art New Zealand, #59, Auckland, New Zealand, 1991, p52-54  
Leonard, Robert, 'Perverse Homage's', Planet, #13, Auckland, New Zealand, 1994  
Leonard, Robert and Strongman, Lara, Kiss the Baby Goodbye, Govett-Brewster Gallery, New Plymouth & Waikato Museum of Art and History, Hamilton, New Zealand, 1994  
Leonard, Robert, Patriot, Catalogue, published by Gow Langsford Gallery and Artspace, Auckland, 1999  
Leonard, Robert, 'Michael Parekowhai: Ten Guitars', Beyond the future: The Third Asia Art Pacific Triennial, Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, 1999, p100-101  
Linnell, Amanda, 'Michael Parekowhai', Being Maori – A Journal of Articles About The Maori Culture, p.9 – 10, 2005  
Localities of Desire, Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, Australia, 1994  
McAloon, William, Vogue/Vague, CSA Gallery, Christchurch, New Zealand, 1992  
McAloon, William, 'Sixty Strings Slowly Strummed', Sunday Star Times, 21 May 2000  
McNamara, T.J., 'Plenty of fire power and a lot of serious questions', NZ Herald, 12 June 2000  
McNamara, T.J., 'First Shock Gives Way To Curiosity', NZ Herald, pg.B6, NZ Herald, 3 August 2005  
Mane-Wheoki, Jonathan, 'States of Flux: The Third Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art', Art New Zealand 93, Summer 1999-2000  
Mason, Ngahiraka, Purangiaho Toku Mata, Purangiaho (Seeing Clearly), exhibition catalogue, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tamaki, 2001  
Mason, Ngahiraka, 'The Bosom of Abraham, A recent Gallery acquisition', Gallery News 04, Dec - Feb 1999-2000  
Mendelssohn, Joanna, 'New Views of New Zealand: two versions of isolation', The Bulletin, Auckland, New Zealand, 21 April 1992  
Page, Maud, Kitset Cultures, Catalogue, Djamu Gallery, Sydney, 1999  
Panaho, Rangī, W.A.R.. Whatu Aho Rua, Tandanya Gallery, Adelaide, 1992  
Parekowhai, Michael, 'page work', Pavement 37, pp190-191  
Pound, Francis, Topographies, Flight Patterns, p130  
Paton, Justin, Special Agent, Michael Parekowhai's Generous Duplicity, Art New Zealand 103, Winter 2002  
Paton, Justin (2002, May). Michael Parekowhai In Frieze, #67. p95  
Rawlins, Jarrod, Flash Art, Vol. XXXVIII, #243, pg. 132 – 133, July / September 2005  
Speden, Graeme, 'Accent on Child's Play', New Zealand Herald, Auckland, New Zealand, 20 September 1993  
Smith, Allan, "Michael Parekowhai: Kiss the Baby Goodbye", Art New Zealand 72, Spring 1994, pp64-67  
Smith, Alan, The Nervous System, Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth, 1995  
Stoney, Robin, Taonga Maori, Circa 91, cover and p63  
Strongman, Lara, Shared Pleasures: The Chartwell Collection, Waikato Museum of Art and History, Hamilton, New Zealand, 1993

The world over / de wereld bollen: art in the age of globalisation, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam; City Gallery, Wellington; 1996

The Andy Warhol Museum, Pittsburgh USA. (2002). Michael Parekowhai. Exhibition Catalogue

Watson, Ruth, "Indians and Cowboys: Now and Here" Indian and Cowboys, Gallery 4A, Asia Australia, Arts Centre, Sydney 2003

White, Margo, "Mike's World" Metro, March 2004, pp54 - 61

Zepke, Stephen, 'Difference without Binary oppositions. A chance for a Choice!' Antic, #8, Auckland, New Zealand, 1992