



THE LEARNING CONNEXION
School of Creativity and Art



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THE LEARNING CONNEXION

Graduation 2024

CELEBRATING CREATIVE SUCCESS



Mā te kimi ka kite, Mā te kite ka mōhio, Mā te mōhio ka mārama
Seek and discover, Discover and know, Know and become enlightened



Order of Events

The Learning Connexion's Graduation

Opening Karakia

Deputy Mayor Tui Lewis

Welcome (MC)

Alayna Flighty

Opening Address

Jonathan Milne
TLC Founder and Director

Graduates Presentation – Level 4

Presented by Karla Vink and Suzy Costello

Speaker

Clinton Christian

Graduates Presentation – Level 5

Presented by Marie Lotz and Lydia Grove

Student Speaker

Airdre Knox

Graduates Presentation – Level 6

Presented by Dennis Poole and Dan Wilkinson

Celebration of Student Achievements

Graduates Presentation – Level 7

Presented by Tui Lewis and Dennis Berdinner

Closing Address (MC)

Alayna Flighty

Closing Karakia

Deputy Mayor Tui Lewis

Refreshments and a Graduation Exhibition will be held at The Learning Connexion Campus after the ceremony. There will also be student art, photobooth and artist chats with Airdre Knox.

Embracing Creativity: A Journey Through TLC

An interview with student Airdre Knox

Transformative Creative Journey

Upon completing her diploma at The Learning Connexion (TLC), Airdre reached a pivotal moment in her creative journey. She credits TLC with helping her define her unique style as “sensory expression and painterly graphic,” a reflection of her sensory experiences and connection to the world.

Airdre is now setting up her own practice and developing a new series inspired by a “treasure chest of ideas” from her time at TLC. Her ultimate goal is a solo exhibition and selling her artwork, fulfilling her dream of sharing her sensory-sensitive world view.

Redefining Artistic Identity

Airdre identifies more as a “creative person” rather than an artist, avoiding the mental constraints the latter label might impose on her. She aims to balance work and creativity, allowing her to create freely without the pressure of relying solely on her art for income. For Airdre, this is how she feels she will thrive as a creative.

Overcoming Challenges

When Airdre started studying at TLC, she was experiencing challenging health conditions, including chronic fatigue, which was causing her to struggle with speech and word recall.



Chronic fatigue and speech difficulties marked much of Airdre's time before TLC, but studying at school was truly transformative for her. “Enrolling at TLC was a game changer for me”. She was encouraged to express herself beyond words and immediately found comfort through colour, line and shape.

The Supportive TLC Community

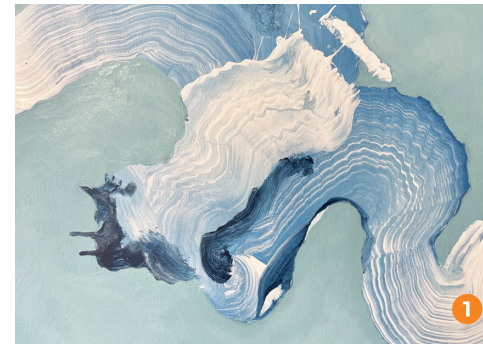
The TLC environment has played a crucial role in Airdre's creative journey. In Airdre's words “TLC is a unique environment, where you have the opportunity to really explore your identity and creative voice in a diverse and supportive community.” The friendships and creative connections, along with constructive feedback from tutors, mentors, and peers, was a highlight of Airdre's study at TLC.

Works:

Cover: collage of Airdre's Work

1. Pilates 1

2. Layers



Advice for Graduates

In Airdre's words “everyone is different. We all thrive in different ways, and in different conditions”. See Airdre's top 5 pieces of advice for graduates:

1. Find out who you are as a person
2. Don't be afraid of feeling vulnerable.
3. Be kind and respectful to yourself and others.
4. Keep experimenting, learning and reflecting.
5. Be a worthy creator, a worthy maker of things that you're proud of.



Airdre's journey at TLC is a testament to the transformative power of creativity and the profound impact of a supportive community. Her experience highlights the importance of finding one's creative voice, embracing authenticity, and nurturing creativity for personal and artistic growth.

“
TLC is a unique environment, where you have the opportunity to really explore your identity and creative voice, in a diverse and supportive community.
”

Graduates of New Zealand Certificate in Creativity (Level 4)



Aaliyah Adams
Joshua Anderson
Karmela Aquino
Kayley Banks
Ruby Bannister
Stellar-Mia Bar-Even
Gemma Benzon
Laura Bignell
Luca Blade
Scott Brewer
Anika Brice
Zoe Calton
Kirsten Campbell
Sian Cass
Laura Chalmers
Emma Chapman



Paige Collinson
Rebecca Conibear
James Cresswell
Eva Davenport Petersen
Cheska Anne Delfin
Kerry-Anne Douglas
Bridget Evans
Sophia Forlong
Beverly Francis
Raylene Gerraty
Deborah Godwin
Joke Gossey
Shayal Goundar
Emma-Jane Gower
Abigayle Gully
Naomi Hamlin



Works by Students:
1. **Emma Chapman**
2. **Bridget Evans**
3. **Naomi Hamlin**

Mariam Haynes-Khalifa
Mitchell Henderson
Nicola Hood
Maria Imperiale
Kashmir Jackson
Brighid Jamieson
Paul Jensen
Debbie Jerard
Ashlee Kean
Indeya Kurene-Kawana
Sarah Macdonald
Jessica MacKenzie
Caroline McIntosh
Piimio Mei
Kiela Mendoza
Deidre Meyer
Johanna Moeller
Taransay Morrison-Connell
Kirti Nanji
Gabrielle Norton
Anastasiya Peters

Maringi Ora Ranginui Puru
Megan Rea
Halie Ricketts
Jasmine Robins
Victoria Roblett
Sian Simeon
Darrel Smith
Maikah Anthony Starstrider
Chantal Thorpe
Terri Toyne
Ryder Van Reemst
Carlyslie Vivian-Robins
Waiongana Weeks
Emma Whittaker
Evelyn Wilkins
Emily Williams
Cyn Willis
Deborah Willoughby

Student Achievements

Celebrating Creative Success

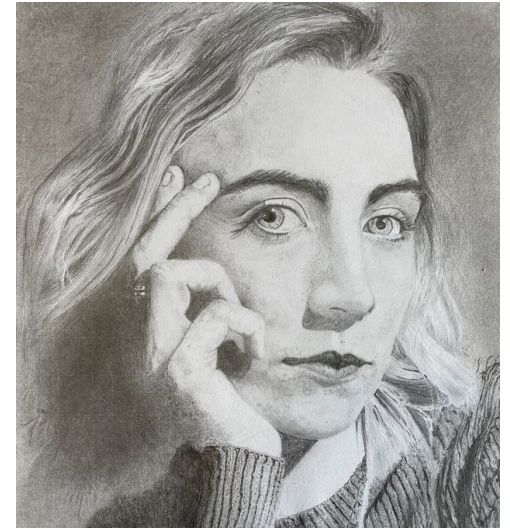


Works by Students:

1. Art Shows Across Aotearoa (Wellington) Exhibition at Lab Gallery
2. TLC Student work at Art Shows Across Aotearoa (Christchurch Art Show)
3. TLC Student work at Art Shows Across Aotearoa (Wellington Art Show)
4. Penny and Bridget's Studio at South Coast Arts Trails
5. Jonathan and Alice Milne at student Haddrick's Exhibition at Lab Gallery

RP Student Work

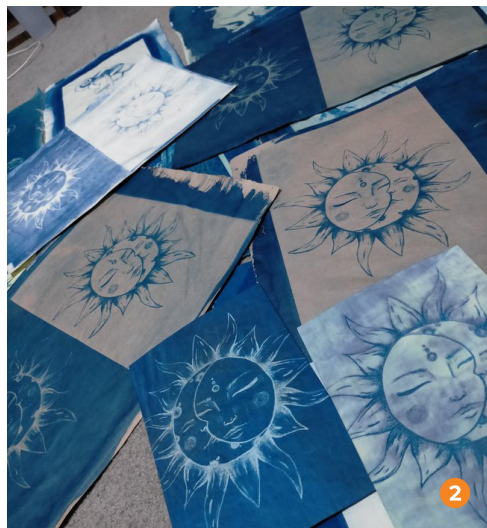
Art created in NZ Prisons



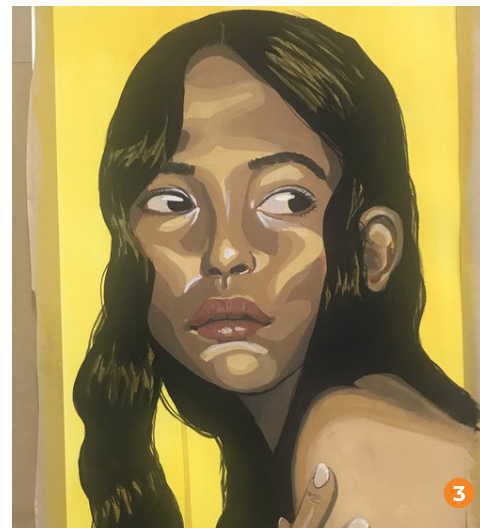
Graduates of New Zealand Diploma in Creativity (Level 5)



Kelly Attwell
Sharon Barbagallo
Jane Barrett
Milly Barton-Smith
Aranya Beck
Aimee Benson
Edward Budd
Calina Cameron
Hadrick Cardno Middleton
Siu Cheung
Jago Collier
Lindy Cook
Grace Cook
Peter Coolbear
Sheila Derksen
Coral Dolan



Kate Eggleston
Jacqueline Fee
Ruby Fisher
Jenna Forsyth
Jacqueline Francis
Taylor Fulford
Kalpana Gandhi
Madison Geary
Bryleigh Gowers
Jordan Hayes
Katharine Heap
Ivy Hosking
Caroline Hulse
Cheri Jackson
Christine Johannis
Penny Kirk



Elizabeth Knighton
Putiputi Kuchlein
Samantha Lewer
Debbie Lucas
Mhairead Macdonald
Monique Madsen
Margaret Maguire
Barbara Myers
Kelly Newton-Davies
Connor Pitkethley
Christine Potaka-Kelly
Samantha Proffit
Alexandra Reese
Emma Rosling Heppell
Stacey Roughan
Rosemaree Scott



Works by Students:

1. **Samantha Proffit**
2. **Bryleigh Gowers**
3. **Sol Brown**
4. **Peter Coolbear**

Grace Shepherd
Judith Silverstein
Kylee Smith
Diane Stoppard
Paula Symeou
Andrew Taputoro
Laura Tucker
Tara-Lea Uebergang
Shellene Ventenilla-Tungol
Ellen von Collas
Bianca Wilson
Kelvin Wood
Victoria Wright
Penelope Wyatt

Clinton Christian

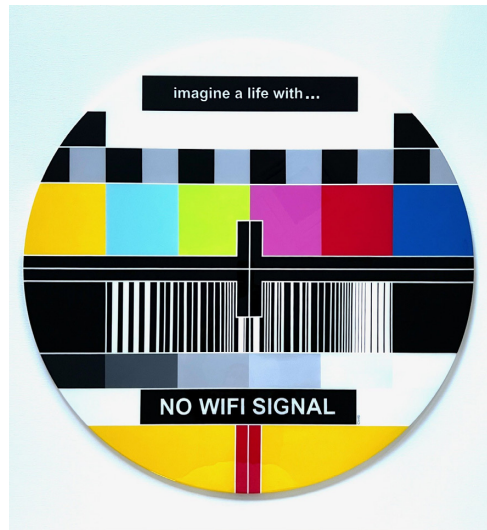
Award Winning Contemporary NZ Artist



Clint Christian (aka Clint©) is an award winning contemporary New Zealand artist focused on creating unique modernist works that are bold and relatable.

His work shares his own personality that is fun, bright and often nostalgic. Works are generally large canvas paintings or wood panel/resin pieces, some of which are delving into the realms of sculpture.

Clint's career is rapidly gaining momentum after much success through a series of work called 'Animal Instinct' in 2021-2022 and more recently with his recent work dubbed 'Retrovision' that incorporates nostalgic memories of the 1970's -80's pop culture including music, games & technology.



Prior to Clint becoming a full-time artist he was an architectural designer. This comes through in his work which incorporates a very graphic style with composition, colour and contrast as the major features within his work.

Now a fulltime artist he recalls the day in 2018 when he woke with an overwhelming urge to create art.

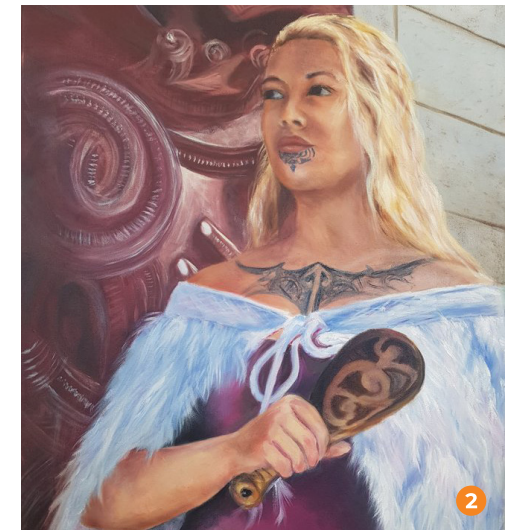
Clint© is represented by selected galleries throughout New Zealand, while also showing at the major art shows including the NZ Art Show in Wellington this Kings Birthday weekend May 31st – June 2nd.

Graduates of

New Zealand Diploma in Creativity (Level 6)



Tania-Gail Akehurst
Joanne Bissett
Matthew Brunton
Zara Burns
Janine Francis Carnihan
Clinton Christian
Serra Clark
Sharon Eason
Rachel Janes
Keith Jones
Shenay Lopes
Sakjith Manapaya Weeratunge
Brendan Martin
Tyla-Paige McPhee
Ethan Mellor-Killalea
Lhyric MlcochdDree



Kenena Peterson
James Price
Zoe Quayle
Julia Quayle
Leanne Rogerson
Jody Roussain
Philippa Salisbury
Kathryn Saunders
Nadia Simpson
Maya Steven
Tiffany Aroha Te Moananui
Acacia-Maia Waaka
Kate Whelen

Works by Students:

1. Sakjith Manapaya Weeratunge
2. Rachel Janes

Lab Gallery

New space to explore and push ideas



The Learning Connexion is very excited to announce the official launch of the Lab Gallery. On a fortnightly basis, the Lab Gallery will be exhibiting work from both established and emerging artists.

The Lab Gallery is housed on the ground floor of The Learning Connexion, in the space that was previously the analytical lab, when the school was the DSIR Soil Bureau from 1963 to 1994.

The notion of the laboratory not only speaks to the history of the space, but also to the kaupapa, which encourages experimentation within the contemporary art zone.

With this exciting redevelopment of the gallery, we are pleased to share with you the successful first show

that was exhibited after the formal naming of the Lab Gallery:

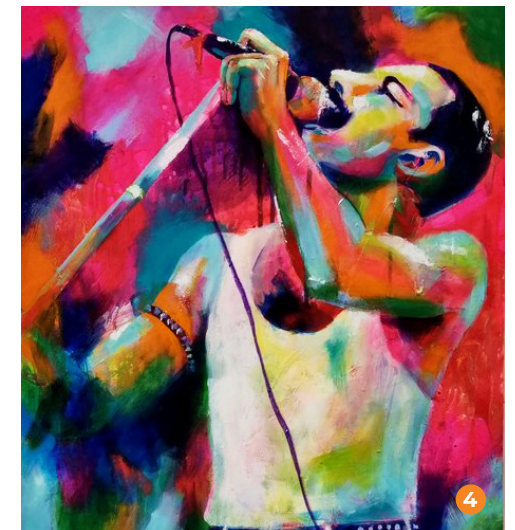
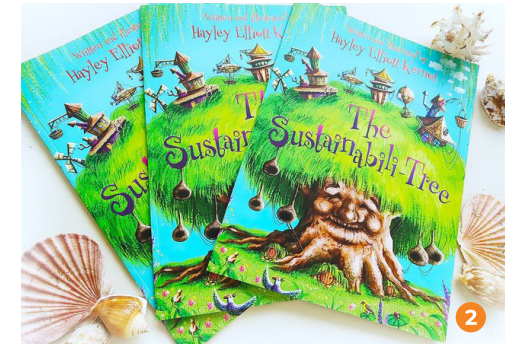
"Out of the Corner of My Eye" presents a series of 23 abstract paintings and mixed media prints by artist Kees Busch. In these works, Busch explores line, color, and shape. Geometric forms contrast with the organic, attracting or repelling each other. These forms have been frozen in motion and laid flat across the canvas.

To keep up to date with Lab Gallery future exhibitions and events sign up below using the QR code.



Graduates of

New Zealand Diploma of Art and Creativity (Advanced) (NZQA Level 7)



Works by Students:

1. **Justin Stockbridge**
2. **Hayley Kernot**
3. **Angela McAlpine**
4. **Alina Gane-Hurcomb**

Alina Gane-Hurcomb

Hayley Kernot

Angela McAlpine

Stacey Moretta

Fay Nicholls

Shane Rikihana

Justin Stockbridge

Kate Whelen



THE LEARNING CONNEXION
School of Creativity and Art

Congratulations to our newest graduates from
all of us at The Learning Connexion.

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www.tlc.ac.nz



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